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## *Message from the President*

The number of members of the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) has decreased over the last 10–15 years. The trend is negative. This we will do something about. Membership is at the top of the agenda for the SRA Council, the SRA President and the SRA Secretariat. We have a special committee in the Council, led by Joe Árvai and Sally Kane, addressing membership issues. This committee, together with the Secretariat, is working on many ideas to significantly increase the membership numbers. Of course, it is not the number in itself that is important; what we really seek is involvement and engagement in SRA activities. Membership recruitment must go hand in hand with initiatives to get people engaged. Then we can hope they will continue to be members. Retention of current members is as important as recruiting new ones.

For all this, we need your help. I would like to challenge each and every one of you to define the following

goal for 2018: encourage at least one person to become a new SRA member or a current member to retain membership, if this person is not planning to do so. You can do this, for example, by inviting the person to the Annual Meeting, inviting him/her to give a talk in a Symposium and join one or more Specialty Groups. The individual can be a friend or a colleague, but you may also like to think about someone from another country, if you have such contacts. In this way, you will also contribute to strengthening the internationalization of SRA, which is an important stated goal of the organization. If we all succeed in this, or at least a large proportion do, it will be great achievement. SRA will grow and its work for risk analysis can be further developed to the benefit of us all. *Be on the lookout for information from the SRA Membership Committee and Staff!*

I need to mention young professionals and students, in particular. They represent the future of the organization, and the question is: How can we get more of them involved and engaged? As a senior academic, you will of course invite your students to SRA meetings, where they can present their work and receive feedback from some of the best people in the field. They can meet other students and establish useful networks. I like to say that a professor should never travel alone to an SRA meeting. At least one student should accompany him/her. Senior risk analysis practitioners should also think in this way. Always invite a junior to the meeting. Present him or her to the Society and encourage him/her to get engaged in SRA activities. Do we have a deal?

Best regards,



*Terje Aven*



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**SRA 2018**

**RISK ANALYSIS** · The Many Faces of Risk

December 2 - 6 · New Orleans, LA

The Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) invites your abstracts for presentations at the 2018 SRA Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, December 2-6.

We welcome contributions on any topic related to risk assessment, risk characterization, risk perception, risk communication, risk management, risk governance, 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.

This year's theme, *“The Many Faces of Risk,”* is intended to showcase inclusion, a cornerstone of SRA and vital to the ability to address today’s most pressing risk issues. The theme underscores the diversity of SRA in terms of the professions, disciplines, methodologies, nationalities, and regions its membership represents. It also highlights the staggering array of topics that SRA members and meeting participants explore in their research and practice.

**Abstracts are due no later than May 29, 2018, midnight EST.**

[Click here for complete submission guidelines and to submit your abstract.](#)

Continuing education workshops will be offered on Sunday, December 2 and Thursday, December 6 in either 4 or 8 hour sessions. This year we are encouraging proposals aimed at improving the foundations and/or practice of risk analysis. [Click here for complete workshop submission guidelines and to submit your proposal.](#) Continuing education workshop proposals are due no later than May 29, 2018.



**The Society for Risk Analysis invites your abstracts for presentations at the Fifth World Congress on Risk in Cape Town, South Africa, May 6–8, 2019.**

The Fifth World Congress on Risk will focus on “Development and Resilience” and aims to stimulate dialogue and education on risk issues of worldwide interest. SRA welcomes contributions on any topic related to risk assessment, risk characterization, risk perception, risk communication, risk management, risk governance, 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.

SRA is particularly interested in receiving submissions from outstanding researchers doing work in risk analysis from Africa, Asia, Oceania, Middle East or Latin America and will aim to support their travel to present at the World Congress. The organizing committee welcomes proposals for a variety of session formats: poster-platform presentation, oral presentation and symposium presentation.

[Click here for complete submission guidelines and to submit your abstract.](#)

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## Register for the 2018 SRA Europe Conference

June 18-20, 2018 in Östersund, Sweden

The special theme of the conference, "Risk & Uncertainty – From Critical Thinking to Practical Impact" reflects the current need to persist the phenomenon of knowledge resistance and alternative facts, as well as to develop applied research for risk analysis in open and democratic contexts.

The conference will be held at Mid Sweden University in Östersund, a small town close to the mountains in the north of Sweden. During the conference you will experience the longest day of the year when the sun rises at 2.50 a.m., only a few hours after it sets.

This conference gathers academics, policy makers, and practitioners interested in risk research, policy, and practice, including members of the SRA-E, SRA International and other regional SRA organizations.

We hope you will take the opportunity to visit our beautiful town, take part in the conference, and listen to inspiring speakers.

[Register now](#) to take advantage of early-bird pricing.

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## 2018 SRA Award Nominations

SRA 2018 Award Nominations. SRA is currently seeking member nominations for the following awards:

- Distinguished Achievement Award
- Richard J. Burk Outstanding Service Award
- Outstanding Practitioner Award
- Chauncey Starr Distinguished Young Risk Analyst Award
- Distinguished Educator Award

If you would like to nominate an SRA member for an award, please submit a formal nomination letter that describes the candidate's background and rationale for why the candidate should receive this award, along with any supporting documentation or secondary support letters. Only current SRA members are eligible for awards and only formal submissions will be considered. **Deadline for submission is May 1st.** Please send nomination letters and supporting materials to the 2018 Awards Committee Chair, [Pamela Williams](#).

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**SRA Member Spotlight:** Scott Ferson, PhD, recipient of the Distinguished Educator Award and chair of the Institute of Risk and Uncertainty at the University of Liverpool.

Scott has been working on methods to wrangle bad data (sparse, imprecise, unbalanced, dubious, missing or anecdotal), the proper uncertainty penalty for expert elicitation, and open-source co-creation of a decision engine to reduce the side-effects of transportation such as roadside injuries, environmental impacts and economic costs of traffic.



*Each month the SRA newsletter will feature one of its members and their work in the spotlight section. If you would like to nominate a member, please email [Melanie Preve](#).*

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**Save the Date!**  
**Upcoming Webinars**

*An additional email will be sent to all members*

Symposium on Risk Analysis

with a registration link

**April 9 at 10am ET: Risk Assessment**  
with Seth Guikema

**May 2: Risk Perception &  
Communication with Katherine  
McComas**

**June 6: Counteracting the Politicization  
of Science**

**August 1: Risk Management &  
Governance with Frederic Boudier & Terje  
Aven**

**September 5: Solving Real Risk  
Problems & Issues with Willy Røed**

**October 3: Risk, Causation and Decision  
with Tony Cox**

**November 7: Selected Topics in Risk  
Analysis with Ortwin Renn**

If you or your specialty group has an idea for a webinar or is interested in hosting, please contact [Scott Dotson](#). All of our past webinars are available [here](#) for members.

The Section on Risk Analysis of the American Statistical Association invites you to attend a Symposium on Risk Analysis at NC State University May 10-11.

This symposium features experts in climate change risk, high throughput toxicity testing, genetic environmental risk, actuarial risk, social media terrorism threat detection, and adversarial risk. The symposium is designed so that the attendees can learn about problems within and outside of their current research areas, and it is geared towards networking and solving problems through small breakout sessions. It is an exceptional opportunity for researchers, practitioners, and students. The content of the symposium, biographical sketches of our speakers and registration are available [here](#). If you have any questions, feel free to contact [Matt Wheeler](#) or [Mike Pennell](#).

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**Are you a member of another organization that could benefit from co-sponsoring an event with SRA?**

For more information, and to apply for co-sponsorship, [click here](#).

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## **The Applied Risk Management Specialty Group asks for your help!**

Our challenge: We want to organize sessions at SRA 2018 around themes based on the interfaces and inner-workings of risk analysis and risk management.

Our domain, applied risk management, brings together concepts and practices of other SRA specialty groups to ensure risks are managed as effectively as possible. We want ARMSG sessions to arise “organically” from all of your natural processes of your work then submitting abstracts for that work. We

could suggest risk management topics, but we don't want to force our risk management topic taxonomy on you. We don't want this to be a top-down process -- we want it to be a bottom-up, field-up, problems-up process.

Definition: What do we mean by "applied risk management"? To avoid wonkiness, we'll keep it simple: applied risk management is to get risk managed in the field, solving all the real-world problems of managing risks, including such things as: measurement-monitoring, institutional and legal implementation and controls, systems-level implementation, nuts-and-bolts implementation, organizational implementation, insurance-financial implementation, price-cost-market-based implementation, decision support, stakeholder involvement, political issues, and risk communication as a direct component of risk management. You have better ideas for that list? Tell us. Do parts of the list upset you? Tell us. Does the list raise turf issues with other Specialty Groups? Tell us.

Two Solutions: 1) We ask all of you for your ideas for those sessions. Email your ideas to [jlathrop@innovatedecisions.com](mailto:jlathrop@innovatedecisions.com). 2) If your paper/abstract has an important risk management component and/or challenge, please click on Applied Risk Management as your first or second Specialty Group when you come to the Specialty Group section in the SRA abstract submission website. In June, abstracts will be sorted and we will work with other SG Chairs to identify good Applied Risk Management sessions. In all cases, your primary SG Chair will have the deciding vote.

The papers we would most like to see: Papers that:

- 1) ... communicate how their risk analysis was styled and applied to provide the maximum benefit to risk managers and/or the risk management process.
- 2) ...address challenges across different domains, to enable transfer of risk management methods, principles etc. between domains.

Of particular interest: Lessons identified, and lessons learned, for structuring risk analysis for maximum benefit to risk management.

Remember: 1) Email your session ideas to [jlathrop@innovatedecisions.com](mailto:jlathrop@innovatedecisions.com). 2) If appropriate, click on Applied Risk Management as your first or second specialty group when you submit your abstract. 3) Email me your reactions-edits to that list of concepts under "Definition."

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*Each month the Communications Committee selects an article from the journal for further media coverage. Last month's selected article featured a new study on preventing sports injuries.*

## What If We Could Predict When an Athlete Was Going to Be Injured?

*New study quantifies individual risk of injury for athletes using Internet of Things*

Thousands of athletes showcased their abilities for the world in PyeongChang, South Korea, in pursuit of Olympic gold. But for every dazzling triple axel or stellar snowboarding run, athletes face the risk of career-ending injuries.

Athletic performance isn't the only casualty of sports injuries. These injuries pose economic burdens on athletes and their families and can have long-lasting effects on an athlete's quality of life. To help reduce the risk of injury, researchers at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga have developed a framework that measures an athlete's risk of injury using Internet of Things (IoT) technology.

Published in the journal *Risk Analysis*, the study, "Mitigating sports injury risks using Internet of Things and analytic approaches," outlines how injury risk screening procedures can be administered using wireless devices, such as smartphones, connected to a cloud server. This connection between phones, computers and other devices is what researchers refer to as the Internet of Things. [Read more.](#)

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Are you a regular contributor to an online publication or blog?

We want to help share your content! If you contribute to a publication, please email [Melanie Preve](#) and we'll be sure to share your pieces on SRA's social media channels.



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