



**Human  
Factors  
and  
Ergonomics  
Society**

## FELLOW PROFILE

**Name:** Douglas H. Harris

**Degrees,  
certifications, etc.:** BS Iowa State U, 1952  
MS Purdue U, 1957  
PhD Purdue U, 1959  
BCPE Certification No 123

**Current status:** Chairman & Principal Scientist,  
Anacapa Sciences, Inc.

**Home page:** [www.anacapasciences.com](http://www.anacapasciences.com)  
[www.anacapatraining.com](http://www.anacapatraining.com)  
[www.picasaweb.google.com/dharris107](http://www.picasaweb.google.com/dharris107)



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

After attending 24 schools throughout the US, Doug Harris left home (a trailer house) at age 13 to further his education. Later, between receiving his BS at Iowa State in 1952 and his PhD from Purdue in 1959, he was a gunnery officer aboard a destroyer operating in the Pacific, completed underwater demolition team training in California, was operations officer of UDT (SEAL) Team 11 operating in Asia, worked in marketing for Procter and Gamble, and spent four months touring Europe in an Austin-Healey.

As a member of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) since 1960, he has held numerous offices, including president, and has received several awards including the Arnold M. Small President's Distinguished Service award.

Since 1985 he has been a member or chair of various committees and panels of the National Research Council, the principal advisor to the United States government on scientific matters. He has chaired committees on human factors, soldier systems, and the relationship between communications and actions, and has been a member of the committee on commercial aviation safety, panel on airline passenger screening, and board on army research laboratory technical assessment.

Dr. Harris has published extensively on his work in technical reports, journal articles, and conference papers; he received an award for publishing the best article in the 2002 volume of *Ergonomics in Design*. As an Associate Editor of *Human Factors*, he edited two special issues of the Journal, and as an editor of the *Reviews of Human Factors and Ergonomics*, he published Volume 6 in 2010. He has authored or edited the books *Human Factors in Quality Assurance* (Wiley 1969), *Organizational Linkages: Understanding the Productivity Paradox* (National Academy Press, 1994), and *Stories & Sketches* (Outskirts Press, 2010).

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

1969 - Now: Anacapa Sciences, Inc., Chairman and Principal Scientist

1962 -1972: University of Southern California, Lecturer, Business School and Institute of Systems Management

1962 - 1969: Rockwell International Corporation, Group Scientist, Human Factors Industrial Applications Group

1959 - 1962: Human Factors Research, Inc., Project Director

1952 – 1955: U.S. Navy; Operations Officer, Underwater Demolition Team 11; Gunnery Officer, USS Rowan (DD-782)

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

While at Rockwell International, Dr. Harris extended the application of human factors principles and methods to improving human performance in industrial systems. These pioneering contributions are summarized in the article, "Human Factors in Industrial Systems: 40 Years On" authored by Colin Drury and published in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue of *Human Factors*. Harris received the HFES Jack Kraft Innovator Award in 1975 for these efforts.

He contributed to improving inspections of products, equipment, installations and facilities that involved visual, ultrasonic, and electromagnetic techniques. The results of these efforts led to greater reliability of systems ranging from microelectronic components to nuclear power plant facilities. Results of these efforts were published in the book *Human Factors in Quality Assurance*, and in numerous articles published in *Human Factors*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, and *Materials Evaluation*. A related article, "How to Really Improve Airport Security," was recognized as the Best Article of 2002 to appear in *Ergonomics in Design*.

In 1971 Dr Harris and associate Walter Harper developed techniques for intelligence analysis and methods for training these techniques that became the standard for this work throughout the world. Every major Federal, state and local law enforcement agency in the United States has been trained in these techniques by Anacapa Sciences. In addition, courses have been conducted by Anacapa or its 30 international licensees for major agencies located on every continent (except Antarctica) in the world. Dr. Harris was instrumental in helping form the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts, the primary professional association of intelligence analysts.

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

Awards and recognition have been addressed in the previous sections

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

To provide a response in proper perspective, I must say that what has influenced me far beyond any articles in *Human Factors* were interactions that I managed to have in my early years with senior professionals in the field. While still a graduate student at Purdue, I had sought out senior professionals, particularly those who had published in the field, and talked with them personally. Specifically, some of these individuals were Stanley Roscoe, Alexander Williams, Earnest McCormick, Arnold Small, Don Conover, Ralph Flexman, Stanley Lippert, Robert R. Mackie, and Joe Wulfeck.

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

Anacapa Sciences: <http://www.anacapasciences.com/company/index.html>

Anacapa Training: <http://www.anacapatraining.com/company/index.html>

Doug Harris Web Albums: <https://picasaweb.google.com/dharris107/>

Amazon Author Page:

[http://www.amazon.com/Douglas-H.-Harris/e/B001HP117I/ref=ntt\\_dp\\_epwbk\\_0](http://www.amazon.com/Douglas-H.-Harris/e/B001HP117I/ref=ntt_dp_epwbk_0)

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

Talk to as many senior professionals in the field as you can, and do it as soon as you can.