



**Human  
Factors  
and  
Ergonomics  
Society**

## FELLOW PROFILE

**Name:** Diane Damos

**Degrees, certifications,  
etc.:** PhD

**Current status:** President, Damos Aviation  
Services, Inc.

**Home page:** <http://www.damosaviation.com>



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

I was majoring in physics and had a lab partner who was a helicopter pilot. He was doing some work for the new Aviation Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois. At that time, jobs in physics and engineering were drying up quickly. One day, we were discussing our job prospects, which looked pretty bleak. He suggested that I visit the Aviation Research Laboratory, which I did. I was hooked instantly. At the end of the semester, I changed my major to psychology and began taking human factors courses.

While I was a professor, most of my research was concentrated in the area of multi-task performance, with emphasis on individual differences. The ultimate goal of this research was to improve the selection of military pilots.

After I left academia and started by own company, I have been concerned with developing selection systems for air carriers and flying training schools.

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

1995—present: President, Damos Aviation Services, Inc.

1985—1997: Associate Professor, Human Factors Department, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.

1981—1985: Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

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

The idea that timesharing is a trainable skill.

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

HFES Fellow

**Which articles in the journal *Human Factors* would you say were the most**

**influential to you and your research or practice?**

I cannot really point to anything in particular.

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

<http://www.damosaviation.com>

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

Take as many courses as possible in statistics, experimental design, and technical writing. Get a good background in computers and at least an introduction to industrial engineering. Expect to spend a significant portion of your professional life reading broadly, across several disciplines.