

Tardiff

SOCIETY for RISK ANALYSIS

PRESIDENT

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First Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis

June 2, 1981

VICE PRESIDENT

Joseph Rodricks
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The first meeting of the general membership of the Society of Risk Analysis was held in the auditorium of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C., on June 2, 1981. Dr. Robert Cumming, president pro-tem, presided over the meeting. There were approximately 50 members in attendance.

SECRETARY

Robert G. Tardiff
Board on Toxicology and
Environmental Health Hazards
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20418
(202) 389-6914

The agenda of the meeting is appended. Dr. Cumming welcomed the assembly, briefly described the progress of the first 12 months of the Society, and expressed his enthusiasm about the anticipated growth of the Society.

TREASURER

Gordon W. Newell
Board on Toxicology and
Environmental Health Hazards
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20418
(202) 389-6224

The election results were announced by Dr. Newell. Those taking office on July 1, 1981 are as follows: Robert Cumming, president; Chris Whipple, president-elect; V. Uppuluri, Treasurer; Kenneth Solomon, Secretary; Councilors for 3 years: Michael Cullingford, Andrew Sivak, Vincent Covello; Councilors for 2 years: Norton Nelson, Robert Hockenbury, Timothy O'Riordan; Councilors for 1 year: Joseph Rodricks, Paul Slovic, and Elizabeth Anderson.

STEERING GROUP

C. S. Aaron
Ilse-Dore Adler
Elizabeth Anderson
Donald Barns
Charles Brown
Kenneth P. Cantor
Joseph Coleman
Vincent T. Covello
Fredrick J. de Serres
W. Gary Flamm
George F. Flanagan
Gio B. Gori
Peter G. Groer
Richard Hill
Alexander Hollaender
Chester R. Richmond
V. R. R. Uppuluri
William E. Vesely

Dr. Newell announced the current status of membership as 405 who had paid the \$30 membership fee, plus 38 members of the editorial board who had paid a \$10 fee, for a total of 443 members.

The financial report was presented by the treasurer, Dr. Newell. The financial condition of the Society is as follows:

Income

Membership Dues \$11,925

Expenses

Aardvard Press (brochures) \$ 395

Plenum Publishing Corp.

(member subscription to

Society Journal) 6,820

Miscellaneous 233.36

7,448.36

Net Balance + \$ 4,476.64

Dr. Cumming, as editor-in-chief of Risk Analysis (the Society's journal), announced that the first issue of the Journal had just been released, that the second issue was completed and should be released shortly; and that the third issue was under development but should be completed shortly. He invited all members to submit manuscripts for publication in their Journal.

A preliminary report on the International Workshop on the Analysis of Actual vs. Perceived Risks was provided by Dr. Tardiff. He described the history and development of the topic and emphasized the program committee's determination to obtain a topic of multidisciplinary appeal. He noted that there were approximately 220 registrants; that some financial support had been obtained from the Sloan Foundation, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the EPA (OPTS); and that the workshop had been co-sponsored by the National

Academy of Sciences and the World Health Organization. He thanked the program committee (Vincent Covello, Gary Flamm, and Joseph Rodricks) and the registration team (Jackie Prince, Joan Flamm, Ilene Fingerman, Cora Jett and Joyce Russell). Proceedings of the workshop will be published in approximately 6 months and will be provided gratis to workshop registrants.

Dr. Cumming announced the Society's plans to conduct a workshop next June on high catastrophic/low probability risk. The workshop would be sponsored by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and would be held at Pooks Hill, Maryland. The second annual meeting of the Society would be held during the workshop.

Several issues and questions were raised by the membership.

1. A request was made to alter the process of nominations for elected office to SRA by soliciting nominations for the membership at large rather than using a nominations committee exclusively. Dr. Cumming noted that the first election necessarily contained practical constraints but that the suggestion would be brought before the council early in the coming year.
2. It was suggested that behavioral scientists seemed under-represented in the workshop and that greater efforts should be expended to seek their participation. Dr. Tardiff described the efforts to identify behavioral scientists appropriate to the subject area and that extensive efforts revealed only a small number of appropriate individuals (and these had been included in the program). All agreed that there would continue to be a

systematic effort to involve representatives from as many disciplines as possible in all SRA affairs.

3. It was recommended that future annual meetings provide opportunities to present research papers (platform and poster). Dr. Cumming indicated that the program committee for the 1982 conference would address this issue.
4. It was suggested that several small workshops during the year may be more effective than only one large one per year. Dr. Cumming noted that the committee on conferences and workshops would deal with this question in the near future.
5. Concern was raised about the focal point of next year's meeting and its possible impact on attendance.
6. Colorado was suggested as the site of next year's workshop.
7. Members expressed interest in knowing the policy about association with other organizations. In response, it was noted (a) that attempts would be made to dovetail SRA meetings with those of other disciplines in order to foster areas of mutual interest and (b) that ad hoc relationships would be developed with sponsoring groups for purposes of exploring the scientific content of subjects in risk analysis. Some concern was raised that too close an association with other groups may defeat the multidisciplinary goals of SRA in view of the necessarily narrower scope of other scientific groups.
8. The question of corporate membership in SRA was raised. Dr. Cumming noted that it was unresolved. Some members

expressed concern that the Society could become an industrial tool if this form of membership were implemented or implemented without safeguards.

Robert G. Tardiff, Ph.D

Date

Secretary