

Workshops at the World Congress

On Sunday June 8th, preceding the World Congress, SRA is pleased to offer four excellent professional development workshops. The workshops have been carefully selected to provide opportunities for those international conference participants who might be new to risk assessment and SRA as well as to those looking for additional in depth training in risk communication, dose response assessment, and risk analysis related to food safety standards.

Workshop 1. Risk Analysis: Fundamental Concepts, Applications, and Controversies

Instructor: David Hassenzahl, Associate Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Workshop fee: \$225

Language of Instruction: English

This half-day workshop will provide a broad introduction to the field of risk analysis. We introduce fundamental risk analysis concepts, terminology, applications and calculations. Students will also be introduced to the range of topics covered by the Society for Risk Analysis (e.g. biological stressors, decision analysis and risk, dose-response, ecological risk assessment, economics and benefits analysis, emerging nanoscale materials, engineering and infrastructure, exposure assessment, risk communication, and risk policy and law). The workshop is suitable individuals with limited or no experience in risk analysis. Upon completion of this workshop, students will understand the origins, applications and controversies surrounding risk analysis. They will be prepared to evaluate risk analysis reports and presentations. Most importantly, they will be prepared to engage comfortably in the range of conversations at the World Congress.

Workshop 2. Risk Communication

Instructors: Ana Rosa Moreno, MSc, former official of WHO/PAHO and present Coordinator of the Environmental Health Program of the Mexico-United States Foundation for Science, Mexico, D.F.

Dr. Óscar Tarragó, Coordinator for Training in Risk Communication of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, of the Centers for the Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

Course fee: \$300.00

Language of Instruction: Spanish

This full-day course was created by the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Risk Assessment and Management Unit. It offers orientation on the theory and methodology of risk communication. The elements of risk communication are described, as well as strategies and effective procedures for intervention in this area. The aim is to develop participants skills so that they are able to create communication plans with the target population, construct an interactive information-sharing process, and attain an operational and sustainable vision of risk communication.

Workshop 3. Recent Developments in Risk Assessment - International Frameworks for Evaluating Toxicity Data for Human Health Assessment

Instructors: Lynne Haber, Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA)

Bette Meek, Assoc. Director, Chemical Risk Assessment, University of Ottawa, Canada

Jay Zhao, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Workshop fee: \$250.00

Language of Instruction: English

This full-day workshop is designed for all chemical risk assessors, with the aim of providing familiarity with cutting-edge international (WHO/IPCS) methods for considering weight of evidence of mode of action and chemical -specific adjustment factors. The course will begin with review of basic concepts of risk assessment, including hazard characterization and dose-response analysis, providing a background for all in the basic concepts, and then move on to address how recent developments affect the approaches used. Several case examples will be given. For more information go to: http://www.tera.org/education/RA_developments2008.htm

Workshop 4. Use of Risk Analysis in the Development of Better Food Safety Standards

Instructors: Amir Mokhtari, Research Environmental Scientist, Research Triangle Institute (RTI), International

Steve Beaulieu, Director, Risk Assessment and Environmental Modeling Program, RTI International

Workshop fee: \$245.00

Language of Instruction: English

This full-day workshop deals with risk assessment and risk management issues in establishing standards, guidelines, and other recommendations for food safety that are intended to ensure consumer protection on both a national and international level and to facilitate international trade. Key objectives of this workshop include: (i) to describe the principles and present a framework for using risk analysis to develop microbiological food safety standards; (ii) to discuss how this risk analysis framework fits within the context of a more general framework for managing food-borne risks to consumers; (iii) to investigate how different types of food safety measures can be derived using the outputs of risk analysis; (iv) to provide guidelines on the interactions between risk managers and risk assessors; and (v) to present practical examples showing how risk analysis can be used in the development of food safety measures. This course will be of primary interest to governments; however, other organizations, companies, and interested parties who need to evaluate and/or establish food safety standards will also find it valuable. The audience should have a basic understanding of risk analysis concepts and be familiar with the risk assessment process. For more information: <http://rtidemo.rti.org/WRC2008>