Dear Council Members,

I am delighted to provide our September 2008 Newsletter to members of the IEA Federated Societies and Technical Committees.

1. Global Ergonomics Month (GEM) – October 2008

It is encouraging to see the interest that has emerged during this month in relation to sharing resources for Global Ergonomics Month (GEM) 2008. This brings together the range of materials and programs that have been developed by the individual ergonomics societies and networks to share ergonomics with the community. The IEA website has now a section that has been specifically developed for sharing simple resource materials that can be used by your Federated Society to promote ergonomics to your local community. Use the link on the home page of the IEA website (www.iea.cc) under “Latest news” on the right side of the website.

Please consider picking one topic and developing a simple news release that would enable an opportunity to share ergonomics with the community. Why not make an appointment at a local school to talk about ergonomics, or a community group to share aspects of ergonomics that would be of interest and relevance to their members?

I look forward to hearing of more examples of simple initiatives that may have been taken by the Federated Societies in sharing ergonomics with the community during Global Ergonomics Month (October). Many thanks for those Societies who have shared to date.

2. IEA 2009 Congress Updates

The call for proposals is to close on the 15th November 2008. Details regarding submission and the tracks can be found in the August newsletter (http://iae.cc/upload/IEA%20Newsletter%20Number%2026%20August%202008.pdf) or on the IEA’2009 Congress website (www.iea2009.org).

We are now calling for interests from potential exhibitors and sponsors for the IEA 2009 Congress in Beijing. Details of the opportunities for exhibiting in the special display areas during the Congress will be provided on the IEA’2009 Congress website (www.iea2009.org). Details regarding

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3. IEA Council Meeting Minutes – Iceland 2008
The minutes of this meeting will be circulated during October 2008 to enable the attendees at the 50th IEA Council meeting to provide feedback. In accordance with the IEA rules, the emailed minutes will be provided in draft for comment. The Secretary General, Pascale Carayon, will indicate the timing for feedback on the minutes. Depending on the comments, the minutes will then be finalized and taken as agreed. These will then be used as the basis in preparing for the agenda for the 51st Council meeting to be held in Beijing, China in August 2009.

4. Nominations for IEA Congress – 2015
In July, the formal call for proposals was emailed to all Federated Societies interested in hosting the IEA 2015 Congress. The IEA Executive Committee was thrilled at the Council meeting in Iceland to receive expressions of interest to develop a nomination from four Federated Societies. I encourage all societies to discuss their interest in proposing a bid for this triennial congress to ensure that the process is open and transparent.

5. Nominations for IEA Council meeting – 2010
In early 2009, nominations for hosting the Council meeting in 2010 will be made. This bid is normally in conjunction with a conference that would be attractive to the Council voting members to attend in conjunction with participation in a Council meeting. We could expect around 40-50 attendees at the 2010 Council meeting. Details relating to the hosting of an Annual IEA Council meeting can be found in the IEA Rules.

6. Nominations for the 17th IEA Executive
During the Council meeting in 2009, elections will be held for the IEA President, Secretary General and Treasurer. Early in 2009, I will be calling for nominations from Federated Societies for each of these three positions. I encourage you to now start thinking about potential nominees for the three leadership roles elected during the Council meeting in Beijing. It is then the prerogative of the new President to appoint chairpersons of the IEA Standing Committees.

7. Liberty Mutual Medal – 2009
Following the successful program in receiving good nominations for the IEA Liberty Mutual 2008 research medal, I now call on all potential applicants to consider planning to submit a paper for the 2009 Medal. Full details of the award can be found on the IEA website and the prize for the winning paper in 2009 will be US$10,000 thanks to the support provided by Liberty Mutual.

8. KU Smith Student Award – 2009
Nominations are now being welcomed for this important award that will be provided to two students presenting at the IEA Congress in Beijing. Each award will receive US$3,000 and the honor of presenting their paper at the Congress at a special stream of the program. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to consider promoting the confidence and opportunity for talented students on the international arena. For more information about the KU Smith Student Award, you can visit the IEA website at: http://www.iea.cc/upload/IEAKUS2009awardannouncement.pdf.

9. IOHA 2010 – Italy, 28th September – 2nd October
The 6th International Scientific Conference – International Hygiene Association will be in Rome, Italy from 28th September – 2nd October, 2010. I encourage you all to visit their website www.ioha2010.org to learn more about this exciting conference and consider this opportunity.
10. Cyberg 2008 conference
The 5th international “Cyberspace” ergonomics conference is to commence online on the 15th September until the 15th October. This is a wonderful opportunity for ergonomists from around the world to share research and practice in an interactive conference over the internet. The theme is "Local knowledge; Global Application". Check the website http://www.cyberg2008.org and register for this one month of online interaction. Many thanks to Dr Alvin W. Yeo from Malaysia for his leadership with this IEA conference.

11. New Name for The Ergonomics Society, UK
The Ergonomics Society in the UK convened a special General Meeting in September and voted to change the name of the Society to the Institute of ergonomics and Human Factors. This will come into effect from the 1st January 2009. The name change was part of their longer term strategy to seek Royal Charter status and provide a broader appeal to the community. 2009 will be the 60th anniversary year for The Ergonomics Society so it will be a year of many celebrations and changes.

We look forward to providing further IEA activity information in the next Newsletter during October 2008.

Yours sincerely,

David C Caple
President – International Ergonomics Association