



**Human  
Factors  
and  
Ergonomics  
Society**

## FELLOW PROFILE

**Name:** Alan Hedge

**Degrees, certifications,  
etc.:** BSc, MSc, MSc, PhD, CPE

**Current status:** Professor  
Department of Design and  
Environmental Analysis,  
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### **Biography (How you got involved in the field, your major career activities and milestones):**

My career began in the U.K. I studied marine zoology as an undergraduate and I did graduate research studying the color-vision behavior of Octopus, proving they are color blind. As an undergraduate I also pursued my interest in behavior by attending lectures at Sheffield University by Neville Moray, Harry Kay, John Frisby Peter War and others. I then studied psychology at the graduate level at Aston University, a center for systems ergonomics chaired by Tom Singleton, and did my PhD at Sheffield University where my work focused on the development of stimulus-response compatibility effects. I developed a growing interest in environmental effects on behavior and worked in local government before returning to academia to teach in an Applied Psychology department at Aston University, where I taught for 11 years. I was the first President of the Environmental Psychology division of the International Association of Applied Psychologists. It was the start of the microelectronics revolution and I began focusing on indoor environmental effects on human performance and the health issues associated with incorrect computer workplace design. In 1987 I moved to my current position at Cornell University to resurrect a moribund Human Factors and Ergonomics program.

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

Professor, Cornell University (1994-present)  
Associate Professor, Cornell University (1987-1994)  
Assistant Professor (UK) (1976-1987)  
Principal Research Officer (UK) West Midlands Metropolitan County Council  
Assistant Research Officer (UK) South Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council

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

Work on the appropriate indoor environmental conditions for healthy office working, on product designs that facilitate neutral postures for comfortable computer use, and on the development of multitouch technology now featured in many tablet products.

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

O. Keith Hansen Outreach Award (2009)

Alexander J. Williams Jr. Design Award (2003)

Industrial Design Excellence Gold Award (Business Week) (1992)

President, Environmental Psychology division, International Association of Applied Psychologists (1982-1986)

Certified Professional Ergonomist (CPE), Board of Certification of Professional Ergonomists (2003)

Fellow, International Ergonomics Association

Fellow, The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (U.S.A.)

Fellow, The Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (U.K.)

Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society

Founding Member, International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate

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

Leon Straker, James Levine, and Amity Campbell 2009 The Effects of Walking and Cycling Computer Workstations on Keyboard and Mouse Performance. *Human Factors*, 51, 6: pp. 831-844.

Allison M. Anderson, Gary A. Mirka, Sharon M. B. Joines, and David B. Kaber 2009 Analysis of Alternative Keyboards Using Learning Curves. *Human Factors*, 51, 1: pp. 35-45.

David Rempel 2008 The Split Keyboard: An Ergonomics Success Story. *Human Factors*, 50, 3: pp. 385-392.

Guy G. Simoneau and Richard W. Marklin (2001) Effect of Computer Keyboard Slope and Height on Wrist Extension Angle. *Human Factors*, 43, 2: pp. 287-298.

Richard W. Marklin, Guy G. Simoneau, and John F. Monroe (1999) Wrist and Forearm Posture from Typing on Split and Vertically Inclined Computer Keyboards. *Human Factors*, 41, 4: pp. 559-569.

Guy G. Simoneau, Richard W. Marklin, and John F. Monroe (1999) Wrist and Forearm Postures of Users of Conventional Computer Keyboards. *Human Factors*, 41, 3: pp. 413-424.

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

<http://ergo.human.cornell.edu>

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

I enthusiastically encourage the pursuit of a career as an HF/E professional. Consult with those in the profession and discuss your areas of interest, then seek the best program that fits your needs. HF/E worldwide awareness, activities and opportunities are growing.