



**Human  
Factors  
and  
Ergonomics  
Society**

## FELLOW PROFILE

**Name:** Patricia R. DeLucia

**Degrees, certifications,  
etc.:** PhD, Columbia University  
National Research Council  
Postdoctoral Associateship,  
Wright Patterson Air Force  
Base



**Home page:** <https://psychology.rice.edu/patricia-delucia>

### **Biography (How you got involved in the field, your major career activities and milestones):**

1. Motivated by my undergraduate course in visual perception (at Adelphi University) which was highly relevant to my athletic aspirations (softball).
2. Encouraged to get involved in human factors by advisor Professor Julian Hochberg who served on the National Academy of Science's Committee of Human Factors (now the Board of Human System Integration).
3. Hired by Texas Tech University to take charge of the human factors program

Major activities:

Editor in Chief, Human Factors

Chairperson, Accreditation Committee, Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

President, Division 21 of the American Psychological Association

Editorial Board, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied

Appointed to the Standing Review Panel for the NASA Johnson Space Center Human Research Program, Space Human Factors and Habitability Element

Appointed to the Special Emphasis Panel on Patient Safety through Simulation Research, Agency for Health Research Quality

Appointed to the Policy Study Committee on Safety Belt Technology for the Transportation Research Board, National Research Council of the National Academy of Science.

### **Employment History (List top 5 positions):**

2018- present, Rice University

1991- 2018, Texas Tech University

2007- 2015, present Adjunct Professor, School of Nursing, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

### **What were your significant contributions to the field?**

My research demonstrates that people use multiple sources of visual information to perceive collisions. These sources include both higher-order optical invariants (e.g., tau which specifies time-to-collision) and heuristics (e.g., pictorial depth cues such as relative size).

**Did you receive any notable awards or recognition during your career?**

Human Factors and Ergonomic Society's Paul M. Fitts Education Award for outstanding contributions to the education and training of human factors specialists, 2015

American Psychological Association Division 21's 2014 Franklin V. Taylor Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Applied Experimental and Engineering Psychology

Fellow, American Psychological Association

Fellow, Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

Fellow Psychonomics Society

Fellow Association for Psychological Science

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**Which articles in the journal *Human Factors* would you say were the most influential to you and your research or practice?**

Greenlee, E. T., DeLucia, P. R., & Newton, D. C. (in press). Driver vigilance in automated vehicles: Hazard detection failures are a matter of time. *Human Factors*

DeLucia, P. R. (2008). Critical roles for distance, task, and motion in space perception: Initial conceptual framework and practical implications. *Human Factors*, 50, 811-820.

**Please provide any links to your online articles, essays, blogs, Wikipedia pages, etc., that pertain to your research, publications or practice.**

**What advice would you give someone considering HF/E as a profession?**

Obtain a strong foundation in research.