



## **Comments on Draft of Core Subjects of Risk Analysis Due February 28**

An SRA document of core subjects of risk analysis has been developed and may be downloaded [here](#). The document is the result of an initiative taken by the Foundational Issues in Risk Analysis Specialty Group and the SRA Committee for Specialty Groups.

For comments and suggestions to the draft document please email [Terje Aven](#) by February 28, 2017.

The document covers five main topics: 1. Fundamentals; 2. Risk Assessment; 3. Risk Perception and Communication; 4. Risk Management and Governance; 5. Solving Real Risk Problems and Issues.

All field sciences have some subjects that constitute the core materials in the field that should be required of all students. Risk analysis is no exception and a

need has been identified to this end. Because risk analysis has both field applications in different areas and generic activities on risk analysis concepts, approaches and methods, it is not straightforward to define such a core.

The primary audience for this document is all individuals with an interest in risk analysis, ranging from professionals and practitioners, to researchers, students, decision makers, bureaucrats, regulators, journalists, and curious lay people.



**Specialty Group Spotlight: Occupational Health and Safety (OHSSG)**  
*submitted by Tee Guidotti*

[OHSSG](#) is devoted to risk science applied to protection of workers and security of their families and hazards in workplaces, both private and public. Current officers are Tee Guidotti, Fred Boelter, Scott Dotson, and May O'Reilly.

The group, which formed in 2013, had its best year in 2016. They hosted five symposia and a poster session at the Annual Meeting in December. Last year, they worked heavily on examining common interests and opportunities as well as differences and deviations in risk management systems and vocabulary between worker protection and other areas of risk science.

This year, OHSSG anticipates hosting a webinar in April examining practical applications of mental modeling with an emphasis on priorities and approaches to worker protection under new regulatory guidance from the new Administration.

Read more about the OHSSG group and their 2017 plans [here](#).

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## Register Today! Upcoming Webinars

February 14 at noon ET: [Methods for National Security Risk Quantification and Optimal Resource Allocation](#)

If you or your specialty group is interested in hosting a webinar, please contact [Robin Dillon-Merrill](#). All of our past webinars are available [here](#) for members.

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[Register today](#) for the **26th SRA-E Annual Conference, June 19-21**  
**Lisbon, Portugal**

This year's theme is *New Challenges, New Threats: Resilience and Adaptation in a Risky World*. Notification of abstract acceptance will occur at the end of the month.

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## Specialty Group Updates

### Dose-Response Specialty Group 2017 Teleseminar Series

**April 4:** Health and Economic Consequences of Endocrine Disruptors in the U.S. and EU hosted by Leo Trasande of NYU

**Date TBD:** Modeling Ultrasensitive Molecular Switches hosted by Qiang Zhang of Emory University

**Date TBD:** Using 21st Century Science to Improve Risk-Related Evaluations - a report from the National Academy of Sciences

The Dose-Response Group meets by teleconference on the 1st Tuesday of every month, from noon-1pm ET. For more details on the group, and to join us, please visit <http://sra.org/drsg>



We would like to thank members of the **Engineering and Infrastructure Specialty Group** for their participation at the 2016 Annual Meeting. It was an overwhelming success and left us very





**Call for abstracts** - The second annual meeting of the SRA-E Benelux Chapter will be held on March 20 in Bilthoven, The Netherlands. This year's theme is *From Vaccine to Anti-microbial Resistance: Exploring Risk-Risk Trade-Offs*. Abstracts for individual presentations and symposia will be accepted until February 15. [Click here](#) to submit an abstract.

energized! This year, we were delighted to award the Student Merit Competition Prize to Travis Carless, a graduate student at Carnegie Mellon University. His presentation, "The Economic and Societal Impact of Baseload Power Generation on Local Communities," sparked great discussion.

We are in the process of revamping our group's website and identifying potential webinar speakers. If you have any suggestions, please contact [Allison](#), [Hiba](#), or [Roshi](#).

**The Risk Communication Specialty Group** elected a new chair, Chris Clarke, at the 2016 Annual Meeting. In the upcoming months, Chris will be reviewing the results on the group's membership survey and identifying action areas to help enhance the member experience.

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## Request for Nominations

We are currently seeking Council nominations for the following positions:

- Councilor
- Treasurer-Elect
- President-Elect

All nominations must be submitted by March 1, 2017 and should be accompanied by a formal nomination letter that describes the candidate's background in risk analysis, prior affiliations with SRA, etc. Nomination letters should be sent to [Pamela Williams](#).

### **Occupational Health and Safety Specialty Group**

*submitted by Tee Guidotti*

OHSSG is devoted to risk science applied to protection of worker and security of their families and hazards

in workplaces, private and public. Current officers are Tee Guidotti, Chair; Fred Boelter, Past Chair; Scott Dotson, Chair Elect; May O'Reilly, Secretary-Treasurer.

The OHSSG is a new specialty group, formed in 2013, and 2016 was its best year yet. We had five symposia and a poster session at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Last year, OHSSG wanted most of all to share the experience, examine common interests and opportunities, and examine differences and deviations in risk management systems and vocabulary between worker protection and other areas of risk science. The regulatory structure and risk assessment paradigm of worker protection is much older than the structure for chemical safety and other post-Red Book applications (such as ecological risk assessment) and has for well over a century developed largely independently from other regulatory systems. Worker protection is currently pegged in the US to the Occupational Health and Safety Act (1970), which is different from other laws affecting risk. Regulation in worker protection is deeply embedded in an economic and legal paradigm, the employment relationship, that is different from other regulatory settings and that relies heavily on contracts, labor negotiations, and informal or private guidelines that lie beyond regulatory compliance and are relatively resistant to international trends.

This year, in 2017, we also anticipate events of interest crossing over to other specialty groups. A webinar examining practical applications of mental modeling is planned, probably for April. The emphasis will be on priorities and approaches to worker protection under the new and as yet unknown regulatory guidance from the new Administration and particularly the value proposition for continuous improvement in worker protection in the private sector.

OHSSG, as or more acutely than other specialty groups, is facing an historic challenge with the change of Administration. The 2016 election brought a radically different regulatory philosophy on the federal level. This sea change, together with matching policy tendencies in the majority of most state executives and legislatures presents potentially existential issues for worker protection and regulation. The current regulatory regime is bound to change dramatically and perhaps fundamentally. Occupational health and safety (OHS) therefore must rethink its most basic assumptions and to reconsider how its value can be explained within the context of the private sector.



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