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Message from the President

It is time to think about the Annual Meeting in New Orleans in December. It will be a great event. The deadline for abstract submission is May 29th. I hope many of you will be there and contribute with a risk analysis presentation – either it is about risk assessment, perception, communication, management or policy. This year's theme is 'The Many Faces of Risk' which underscores the diversity of SRA in terms of for example perspectives, methodologies, nationalities and regions, but still unified in the interest for risk analysis. The Program Committee, led by President-elect Katherine McComas, and including all the Specialty Group Chairs, is working hard to prepare for the conference. I am confident that we will receive a

number of excellent proposals also this year, for individual oral and poster presentations, as well as for symposia and roundtables. Personally I find discussions organised through well-prepared roundtables to be of particular interest, as scientific knowledge generation requires that we challenge each other's beliefs and argumentation, for example on what are the best concepts, principles, approaches, methods and models for understanding, assessing, communicating and managing risk.

The Council is working on developing an SRA strategic plan. In relation to this work we are thinking about creating a catchy slogan or tagline, which could serve as a 'marketing reminders' for all SRA members and all those that are interested in risk analysis. What is the one thing we should all remember when thinking about risk analysis and SRA? Ideally a slogan should be memorable, communicate benefits, identify the uniqueness of the brand, and create a positive tone around the brand. Examples that have already been suggested include: 'Risk analysis for a safer world', 'Advancing the science and practice of risk analysis' and 'SRA - the world's leading authority on risk science and its applications'. SRA is an organisation for risk analysis and as such the slogan can highlight either risk analysis or SRA, and may be both. Developing good slogans is challenging and I would very much like to receive ideas and suggestions from you. I know there are many creative people in SRA. Please send me an email at terje.aven@uis.no.

Best regards,



Terje Aven

The logo for the SRA 2018 Call for Abstracts. It features a cluster of colorful hexagons in shades of purple, green, and orange. One hexagon contains a stylized green and yellow mask. Another hexagon contains the SRA logo. The text 'CALL FOR ABSTRACTS' is written in a large, grey, sans-serif font. Below it, 'SRA 2018' is written in a large, bold, purple font. Underneath that, 'RISK ANALYSIS · The Many Faces of Risk' is written in a smaller, blue font, and 'December 2 - 6 · New Orleans, LA' is written in a green font.

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.](#)

SRA podcast series

"LET'S TALK RISK" IS AVAILABLE TO LISTEN ONLINE & DOWNLOAD

Let's Talk Risk with the Society for Risk Analysis, the world's leading authority on risk science and its applications, helps bring clarity to the world of risk, uncertainty, and ambiguity. Visit www.sra.org for more information on the topics discussed in these episodes and for more studies found in Risk Analysis: An International Journal.

Episodes available for download:

Ep. 1: [The Uncertainty Component](#)

Ep. 2: [We've Been Underestimating Climate Change](#)

Ep. 3: [The Preservation of a Culture](#)

Ep. 4: [Clearing House at the EPA: An Attack on Science](#)

Ep. 5: [Infrastructure Management: Communities Can Profit From Disaster](#) (NEW!)



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](#)

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 June 1st.** Please send nomination letters and supporting materials to the 2018 Awards Committee Chair, [Pamela Williams](#).

2018 SRA Council Elections: Call for Nominations

The SRA invites nominations for the positions of:

- SRA President-Elect
- SRA Secretary
- Councilor (three openings)

Please send nominations to [James H. Lambert](#), [Brett Burk](#) and [Jill Drupa](#).
Nomination deadline: **June 21, 2018.**

SRA Member Spotlight: Seda Kundak, PhD, associate professor at Istanbul Technical University, recipient of the 2018 SRA/Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer Award

Seda has been working on risk analysis, vulnerability and resilience at urban scale. Her recent research interests have focused on earthquake risk perception in metropolitan areas and she has been working on a national research project on spatial hierarchical organization of humanitarian logistics.



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](#).

Save the Date!
Upcoming Webinars

ERASG Student Travel Award Winners
The Ecological Risk Assessment Specialty Group

*An additional email will be sent to all members
with a registration link*

June 6: *Counteracting the Politicization
of Science*

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

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

November 7: *Inclusive Governance of
Risk: The Incorporation of Stakeholders
in Risk Management 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.

Scientific Liaison Committee
(SLC) Webinar Recording Now
Available: *Toxicity and Efficacy of
Stem Cells as Therapeutic
Products for Humans and Animals*

[Listen Here.](#)

(ERASG) is delighted to announce the winners of
two student travel awards presented at the joint
conference held by the Society for Environmental
Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Ohio Valley
Chapter and the ERASG on April 20th. The best
platform presentation award went to Tyler Firkus
of Michigan State University for his talk:
“Application of Adverse Outcome Pathways to
Non-Chemical Stressors: Assessing Effects of Sea
Lamprey Parasitism and Warmed Winter Water
Temperatures”. The best poster award was
presented to Kate Zhang of Indiana University for
her poster: “Human Health Risk Assessment of
Water Pollution in Swimming Area of Charleston
Harbor Watershed in South Carolina”. This joint
conference was a great opportunity to continue
collaborative efforts between the ERASG and
SETAC based on the groups’ shared interests and
membership. We look forward to hearing more
about the work of these students at the SRA
Annual Meeting in December!

**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](#).

*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 how individuals perceive the risk of
tornadoes.*

How Does One Prepare for Adverse Weather Events? Depends on Your

Past Experiences

With much of the central plains and Midwest now entering peak tornado season, the impact of these potentially devastating weather events will be shaped in large part by how individuals think about and prepare for them. A new study published in *Risk Analysis: An International Journal* shows that people's past experiences with tornadoes inform how they approach this type of extreme weather in the future, including their perception of the risk.

Led by Julie Demuth, a scientist from the National Center for Atmospheric Research, the study, "Explicating experience: Development of a valid scale of past hazard experience for tornadoes," characterized and measured people's past tornado experiences to determine their impact on the perceived risks of future tornadoes. Better understanding of these factors can help mitigate future societal harm, for instance, by improving risk communication campaigns that encourage preparation for hazardous weather events.

The results indicate that people's risk perceptions are highly influenced by a memorable past tornado experience that contributes to unwelcome thoughts, feelings and disruption, which ultimately increase one's fear, dread, worry and depression. Also, the more experiences people have with tornadoes, and the more personalized those experiences, the more likely they are to believe their homes (versus the larger geographic area of their city/town) will be damaged by a tornado within the next 10 years. [Read More.](#)

If you haven't renewed your SRA membership for 2018, please take a moment and renew [online](#).

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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