

## **Communication Committee Charter**

**[Approved December 2006]**

**I. Purpose:** The Communication Committee shall assist the Council in managing external communications activities to promote the society in a positive manner, serve the needs of the membership, and assist in making the membership aware of important Society information. The Committee will also identify current issues that bear on the use of risk science to inform decisions and to help inform SRA members, Congressional staff, state legislative bodies and others about the use of risk science to inform decisions. In these efforts the committee will follow direction from the SRA Council that the SRA will not take any policy position.

**II. Composition:** A member of the Society's Council will chair the committee. Any other member of the council is welcome to participate as a member of the committee. Other members of the Society may join the committee at the discretion of the chair subject to judgment of the chair about maintaining a manageable size. Decisions will be made by majority vote.

**III. Duties:** The Committee shall have the following duties:

- The administration and management of the Society's websites and other websites related to the Society as directed by the Council.
- The promotion of the Society's journal, *Risk Analysis: An International Journal*, including assuring that Society members can access information about the journal through the Internet.
- The oversight for the *RISK Newsletter*.
- The occasional promotion of articles in the journal to the general public and lay press.
- The development of an annual budget for the committee, including website maintenance and development, and requests for any additional funding as needed.
- The annual reporting of how the Committee spent its funds for the year and the impacts of these expenditures.
- Marshal the resources of the society to 1) help educate SRA members about key policy issues bearing on risk science (e.g., links to science policy web pages and training sessions for SRA members and the larger scientific community); 2) help inform Congressional staff and others that Risk Analysis is a science that is key to informed decisions. The committee will identify possible topics for Congressional luncheon briefings and task a subcommittee. The goal is to get the message out that risk science is essential to understanding the nature and likely magnitude of outcomes and that it can be defined and presented in understandable ways.
- Other activities as directed by the Council.