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Message from the President

As of this writing, coronavirus continues to spread across the globe and the confirmed number of cases has surpassed 20,000. This epidemic has elicited a strong response by both governments and individuals, as it should, given the gravity of the situation in China. At the same time, the epidemic poses challenges for us as risk analysts.

Responding to this epidemic requires strong, interdisciplinary risk-based reasoning and we need to

carefully consider all of the risks and secondary effects of potential response, including the effects of response measures – and the diversion of resources and attention – on other viral diseases. What is the interplay between the spread of influenza and coronavirus under different response scenarios? Might there be synergies in some types of response strategies? How do we communicate the risk to promote appropriate caution but not an abundance of fear?

We, as risk analysts, have a responsibility to help governments and health organizations through the provision of solid evidence-based reasoning about balancing different risks as society seeks to contain the spread of coronavirus. Members of SRA are currently engaged in these conversations as we write this column. Coronavirus poses significant challenges, and the profession and science of risk analysis can be of significant help in planning the collective response and ensuring that the novelty of the virus does not lead to an overreaction to the risks at the detriment of public health and safety.

Sincerely,

Seth, Katherine and Robyn

Johns Hopkins University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering has created a [tracker](#) for real-time updates on the number of reported cases. For more information on research related to coronavirus and previous outbreaks, check out this special virtual issue of [Risk Analysis](#).

2020 SRA Council Elections: Call for Nominations

The SRA invites nominations for the positions of:

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

All nominations must be submitted by **April 1** and should be accompanied by a nomination letter that describes the candidate's background in risk analysis, prior affiliations with SRA, etc.

Nomination letters should be sent to the Chair of the SRA Nominating Committee, terje.aven@uis.no, with copy to Jill Drupa (jdrupa@burkinc.com)

2020 SRA 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
Fellow

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 April 15. Please send nomination letters and supporting materials to the Awards Committee Chair, [Margaret MacDonell](#).

Risk Analysis Adds New Journal Area - Natural Hazards

With so many devastating natural disasters around the globe in recent years, Risk Analysis has started a new Area called Natural Hazards and Seth Guikema will serve as the Area Editor. Much has been accomplished in risk analysis and management for natural hazards in recent decades, but there remain significant research needs, particularly for interdisciplinary studies and methods to better bridge between approaches that have too often been separated in the study of natural hazards. The intention of this area is to be broadly interdisciplinary, bridging from risk perception and communication to risk policy and governance to technical risk modeling and everything in between. Risk analysis and risk science are critical contributors in this space. We should be helping to lead this field forward. Please submit to the new area and encourage your colleagues to as well. If you have questions about the new area, please contact me directly at sguikema@umich.edu.

Registration for the SRA-E Benelux Chapter Meeting is Open!

Eindhoven, Netherlands, March 24, 2020

Risks and (disruptive) technologies are closely connected. Technologies can reduce risks, but also introduce new ones. Socially disruptive technologies have a huge impact on our lives. Technologies like artificial intelligence, Internet-of-Things, gene editing, social robots and geo-engineering fundamentally change society. Artificial intelligence, for example, can reduce health and safety risks or improve user experiences, but can also lead to social disruption through discrimination and exclusion of specific groups of people, filter bubbles and privacy and security risks.

SRA-E invites you to its Benelux Conference 2020 on 24 March 2020, which focuses on the Risk-Technology Nexus, and particularly the trade-offs of potentially disruptive technologies. This event is co-organized with the TU/e Center for Humans and Technology.

We welcome researchers, academics, practitioners and policy makers, and of course SRA-members, to join us as we share the latest insights and practices.

[Click here to register.](#)

Early-Bird Registration Deadline: February 25, 2020

Registration for the 2020 SRA-Europe Conference is Open!

Espoo, Finland, June 14-17, 2020

The Society for Risk Analysis – Europe invites you to its 29th Annual Conference at the Aalto University campus, Espoo, Finland, June 14-17, 2020 with the general subject “The Discipline(s) of Risk Science”.

The SRA-Europe Conference is open to all interested researchers and experts in the various fields of risk analysis. Industry representatives, governmental bodies and relevant public and private institutions are welcomed. Graduate students are also encouraged to participate.

[Click here to register for the Conference.](#)

Early-Bird Registration Deadline: April 15, 2020

Call for Papers: Risk Analysis and Crisis Management to 2019-

Novel Coronavirus

SRA-China's official publication, Journal of Risk Analysis and Crisis Response, is currently editing a special issue: Risk Analysis and Crisis Management to 2019-Novel Coronavirus. Papers related to this topic can be submitted [here](#) until March 20. The special issue will be published in early April. Priority will be given to papers submitted on the following topics:

- Analysis of risk sources of 2019-novel coronavirus
- Risk analysis of 2019-novel coronavirus from a case to diffusion
- Crisis management of major infectious diseases based on Dynamic Risk Analysis
- Comparative study on the risk of 2019-novel coronavirus and severe acute respiratory syndrome (2003-SARS)
- Scientific and technological support in the fight against 2003-SARS and 2019-novel coronavirus
- Introduction, development, evolution and countermeasures of 2003-SARS outside
- Application of big data and internet technology in risk analysis and crisis management of 2019-novel coronavirus

Be sure to select "2019-nCoV" in article type selection when submitting your paper.

SRA Member Spotlight: Helen M. Goeden, Ph.D., recipient of the 2019 Outstanding Practitioner Award.

Dr. Goeden has been working on developing human health-based drinking water guidance values. Last year, she led an effort to revise and update the Minnesota Department of Health's guidance values for several PFAS chemicals. This effort involved developing and using an Excel-based toxicokinetic model that incorporated placental and breastmilk transfer from exposed mother to infant. This model was made freely available to other states and institutions for their evaluation and use.



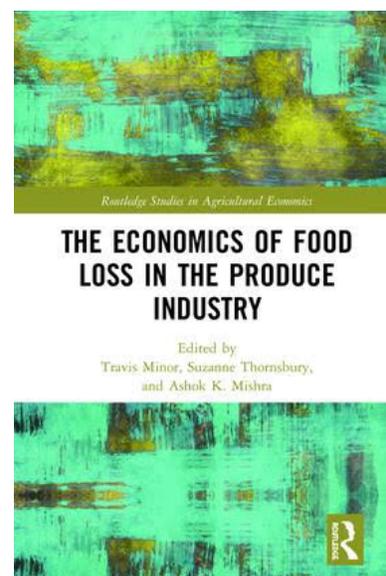
Each month the SRA newsletter will feature one of its members and their work in the spotlight section. If you would like to nominate a member, please email [Melanie Preve](#).



Congratulations to Jim Lambert, former SRA president, on receiving the inaugural Research Achievement Award from the University of Virginia. The awards were given for outstanding contributions to a field of study and societal impact through research and scholarly activities. Read the full article [here](#).

New book discusses on-farm food loss from economics, benefit-cost, and risk management viewpoints.

The Economics of Food Loss in the Produce Industry focuses on the economics of food loss as they apply to on-farm produce production, and the losses that are experienced early in the supply chain. The book both analyzes current food loss literature and presents new empirical research. It draws lessons from those who have encountered these issues by focusing on how past regional or national estimates of food loss have been conducted with varying degrees of success and includes chapters on several themes: understanding food loss from an economic perspective; efforts to



measure food loss; case studies across commodities within the produce industry; and economic risks and opportunities.

The book is edited by Travis Minor (former EBASG chair), Suzanne Thornsbury, and Ashok K. Mishra, with contributions from current and past EBASG members.

Dues for 2020 are now due and can be paid here:
<https://scienceserv.com/sra/membership/membership.php>

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](#).

Looking for a change? Check out SRA's [job board](#) for new career opportunities in risk analysis

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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