

The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences along with

the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society & the American Psychological Association

Congressional Briefing on

Preventing Crashes: Driver Safety through Human Factors Science 11.13.07

Speaker Information

Thomas A. Dingus, PhD CHFP

Thomas A. Dingus is Director of the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute and the Newport News Shipbuilding Professor of Engineering at Virginia Tech. Dr. Dingus has conducted transportation safety and human factors research since 1984, including the safety and usability of an advanced in-vehicle devices, crash avoidance countermeasures, truck driver fatigue, and driver distraction and attention. Dr. Dingus is a Fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society from which he has received several awards, including the A.R Lauer Award career achievement award for outstanding contributions to the field of safety. He has had the honor of testifying before a U.S. Congressional sub-committee and the National Council of State Legislatures on issues of driver distraction and attention. Dr. Dingus has over 150 technical publications and has managed over 100 million dollars in research funding thus far in his career.

Donald L. Fisher, PhD

Donald L. Fisher, Ph.D., is a Professor of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and Director of the Human Performance Laboratory in the College of Engineering at the University Massachusetts at Amherst. The Human Performance Laboratory contains one of the countries most advanced driving simulators which along with associated eye tracking equipment is being used both to identify the causes of newly-licensed driver crashes and to evaluate training programs designed to reduce such crashes. The program of teen driver research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control, among others. This research has been published widely throughout the transportation and human factors community including articles in leading journals such as *Human Factors*, *Transportation Research Record*, Transportation Research F, and Current Directions in Psychology. Professor Fisher is currently editing the Handbook of Driving Simulation in Engineering, Medicine and Psychology, a volume containing some 70 chapters dealing with the broad spectrum of issues relevant to the use of driving simulators as a research tool, and is working on a review of teen driver education programs for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Professor Fisher has been a member of a number of national and federal committees focused on the reduction of teen driver crashes including most recently: the National Academy of Sciences Human Factors Committee; the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine Committee on the Contributions from the Behavioral & Social Sciences in Reducing and Preventing Teen Motor Crashes; and the State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Youthful Driver Initiative Expert Panel.

John D. Lee, PhD

John D. Lee is a professor in the department of mechanical and industrial engineering at the University of Iowa, and is the director of human factors research at the National Advanced Driving Simulator. He is also affiliated with the Department of Neurology, the Public Policy Center, the Injury Prevention Research Center, and the Center for Computer-Aided Design. His research focuses on the safety and acceptance of complex human-machine systems by considering how technology mediates attention. Specific research interests include trust in technology, advanced driver assistance systems, and driver distraction. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences committee on human factors and served on the National Academies committee on the preventing teen motor vehicle crashes. Dr. Lee serves on the editorial board of *Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making; Cognition, Technology and Work; International Journal of Human Factors Modeling and Simulation;* and is an associate editor for the journal *Human Factors*.

Paula Sind-Prunier, PhD

Paula Sind-Prunier has been an accident investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board for 8-1/2 years, where she has investigated both maritime and highway accidents. Before joining the NTSB, she managed research projects addressing human performance issues at the U.S. Coast Guard R&D Center, Groton, CT and the U.S. Army, Natick RD&E Center. Dr. Sind-Prunier previously served as Chairman of the Graduate Program in Engineering Psychology at the Florida Institute of Technology, and on the engineering faculty at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She received her doctorate in Industrial Engineering & Operations Research from Virginia Tech, and served as a visiting scientist at the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory, Groton, CT and the Naval Undersea Warfare Center—New London Detachment.

Wendy A Rogers, PhD

Wendy A. Rogers is Professor of Psychology at Georgia Institute of Technology. Her research interests include skill acquisition, human factors, training, and cognitive aging. She is Co-Director of the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory. She is a fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) and of the American Psychological Association (APA). She is a recipient of the Franklin V. Taylor Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Applied Experimental and Engineering Psychology. She is a past-president of Division 21 of APA and of HFES. She is incoming editor of the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*.