

Interview Question Template

Current position(s): Ergonomic Specialist at the London Health Sciences Centre

Brief bio: I graduated from the University of Waterloo's Kinesiology-Ergo program in 1996. I've spent most of my career in healthcare, but I've also done some consulting work and taught along the way.



Questions:

1. How long have you been an ACE member for? I think since about 2002
2. How did you first become interested in ergonomics?

My initial interest was the study of human movement but after my first year in Kinesiology at the University of Waterloo, I learned about the ergonomic program and the rest, as they say, is history.

3. What didn't you learn in school that you wish you had?

How to be an entrepreneur, learning about the business of any profession is always helpful especially in today's world.

4. What is your favorite aspect of being an ergonomist?

The ability to apply what I've learned every day, and having a career where you get to watch other people work never gets dull.

What is your favorite aspect of being involved in ergonomics?

The opportunity to work with a variety of people in different professions. Healthcare ergonomics is somewhat unique in that ergonomic solutions for staff can ultimately impact patient care. Therefore, a multi-professional approach with many stakeholders is always best.

5. What do you see as the biggest opportunity for ergonomists in the future?

I'm not sure what the biggest opportunity would be, but I see many opportunities for ergonomists in the future. Specifically, I see more interest from employers in trying to be more proactive; looking at research and innovation, and human factors. There are also many opportunities in the application of ergonomics in disability management, an area that wasn't traditionally pursued by ergonomists. I guess the biggest opportunity is the one that appeals to each individual ergonomist.

6. What advice would you give to a student or young professional starting out in ergonomics?

It's okay if you don't land your ultimate ergonomic job right away. Don't get discouraged because one of the great things about ergonomics is that it provides you with knowledge and skills that can be applied in other settings. It's a journey and through discovery, you will eventually learn what job fits you best.

7. Is there anything else you would like to share that we have missed? No. Thank you.

Please attach a professional or casual profile picture of your choice.

Thank you!