

In Memoriam Dr. Edward P. Chronicle

Dr. Edward Chronicle died suddenly on February 9, 2007, at the age of 40. He had accomplished a great deal in a short career, and there was every indication of greater achievements to come.

Ed Chronicle was born on the fourth of July, 1966. He was born and raised in Warwickshire, England, where he attended Warwick School. Later, he entered the University of Sheffield to study medicine. After a term he moved to the University of Southampton and switched disciplines to psychology, graduating with a first class honors degree in 1989. Ed was accepted as a graduate student by the Medical Research Council Applied Psychology Unit (now the Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit) at Cambridge University, and there he pursued his interest in medical aspects of psychology with research into the neurology of headache disorders.



He successfully defended his dissertation in 1993, and then took up his first academic position, as Lecturer with the Psychology Department at Lancaster University. Except for a one-year sabbatical at the University of California, Berkeley, Ed remained at Lancaster for the next ten years, attaining the academic rank of Senior Lecturer and appointment to Associate Dean for Postgraduate Studies, Faculty of Applied Sciences. In 2003, Ed moved to the University of Hawaii to take the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. At the time of his death, Ed had been promoted to a full professorship with tenure and acted as the Department's Graduate Chair.

Although just entering what would normally be the middle stage of an academic career, Ed Chronicle had already made many contributions in two distinct areas of psychology. He continued and expanded his dissertation work on migraine, to investigate biobehavioral markers of migraine, its long-term effects on brain function, and the effectiveness of anticonvulsants in preventing it. In the course of his migraine research Ed established lasting collaborations with researchers in many parts of the world, including the UK, US, Canada, Germany and the Netherlands. From his early publication (in *Lancet*) to his latest (in *Cephalgia*), his neurologically related research has been published in the leading journals in the field.

Early in his time at Lancaster, Ed developed an interest in problem solving, and embarked on a second research career, encompassing both insight problem solving and

human performance in combinatorial optimization problems. This second set of research interests again involved lasting international collaborations and publications in some of the field's highest-ranking journals. It was also instrumental in Ed's meeting Zygmunt Pizlo, at the Psychonomic Society Conference in Vancouver, Canada, in November 2003. Thus began a conversation that ultimately led to the "Workshop in Human Problem Solving: Difficult Optimization Tasks," held at Purdue University in June 2005. The workshop brought together scientists representing six different disciplines from around the world to exchange ideas on human optimization ability, and led to the establishment of the *Journal of Problem Solving*, with Ed Chronicle and Zyg Pizlo as founding editors. Ed remained as co-editor-in-chief until health issues forced him to resign.

A week before Christmas, 2006, Ed was formally notified by the National Institutes of Health that he was the successful co-applicant for a grant of \$1.6 million over the next five years. This steady flow of research funds, together with the security of recently granted tenure, promised a research environment where Ed's capabilities would flourish to their fullest. Ed had many plans for furthering his two areas of research and also of drawing them closer together, by applying the technology of one to the issues of the other. Sadly, these plans will not be fulfilled.

Jim MacGregor
Tom Ormerod