



# Conference Program

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*Location: Resources for the Future, First Floor Conference Center, 1616 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20036, phone: 202-238-5000*



Society for Risk Analysis

## New Ideas for Risk Regulation

Washington, DC • June 22-23, 2009



RESOURCES  
FOR THE FUTURE

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**Sandra Hoffmann**  
**Amber Jessup**  
**Alan Krupnick**  
**Dominic Mancini**  
**Stuart Shapiro**  
**Jun Zhuang**

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for joining us!

On behalf of the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) and Resources for the Future (RFF), I'm pleased to welcome you to the "New Ideas for Risk Regulation" conference. We look forward to thoughtful and insightful discussion of numerous ideas for improving regulatory development and analysis. This conference is particularly timely given the new Administration's interest in innovation, as illustrated by President Obama's request for comment on a new Executive Order on regulatory review.

The conference focuses on regulating environmental, health, safety, and security risks, and considers the national and international role of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The following pages provide an overview of the conference program followed by the detailed agenda, as well as Internet links for biographical information on the speakers and moderators.

SRA ([www.sra.org](http://www.sra.org)) is a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, scholarly, international society that provides an open forum for all those who are interested in risk analysis. Risk analysis is broadly defined to include risk assessment, risk characterization, risk communication, risk management, and policy relating to risk, in the context of risks of concern to individuals, to public and private sector organizations, and to society at a local, regional, national, or global level.

RFF ([www.rff.org](http://www.rff.org)) improves environmental and natural resource policymaking worldwide through objective social science research of the highest caliber. It is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that conducts independent research – rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences – on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public health issues.

The conference video, as well as downloadable copies of the slides and papers from many sessions, will be posted on the event website in late June (<http://www.rff.org/Events/Pages/New-Ideas-for-Risk-Regulation.aspx>). We will also provide a conference summary later this summer, and the December 6-9, 2009 SRA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland ([http://www.sra.org/events\\_2009\\_meeting.php](http://www.sra.org/events_2009_meeting.php)) will feature related sessions. Selected articles based on the conference presentations will be published in SRA's journal, *Risk Analysis*, in 2010.

We look forward to an interesting and thought-provoking discussion.

Best,  
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair  
([Lisa.A.Robinson@comcast.net](mailto:Lisa.A.Robinson@comcast.net))

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## OVERVIEW

### Monday, June 22, 2009

- 8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome and Overview
- 9:15-10:45 Panel 1 - OIRA Domestically: Towards Better Regulation
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:30 Panel 2 - OIRA Internationally: Towards Global Cooperation
- 12:30-2:00 Lunch Speaker: Sally Katzen
- 2:00-3:30 Panel 3 - Regulating Highly Uncertain and Potentially Catastrophic Risks
- 3:30-3:45 Break
- 3:45-5:15 Panel 4 - Integrating Risk Assessment and Risk Management
- 5:15-6:30 Reception

### Tuesday, June 23, 2009

- 8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome and Overview
- 9:15-10:45 Panel 5 - What does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? Positive and Normative Justifications
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:30 Panel 6 - Beyond Efficiency: Incorporating Equity in Regulatory Analysis
- 12:30-2:00 Lunch Speaker: Paul Portney
- 2:00-3:30 Panel 7 - Do We Know What We Prefer? Implications of Behavioral Economics for Research on Preferences
- 3:30-3:45 Break
- 3:45-5:15 Panel 8 – Concluding Roundtable: The Future of Regulatory Oversight
- 5:15 Adjourn

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## DETAILED AGENDA

Monday, June 22, 2009

8:30-9:00 ***Registration and Continental Breakfast***

9:00-9:15 ***Welcome and Overview***

Mark Cohen, Resources for the Future  
Jonathan Wiener, Society for Risk Analysis  
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair

9:15-10:45 ***Panel 1 - OIRA Domestically: Towards Better Regulation***

The advent of a new Administration provides an opportunity to reconsider the regulatory development process. This panel will focus on OIRA's role in prompting and reviewing domestic regulations as well as its requirements for regulatory analysis, reflecting the views of those who have worked within OIRA, interacted with OIRA as agency representatives, and studied OIRA's legal authority and effectiveness.

Arthur Fraas, Resources for the Future (Moderator)

“Analysis on the 17 Most Political Acres on Earth”

Donald Arbuckle, University of Texas

“OIRA: What's It Good For?”

Donald Elliott, Yale University, Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher LLP

“Using Regulatory Impact Analyses to Inform Regulatory Decisions”

Richard Williams, George Mason University

“Defragmenting the Regulatory Process”

Stuart Shapiro, Rutgers University

10:45-11:00 ***Break***

11:00-12:30 ***Panel 2 - OIRA Internationally: Towards Global Cooperation***

As nations work to improve the quality of their policies and legislation, there are substantial opportunities for mutual learning. This panel will explore the successes and failures of U.S., E.U., and other regulatory reform efforts, highlight opportunities to learn from other's policy innovations, and examine options for increasing international cooperation in evaluating and improving the quality of each nation's policies and laws.

Dominic Mancini, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (Moderator)

“Better Regulation in the EU: Learning by Doing”

Marianne Klingbeil, European Commission

“Transatlantic Regulatory Impact Assessment: Tomorrow's Dream or Realization”

Alberto Alemanno, HEC Paris

“Fostering Quality Regulation for the 21st Century”

Stephane Jacobzone, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

“Toward a Global Policy Laboratory”

Jonathan Wiener, Duke University

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## DETAILED AGENDA

### Monday, June 22, 2009 (continued)

12:30-2:00 **Lunch**

Moderator: John Morrall, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (retired)

Speaker: "Which Way the Political Winds Are Blowing"

Sally Katzen, Podesta Group

2:00-3:30

#### ***Panel 3 - Regulating Highly Uncertain and Potentially Catastrophic Risks***

Risks that are highly uncertain but potentially catastrophic, such as climate change, terrorism, or natural disasters, provide special challenges for regulators. Difficult issues include determining the effects of regulations on the likelihood of catastrophic outcomes, the ways in which government agencies should address the associated fear, the extent to which regulations should be precautionary, and the appropriate roles of the public and private sectors.

Jennifer Baxter, Industrial Economics, Incorporated (Moderator)

"The Five Neglects: Risks Gone Amiss"

Richard Zeckhauser, Harvard University

"Duty to Inform When All Hell Could Break Loose"

Baruch Fischhoff, Carnegie Mellon University

"Considering Risk in Developing a Regulatory Response to Climate Change"

Mort Webster, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

"At War with the Weather and Other Extreme Events"

Howard Kunreuther, University of Pennsylvania

3:30-3:45

#### ***Break***

3:45-5:15

#### ***Panel 4 - Integrating Risk Assessment and Risk Management***

Better integration of science, economics, and decisionmaking has long been a significant concern in regulation. Most recently, the National Research Council report, *Science and Decisions: Advancing Risk Assessment*, made several recommendations for changing how these issues are addressed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These recommendations, as well as preceding proposals and newer ideas for fundamental change, have significant implications for how environmental and numerous other risks are assessed and regulated.

Kara Morgan, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (Moderator)

"Assessing and Managing Risk: First Things First"

Gail Charnley, HealthRisk Strategies

"Integration of Risk Assessment and Risk Management: The Need for Caution"

Bernard Goldstein, University of Pittsburgh

"Solution-Focused Risk Assessment: Reversing the 'Red Book' Relationship"

Adam Finkel, University of Pennsylvania

"Risk Assessment and the Behavioral Science of Economics"

Sandra Hoffmann, Resources for the Future

5:15-6:30

#### ***Reception***

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## DETAILED AGENDA

**Tuesday, June 23, 2009**

8:30-9:00      ***Registration and Continental Breakfast***

9:00-9:15      ***Welcome and Overview***

Jonathan Wiener, Society for Risk Analysis  
Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future  
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair

9:15-10:45      ***Panel 5 - What does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? Positive and Normative Justifications***

While benefit-cost analysis has long been the dominant method for assessing regulatory impacts, its focus on individual preferences and on monetary valuation of nonmarket benefits has been the subject of some debate. This panel will discuss the role of benefit-cost analysis as a positive or normative framework. It will also consider alternatives to benefit-cost analysis, including cost-effectiveness analysis and utilitarian decision analysis, as aids to decision-making.

Joseph Cordes, George Washington University (Moderator)

“Positive and Normative Justifications for Benefit-Cost Analysis”

James Hammitt, Harvard University

“Prospects for Utilitarian Decision Analysis”

Jonathan Baron, University of Pennsylvania

“Self-Selection in Cost-Effectiveness Analysis”

David Meltzer, University of Chicago

“What Does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? What are the Alternatives to BCA?”

Maureen Cropper, Resources for the Future

10:45-11:00      ***Break***

11:00-12:30      ***Panel 6 - Beyond Efficiency: Incorporating Equity in Regulatory Analysis***

While Federal agencies have been required to consider the distributional impacts of their regulatory actions for many years, these effects are not subject to the same sort of rigorous assessment as economic efficiency. This session will discuss how to improve consideration of distributional impacts and equity.

Kelly Maguire, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Moderator)

“Six Pathways for Distributional Effects of Environmental Policy”

Don Fullerton, University of Illinois

“Incorporating Equity Metrics into Regulatory Review”

Matthew Adler, University of Pennsylvania

“Avoiding the Normatively Ideal with the Positively Good”

Scott Farrow, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

“Whose Injustice? Relevant Inequalities and How We Should Address Them”

Wilhelmine Miller, George Washington University

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## DETAILED AGENDA

### Tuesday, June 23, 2009 (continued)

12:30-2:00 **Lunch**

Moderator: Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future

Speaker: “Benefit-Cost Analysis and Common Sense: Friends or Foes?”  
Paul Portney, University of Arizona

2:00-3:30 **Panel 7 - Do We Know What We Prefer? Implications of Behavioral Economics for Research on Preferences**

Nonmarket benefits of regulatory policies, including reduced risks to human health and the environment, are often valued using stated or revealed preference methods. However, work by behavioral economists has challenged the assumptions that underlie these methods, suggesting that individual preferences often diverge from the standard tenets of rational choice. This panel will consider diverse perspectives on this problem.

James Hammitt, Harvard University (Moderator)

“The Implications of Behavioral Economics for Stated Preference Research”

Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future

“How are Preferences Revealed?”

David Laibson, Harvard University

“Six Nagging Questions in Preference Elicitation”

Jason Shogren, University of Wyoming

“Whose Preferences Should We Use?”

David Schkade, University of California, San Diego

3:30-3:45 **Break**

3:45-5:15 **Panel 8 – Concluding Roundtable: The Future of Regulatory Oversight**

This concluding session will invite former OIRA and government agency officials and leading scholars to reflect on the results of the conference, discuss the implications of the presentations, and identify the key issues to be addressed in the future.

Jonathan Wiener, Duke University (Moderator)

John Graham, Indiana University

Michael Livermore, New York University

Richard Morgenstern, Resources for the Future

Rena Steinzor, University of Maryland

Richard Zerbe, University of Washington

5:15 **Adjourn**

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## LIST OF PANELISTS

**Matthew Adler** (University of Pennsylvania):

<http://www.law.upenn.edu/cf/faculty/madler/>

**Alberto Alemanno** (HEC Paris):

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**Donald Arbuckle** (University of Texas):

<http://www.utdallas.edu/~donald.arbuckle>

**Jennifer Baxter** (Industrial Economics, Incorporated):

[http://www.indecon.com/iec\\_Web/mainmenu/profile.asp#baxter](http://www.indecon.com/iec_Web/mainmenu/profile.asp#baxter)

**Jonathan Baron** (University of Pennsylvania):

<http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~baron/>

**Gail Charnley** (HealthRisk Strategies):

<http://www.healthriskstrategies.com/>

**Mark Cohen** (Resources for the Future):

<http://www.rff.org/Researchers/Pages/ResearchersBio.aspx?ResearcherID=1596>

**Joseph Cordes** (George Washington University):

<http://www.gwu.edu/~tspppa/faculty/cordes.cfm>

**Maureen Cropper** (Resources for the Future):

<http://www.rff.org/Researchers/Pages/ResearchersBio.aspx?ResearcherID=1626>

**Donald Elliott** (Yale Law School, Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher LLP):

<http://www.policyintegrity.org/about/AdvisoryBoard.html>

**Scott Farrow** (University of Maryland, Baltimore County):

[http://www.umbc.edu/economics/faculty\\_ev/SFumbcCV.pdf](http://www.umbc.edu/economics/faculty_ev/SFumbcCV.pdf)

**Adam Finkel** (University of Pennsylvania):

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**Don Fullerton** (University of Illinois):

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**Baruch Fischhoff** (Carnegie Mellon University):

<http://www.hss.cmu.edu/departments/sds/src/faculty/fischhoff.php>

**Arthur Fraas** (Resources for the Future):

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**Bernard Goldstein** (University of Pittsburgh):

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# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## LIST OF PANELISTS (continued)

**John Graham** (Indiana University):

<http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/faculty/graham-johnd.shtml>

**James Hammitt** (Harvard University):

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/faculty/james-hammitt/>

**Sandra Hoffmann** (Resources for the Future):

<http://www.rff.org/Researchers/Pages/ResearchersBio.aspx?ResearcherID=36>

**Stephane Jacobzone** (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development)

<http://www.oecd.org/regreform>

**Sally Katzen** (Podesta Group):

<http://www.podesta.com/biopages/SallyKatzen.htm>

**Marianne Klingbeil** (European Commission):

[http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better\\_regulation](http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better_regulation)

**Howard Kunreuther** (University of Pennsylvania):

<http://opimweb.wharton.upenn.edu/people/faculty.cfm?id=37>

**Alan Krupnick** (Resources for the Future):

<http://www.rff.org/Researchers/Pages/ResearchersBio.aspx?ResearcherID=39>

**David Laibson** (Harvard University):

<http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/laibson>

**Michael Livermore** (New York University):

<http://www.policyintegrity.org/about/staff.html>

**Kelly Maguire** (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency):

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/webpages/Staff.html>

**Dominic Mancini** (U.S. Office of Management and Budget)

**David Meltzer** (University of Chicago):

<http://harrisschool.uchicago.edu/faculty/web-pages/david-meltzer.asp>

**Wilhelmine Miller** (George Washington University):

[http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/faculty/miller\\_wilhelmine.cfm](http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/faculty/miller_wilhelmine.cfm)

**Kara Morgan** (U.S. Food and Drug Administration)

**Richard Morgenstern** (Resources for the Future):

<http://www.rff.org/Researchers/Pages/ResearchersBio.aspx?ResearcherID=47>

# New Ideas for Risk Regulation

## LIST OF PANELISTS (continued)

**John Morrall** (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, retired)

**Paul Portney** (University of Arizona):  
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**Lisa Robinson** (Independent Consultant)  
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**David Schkade** (University of California, San Diego):  
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**Stuart Shapiro** (Rutgers University):  
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**Richard Zeckhauser** (Harvard University):  
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**Richard Zerbe** (University of Washington):  
<http://evans.washington.edu/faculty-staff/bios/current-hz/zerbe>