

PREFACE

The international course "Behavioral and Psychophysiological Effects of the Physical Work Environment," organized by the Nordic Institute for Advanced Training in Occupational Health (Nordisk arbetsmiljöutbildning, but better known as NIVA) and the National Institute of Occupational Health, Sweden, was held at Hässelbygård, Stockholm, Sweden, in April 1988. The scientific committee responsible for the course included Francesco Gamberale and Anders Kjellberg (National Institute of Occupational Health, Solna, Sweden), Gunn Johansson (Department of Psychology, University of Stockholm), and Torbjörn Åkerstedt (National Institute of Psychosocial Factors and Health, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden).

As appears from its title, the course dealt primarily with the behavioral and psychophysiological responses to different aspects of the physical work environment. It was appreciated to such an extent by the participants, students, and even the lecturers that we felt a need to document its contents. We were able to do so since most of the lecturers agreed to prepare papers reviewing the field of research he or she had presented during the course. This volume is the result.

With great pleasure we wish to express our warmest thanks to all who took part in the course. We are very grateful to NIVA for having organized the course and to the Swedish Work Environment Fund for the financial support granted for the editing of this volume.

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