



HFES FELLOWS PROFILE



Name: Gavan Lintern

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Short Biography: Gavan Lintern has a Ph.D. in Engineering Psychology (University of Illinois, 1978). His research has focused on training transfer as it applies to the design of flight training simulators and on the use of Cognitive Work Analysis to identify cognitive requirements for complex systems. His theoretical and empirical work is guided by an ecological orientation, which emphasizes the mutuality and reciprocity of actors and their environments.

Gavan retired in 2009. He is adjunct at Monash University and continues to publish and to advise students, otherwise filling in as minder of the home pets and general home roustabout.

Gavan is a Fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society and serves on the editorial board of Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making. He has published three books: The Foundations and Pragmatics of Cognitive Work Analysis in 2009, Joker One: A tutorial in Cognitive Work Analysis in 2013, and Presentations for the Knowledge Professions in 2017.

Career Philosophy/Mission Statement: I have always been intrigued by the counter-intuitive, where what is seemingly commonsense leads us in the wrong direction. In my early research career, I challenged the idea that high fidelity is important for training effectiveness, showing in my research that the pursuit of high fidelity is a distraction that results in less effective training. In my later research, I have sought to counter the technocentric mindset that focusses on development of supposedly intelligent artifacts by showing that well-designed cognitive support systems can stimulate huge gains in effectiveness of natural human cognitive strategies.

Advice for students: Our society has been dominated by a techno-centric mindset that has had us looking to technology for answers to pervasive problems, but social forces are converging that are revealing the limitations of this mindset. Human Factors and Cognitive Engineering are disciplines that will grow in stature as it becomes more obvious to society at large that there is something missing from the way we are developing technologies and that a behavioral perspective is essential for reshaping this trajectory.

Specialty Area(s): Academia & Teaching; Research & Development

Field of Interest(s): Aviation; Cognition; Cognitive Psychology; Decision Making; Expertise; Healthcare; Human Performance; Safety; Theorist or Theoretical; Training

Geographic Location: Melbourne, Australia



HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY

Willingness to communicate with students/availability for face-to-face or virtual meetings: Yes, I am available

If you are willing to communicate with students, how can students contact you? Email; Skype

Fellow status: Active

Year inducted as Fellow: 2000

HFES Technical Group Affiliation(s): Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making Technical Group

Awards/Honors: Jerome H. Ely Award, 1991, presented by the Human Factors Society for best paper in Volume 32 of the Human Factors journal. George E. Briggs Dissertation Award, 1978, presented by Division 21 of the American Psychology Association for original research exhibiting creative application of scientific inquiry in the area of Engineering Psychology.

Links to publications /Lab website/Research Gate or similar profile:

professional website: <http://www.cognitivesystemsdesign.net/> blog: <http://lintern.net/blog/>

[CV/Resume](#)