Thriving at the HFES Annual Meeting: Advice From The Experts

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Thriving at the HFES Annual Meeting: Advice From the Experts

Panelists: J. Christopher Brill, Old Dominion University, & Sandra K. Garrett, Consultant

Moderator: Beth Blickensderfer, Chair, HFES Education & Training Committee
HFES Webinar Series

- Began in 2011
- Organized by the Education & Training Committee
- Contact E&T Committee Chair Beth Blickensderfer if you’d like to suggest a webinar topic/speaker ([blick488@erau.edu](mailto:blick488@erau.edu))
1. There are no CEUs for this webinar.

2. **This webinar is being recorded.** HFES will post links to the recording and presentation slides on the HFES Web site within 3-5 business days. Watch your e-mail for a message containing the links.

3. Listen over your speakers or via the telephone.
   
   If you are listening over your speakers, make sure your speaker volume is turned on in your operating system and your speakers are turned on.

4. All attendees are muted. Only the presenters can be heard.

5. At any time during the webinar, you can submit questions using the question panel. The moderator will read the questions following the presentations. The Q&A period will last 20-30 minutes.

6. If you are experiencing technical difficulties during the webinar, click the “Support” link at [www.gotowebinar.com](http://www.gotowebinar.com). HFES cannot resolve technical issues related to the webinar service.
About the Presenters

**Chris Brill** earned a PhD in applied experimental and human factors psychology from the University of Central Florida in 2007. He is a faculty member at Old Dominion University and previously worked for the U.S. Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory and Michigan Tech. He has been an active HFES member and is chair of the Education Technical Group, co-chair of the Early-Career Professionals Committee, and a member of the Education and Training Committee.

After having served multiple roles within the Society, **Sandra Garrett** is now a member-at-large on the HFES Executive Council and a 15-year veteran of the Annual Meeting. She currently focuses on human factors outreach and educational efforts in nontraditional settings. Sandra received her PhD and MS degrees in industrial engineering from Purdue University and her BS in industrial engineering from Clemson University.
Culture of the HFES Annual Meeting

- Very collegial and inclusive atmosphere
  - Don’t be intimidated to approach senior people

- Session hopping is encouraged
  - Be courteous when entering / leaving sessions

- Dress is business casual (unless presenting)
  - Meeting rooms tend to be cooler (consider bringing a jacket or light sweater)

- Bring Business Cards!
  - Helps with networking and after conference follow-up
Notes for First Time Attendees

- Wear your “First Time Attendee” ribbon on your name badge
  - This will help facilitate getting to know people, and gives you access to the First–timers reception

- All HFES events are in the hotel
  - Plenty of signage for way finding

- Walk somewhere quick for lunch

- Program and mobile app will be available

Maximize Your Experience at HFES 2012 (Haydee M. Cuevas)
http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESBulletin/aug2012AMlist.html
Formal Networking Opportunities

- Opening Gala (Monday, 6:30-9:30 PM)
  - First-Timers and Fellows’ Reception

- Early-Career Professionals Reception (Wednesday, 5:00-6:00 PM)

- Technical Group Networking/ Business Meetings

- User Experience (UX) Day Happy Hour (Wednesday, 5:30 PM)
Informal Networking Opportunities

- National Ergonomics Month (NEM) Expo
- Exhibit Hall & Poster Sessions
  - Fellows Poster Session
- Birds of a Feather Rooms
- Student Lounge
- Coffee Breaks
- After Hours Activities
Types of Sessions

- Opening Plenary Session
- Paper Sessions
- Symposia
- Discussion Panels
- Invited Addresses
- Poster Sessions
- Demonstrations
Sandra’s Approach to Selecting Sessions

My strategy has changed over the course of my HFES career

- Started out trying to experience the breadth of the field
- Sought talks from leaders in the field whose research I was reading
- Once I picked my thesis / dissertation area, focused on sessions from related TGs (topics)
- Now predominantly attend discussion panels and more interactive sessions (like demonstrations and posters)
Chris’ Approach to Selecting Sessions

- Follow the TG Tracks that most closely fit areas of interest

- Seek out discussion panels and invited speakers (e.g., Arnold Small Safety Lecture)

- If you’re a student, attend all talks related to your area of research, especially if your advisor is paying for your travel with grant money.
# Participating in TG Business Meetings and Receptions

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Participating in TG Meetings

- To attend a TG breakfast or luncheon, **must reserve a spot ahead of time**
- No reservations needed for afternoon TG receptions
- Meeting atmosphere varies; please observe and show decorum
- *Can join TGs in advance of the Annual Meeting!*
  - [https://www.hifes.org/web/TechnicalGroups/technical.html](https://www.hifes.org/web/TechnicalGroups/technical.html)
Student-Specific Activities and Resources

- **Career and Professional Development Day** – Monday
- Reception and Awards – Tuesday
- Student Lounge – All week
  - Guest speakers during coffee breaks
- Mentor-Mentee Luncheons – (RSVP required) Tuesday – Thursday
- University Lab Posters – Tuesday and Thursday
Navigating the Career Center

- Advertisements for positions and organizations conducting onsite interviews

- For academic jobs:
  - Bring copies of CV and approach faculty members to start a discussion

- For industry jobs:
  - Leave résumé with company’s folder
  - If interested, a company rep will contact you via a written note in career center (or text) to arrange a time for an onsite interview
Attending Workshops

- Workshops are held on Monday
- Must register and pay relevant fees (if any) in advance ($225-400 for members, $140-300 for student members; costs are higher for non-members)
- Attendance is limited to 40/workshop
- Hands-on, interactive atmosphere
- Targeted for people of varying expertise levels
- Most workshops qualify for CEUs
Workshop Schedule

- **Morning Workshops (8:30 AM – Noon)**
  - WK1 – [How to Create User Requirements for Software](#)
  - WK2 – [Using Ethnographic Methods to Inform Human Factors and User Experience Design](#)

- **Afternoon Workshops (1:30 – 5:00 PM)**
  - WK3 – [What Every Professional Ergonomist Should Know About Statistical Methods and Basic Epidemiology](#)
  - WK4 – [Cognitive Neuroscience for Human Factors](#)

- **All-Day Workshops (9:00 AM – 4:30 PM)**
  - WK5 – [Questionnaire Design for Practitioners and Researchers](#)
  - WK7 – [Human Operator Workload Measurement in Practice and Workload Modeling](#)

[https://www hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/2015AMWorkshops.html](https://www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/2015AMWorkshops.html)
Special Events During the Annual Meeting

- National Ergonomics Month Expo – Monday
- Opening Plenary Session & Keynote Speaker John Nance – Tuesday
- Meet the HFES Journal Editors One-on-One – T/W
- UX Day – Wednesday
- Fellows Poster Session – Wednesday
- Arnold Small Lecture in Safety - Christine Branche, Principal Associate Director, NIOSH – Wednesday

Additional Receptions and TG Mtgs
After the Annual Meeting…

- Complete Annual Meeting survey to offer feedback
- Post-meeting follow-through
  - Thank you emails
  - Sending reprints, if promised
- Too many times inspiration and great connections are lost when back in routine!
Any Questions?

For more information, contact:

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or

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