Welcome

The Individual Differences in Performance Technical Group (IDTG) would like to welcome all new members to the organization and encourage others to invite anyone who may be interested in joining both the TG and the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society.

The IDTG is an interest group focusing research efforts on factors that influence human performance. Members of the IDTG share a common perspective: individual characteristics are important in the understanding of processes related to task performance, cognition, attention, decision-making, learning, and skill acquisition, and more broadly the TG is interested in the role of the individual in human factors research.

Members of the TG come from all backgrounds, including academia, military and government-based research, and industry.

The IDTG releases a quarterly newsletter to its members.

New Officer Welcome

We would like to welcome Lexi Neigel as Secretary and temporary Newsletter Editor of the IDTG. Lexi is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Army Research Laboratory in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. She graduated with her Ph.D. in Applied Experimental and Human Factors Psychology from the University of Central Florida in 2017, her M.S. in Modeling and Simulation from the University of Central Florida in 2015, and her B.S. in Psychology from Washington State University in 2012. Her research interests include the effect of human motivation in vigilance performance, individual differences in cognition, and applying human factors to current military needs and efforts.

Call for Officer Positions

We would like to announce that the following IDTG Officer positions are open for nominations:

- Treasurer
- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster

If you are interested in nominating a colleague or yourself for a position, please contact Krystyna Gielo-Perczak and Lexi Neigel for more information at krystyna.gieloperczak@gmail.com and alexis.neigel@gmail.com. Please submit all nominations no later than AUGUST 30th, 2017. Voting will proceed immediately after all nominations have been received.

All votes will need to be cast by SEPTEMBER 15th, 2017. More information will be announced via the IDTG Listserv as this deadline moves closer.

The new Officers will be announced at the IDTG sub-meeting at the 2017 International Meeting for the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society on Thursday, October 12th, 2017 at 12:30 PM. An email will also be sent to the Listserv announcing the new officers for those who are unable to attend the 2017 Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society.
**Upcoming 2017 HFES Meeting**

Save the date! The 2017 Annual International Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society is quickly approaching. The conference will be held October 9th-13th at the JW Marriott in Austin, Texas.

Be sure to register for the conference before August 28th. After this time, a $100 increase can be expected for most types of registration. You can now book your room at the conference hotel.

More information about attending the conference and visiting Austin, TX can be found at the HFES website located [here](#).

**IDTG Meetings and Events**

The Individual Differences Technical Group will hold its annual TG Meeting on Thursday, October 12th, 2017 at 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM at the JW Marriott.

The first Individual Differences TG technical sessions will be held on Thursday, October 12th at 9:15 AM – 10:45 AM and the second technical session will immediate follow this session from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM.

Individual Differences TG posters will be displayed during the Interactive Poster Session and Reception on Tuesday, October 10th from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

**Best Student Paper Award**

The IDTG is pleased to announce an award for “Best Student Paper” submitted to the Individual Differences Technical Group for the 2017 International Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. The award includes a prize of $500 and a plaque for the student to display at their host institution.

The Best Student Paper Award is available to all current graduate and undergraduate students whose work was submitted and accepted to the 2017 HFES Meeting as a part of the IDTG.

In order to be eligible for this award, students must meet the following criteria:

- Currently a graduate student or undergraduate student, or a graduate or undergraduate student at the time of submission
- The student is first author and performed a majority of the writing, design, and analyses in the paper
- Attend the 2017 HFES Meeting to receive your award for Best Paper during the IDTG Meeting on October 12th, 2017 at 12:30 PM

If you are interested in applying, please submit a PDF of your paper with all personal identifiers (i.e., names of authors, institutions, etc.) removed, along with your current CV, and proof of conference registration to Lexi Neigel at alexis.neigel@gmail.com. Not that any identifying information in the file name should be removed as well.

The deadline to submit papers for the Best Student Paper Award is **AUGUST 30th, 2017** at **5:00 PM EST**.

If you are interested in serving on the Best Student Paper Award Review Committee, please contact Lexi Neigel at alexis.neigel@gmail.com as soon as possible.

**Student Travel Award**

The IDTG is pleased to also announce a Student Travel Award to assist students in defraying the costs of travel to the 2017 HFES Meeting.
The award includes a prize of $400 and a plaque for the student to display at their host institution.

The Student Travel Award is available to all current graduate and undergraduate students whose work was submitted and accepted to the 2017 HFES Meeting as a part of the IDTG.

In order to be eligible for this award, students must meet the following criteria:

• Currently a graduate student or undergraduate student
• The student is first author on a paper or presentation submitted and accepted to the 2017 HFES Meeting
• Attend the 2017 HFES Meeting to receive your plaque during the IDTG Meeting on October 12th, 2017 at 12:30 PM

If you are interested in applying, please submit a PDF of your conference submission (e.g., Abstract, Extended Abstract, or Proceeding), your current CV, and proof of conference registration to Lexi Neigel at alexis.neigel@gmail.com.

Students should also submit a 500 word essay describing how the funds will be used to attend the conference, the research performed by the student, and disclose any funding received to travel to the 2017 HFES Annual Meeting.

The deadline to submit all of the materials for the Student Travel Award is AUGUST 30th, 2017 at 5:00 PM EST.

If you are interested in serving on the Student Travel Award Review Committee, please contact Lexi Neigel at alexis.neigel@gmail.com as soon as possible.

**Laboratory Spotlight**

The IDTG would like to shine its metaphorical spotlight on Dr. Virginia Wadley’s laboratory at the University of Alabama Birmingham. Dr. Wadley is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama Birmingham, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, member of the UAB Alzheimer’s Disease Center, and Associate Director of the Edward R. Roybal Center for Translational Research on Aging and Mobility at the University of Alabama Birmingham funded by the National Institute on Aging.

We interviewed Dr. Wadley’s graduate student, Tyler P. Bull, to tell us more about the research performed by this laboratory. Dr. Wadley’s laboratory is currently investigating the role of individual differences in memory, dementia, and mild cognitive impairment (MIC) in older adult driving performance.

Tyler’s work currently focuses on disentangling the unique roles of memory and attention in screenings for dementia and mild cognitive impairment. In preliminary research, Tyler has uncovered that some screening tasks for attention- or memory-based impairment are predictive of performance decrements in unique driving skills.

Tyler also contributes to a large-scale, collaborative clinical research trial lead by Dr. Wadley at the University of Alabama Birmingham. The main focus of the research trial is examining the effectiveness of speed of processing training using Brain HQ, which stemmed from research on the UFOV (conducted predominantly by Drs. Ball and
Owsley at UAB). This study links performance on the speed of processing task and speed of processing training back to driving performance in older adults. This is a longitudinal research effort and results are expected to be published within the next 5 years.

Tyler earned his B.S. in Psychology with Honors from the University of Central Florida in 2015 and was accepted into the 2016 Medical/Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program cohort at the University of Alabama Birmingham. Tyler has published several articles on mHealth usage in student populations and is interested in older adult attention and memory.

**Newsletter Solicitation for Content**

The IDTG is soliciting contributions from readers for the next quarterly newsletter. We are particularly interested contributions for the following sections:

- Special topics or interest segments
- Laboratory, student, or colleague spotlights
- Interviews with students, professionals, or experts
- Brief Q&As
- Announcements or updates

If you are interested in contributing to the next Newsletter, contact Lexi Neigel at alexis.neigel@gmail.com.

If you have another suggestion for a segment, or specific topic that you would like to see in the next newsletter, please let Lexi know.