

RISK *newsletter*

Published by the SOCIETY for RISK ANALYSIS

December, 1985

Vol. 5, No. 2

SRA's NEW OFFICERS, MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGED TO DOUBLE EFFECTIVENESS DURING 1985-86 YEAR

In his inaugural address at the 1985 Annual Meeting, SRA President Lester B. Lave called on the new officers and the membership to double the Society's effectiveness during the coming year, and he cited ways he thinks this can be accomplished. He repeats the challenge and details some of his ideas in his President's Column, which is printed on page 2 of this newsletter. The Society's newly elected officers have accepted specific assignments for reaching this and other goals, and several committees already have work under way. Chauncey Starr, a recipient of one of SRA's 1984 Distinguished Contribution Awards, applauded Lave's position, saying that risk analysis is likely to become a major national endeavor over the next decade, and SRA should prepare for it. Recent Society activities, some of which are reported in this newsletter, indicate that both the officers and the membership are taking the challenge seriously.



SRA President Lester B. Lave

DIESLER, GOUGH, SWANSON ARE NEW OFFICERS

Paul F. Deisler, Jr., Vice President for Health, Safety and Environment of the Shell Oil Company, Houston, is the Society's new president-elect and will become the president at SRA's 1986 Annual Meeting. This year he is serving as the chairman of the Membership Committee with a special charge (see page 2) and also as chairman of the Annual Meetings Committee.

Deisler joined Shell Oil soon after obtaining his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1952 and since 1973 has held three vice presidencies in the company. He represents Shell in a number of trade associations and serves on their technical committees concerned with safety and health. He has also served on National Academy of Sciences and Office of Technology Assessment advisory panels. He recently edited the book *Reducing the Carcinogenic Risks in Industry* (Marcel Dekker: New York, 1984), in which he authored a chapter describing a method of setting and meeting objectives for reducing work place health hazards.

Michael Gough was elected for a two-year term as SRA's secretary, and has also been named chairman of the 1985-86 Publications Committee. (Cont. on page 3.)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

From a gleam in the eye of several people half a dozen years ago, the Society for Risk Analysis has become a successful new professional society. We have held five major thought-provoking annual meetings on the many aspects of risk assessment and risk management, and the Society has grown to more than 1,000 members with local chapters in Washington, DC and in East Tennessee. For some time, however, we seem to have been resting on our past accomplishments or, perhaps, to be adjusting to them. We are now ready for a new growth spurt to double the effectiveness of SRA. For the coming year, I have set the following "modest" goals for the Society:

1. Double the number of SRA members.
2. Establish related organizations in Europe, Japan, and other nations.
3. Establish at least 10 additional local chapters in cities such as Boston (Joe Fiksel), Houston (Paul Diesler), Philadelphia (Howard Kunreuther), New York (Rae Zimmerman), Palo Alto-San Francisco-Berkeley (Elizabeth Paté-Cornell, Joyce McCann, and Chris Whipple), Los Angeles (John Garrick and Toby Page), Cincinnati (?), Pittsburgh (Granger Morgan), St. Louis (Raymond Boykin), and Detroit (Walter Albers and Dick Schwing).
4. Put SRA on a more sound financial footing by increasing the membership, building the number of corporate sustaining members, and attracting regular grants from government agencies. We must also figure out how to cut expenses.
5. Increase communication with members and get more regular feedback concerning the programs we should be pursuing. We must also better utilize the good will and help of our members.

These objectives are reasonable only because of the level of interest in SRA's mission and the superb quality of current members.

The first goal is the responsibility of our president-elect, Paul Diesler. In the next issue of the newsletter, Paul will report on his efforts.

The second task is being undertaken for Europe by Pieter-Jan Stallen, for Japan by our immediate past-president, Elizabeth Anderson, and for the developing countries by Ram Uppuluri. As progress occurs in these areas, it will be reported in the newsletter.

The third task is also under the direction of Ram Uppuluri, who helped establish the East Tennessee Chapter. Joining him are Janice Longstreth, who helped establish the National Capital Area Chapter, and Joe Fiksel, who is organizing a New England Chapter. If you are willing to help organize a chapter in your city, please contact the person named in goal #3 for that city or contact Ram Uppuluri.

The fourth task is being undertaken by Howard Kunreuther, with the internal study being directed by treasurer Steve Swanson.

The fifth task is being handled by secretary Michael Gough.

I and all of the others who have assumed responsibility for meeting these goals would welcome your suggestions. A voluntary society such as SRA runs on the ideas, good will, and contributions of its members, and if we all pitch in, the Society will be more diverse, successful, and interesting. We have the 1985 annual meeting as a recent example of what can be accomplished. We owe an enormous debt to Alan Moghissi (general program chairman) and Janice Longstreth (technical program chairman) and to other members of the National Capital Area Chapter for their efforts in organizing and hosting the meeting. We now need volunteers to help with the 1986 and 1987 meetings, in addition to the volunteers needed to help achieve my five "modest" goals. And, of course, the various committees that run the Society will need your cooperation and assistance. The members of the committees are listed elsewhere in the newsletter.

This is an exciting year with many new projects under way and myriad new ideas. Some of you gave me ideas and offers of assistance at the annual meeting, for which I am grateful. In the next issues of the newsletter, I and those in charge of the tasks will be informing you of our accomplishments (and problems), and we will be soliciting your help for special projects. With that help, I am convinced we can make 1985-86 the year that SRA grows from being a good idea of a few people into a society with a foundation in membership and finances that allows it to undertake innovative projects and to influence the extent of risk assessment and the way it is undertaken.

Lester B. Lave
December, 1985

NEW OFFICERS (cont. from page 1)

He received a Ph.D. in biology from Brown University in 1966 and subsequently taught and conducted basic research in genetic control mechanisms of bacterial viruses while on the faculties of Baylor College of Medicine and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He worked at the Office of Technology Assessment from 1977 through 1985 and has recently become director of the Risk Science Institute in Washington, D.C.

Steven M. Swanson is the new SRA treasurer, also serving a two-year term. In addition, he is chairman of the Management Committee. He received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Utah in 1973, after which he joined the faculty of Northeastern University and began consulting with private firms about the economic impacts of environmental and occupational regulations. After subsequent positions in consulting firms, he joined the American Petroleum Institute, where he is the director of the Health and Safety Regulation Department and is located in Washington, D.C.

Garrick, Hutt, Page Are '88 Councilors

The three newly elected SRA councilors, each to serve for three years, are John Garrick, Peter Barton Hutt, and Talbot Page.

Garrick, whose Ph.D. in engineering is from the University of California, Los Angeles, is president and CEO of Pickard, Lowe and Garrick, Inc., which provides consulting services for nuclear and fossil power plants. He is an adjunct professor at UCLA, where he directs the annual short course on power plant reliability and risk. He also serves on several committees dealing with reactor safety and writes and lectures extensively on reliability and risk.

Hutt, a lawyer (LL.B., Harvard; LL.M., New York University), specializes in food and drug law and government health and safety regulation. After serving as chief counsel for the Food and Drug Administration from 1971 through 1975, he returned to the District of Columbia firm of Covington and Burling. In addition to his legal activities, he serves as director of several centers, institutes, and schools.

Page, who has a Ph.D. in economics from Cornell University, is senior research associate in the Environmental Quality Laboratory, California Institute of Technology. Before joining Cal Tech, he spent several years with Resources for the Future, Inc., and during a two-year leave from Cal Tech, he worked in the Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances at the Environmental Protection Agency. His publications include papers on ethical and economic perspectives of risk assessment, management and regulation.

Other SRA councilors are M. Granger Morgan, Pieter-Jan Stallen, and Arthur C. Upton, each of whom will serve through 1986, and Vincent T. Covello, Samuel C. Morris, and M. Elizabeth Paté-Cornell, each of whom will serve through 1987. Also serving on the Council are Elizabeth Anderson, SRA's immediate past president, and Lester Lave, the current president.

1985-86 SRA COMMITTEES NAMED

President Lester Lave has announced the following appointments to SRA Committees for the year 1985-86:

- **Executive.** Lester Lave (chair), Elizabeth Anderson, Paul Diesler, Michael Gough, and Steven Swanson.
- **Membership.** Paul Diesler (chair), Tony Buhl, John Garrick, and Ram Uppuluri.
- **Nominations.** Paul Slovic (chair), Roy Albert, and John Garrick.
- **Awards.** Michael Baram (chair), Chauncey Starr, and Arthur Upton.
- **Management.** Steven Swanson (chair), Howard Kunreuther, and Granger Morgan.
- **Conferences/Meetings.** Elizabeth Anderson (chair), Curtis Travis, and Chris Whipple.
- **Annual Meetings.** Paul Diesler (chair), Ray Boykin, Tony Buhl, and Joe Fiksel.
- **Liaison.** Vincent Covello (chair), Joyce McCann, and Alan Moghissi.
- **Publications.** Michael Gough (chair), Elizabeth Anderson, Vincent Covello, and Curtis Travis.
- **Special Projects.** Samuel Morris (chair) and Elizabeth Paté-Cornell.
- **Local Chapters.** Ram Uppuluri (chair), Joe Fiksel, and Janice Longstreth.
- **Gifts and Grants.** Peter Hutt (chair), Michael Baram, Michael Gough, and Steven Swanson.
- **Finance.** Howard Kunreuther (chair), Paul Diesler, Talbot Page, and Steven Swanson.
- **Research Support.** Paul Slovic.
- **Definitions.** Larry Gratt.
- **Publicity.** Herbert Inhaber.

ON OUR DIVERSE SOCIETY

"When asked what they do, only a few, if any, SRA members would respond, 'I'm a risk assessor (or analyst).' There are a lot of reasons for that. The society is united far more by a general approach and interest than by the use of particular methods, and we all tend to describe ourselves by reference to specific training and tasks. For instance, most members were educated in a well-characterized discipline and have jobs that engage their skills as biologists, chemists, economists, engineers, lawyers, mathematicians, physicists, or politicians. In fact, it is difficult to imagine this group of people as members of any other single organization."

--Mike Gough
SRA Secretary

ALEXANDER HOLLAENDER RECEIVES SRA's 1985 DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Dr. Alexander Hollaender, a physical chemist who early in his career began working in the biological sciences and later developed one of the world's most widely recognized programs in radiobiology at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, was presented SRA's 1985 Distinguished Contribution Award on October 7 at the Society's annual meeting in Alexandria, Virginia. The presentation was made by President Elizabeth Anderson.



Dr. Alexander Hollaender

Currently a consultant with the Associated Universities' Council for Research Planning in Biological Sciences in Washington, D.C., Dr. Hollaender's career has spanned more than 50 years. He was born in Samter, Germany, in 1898, and received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1931. After graduating he became a National Research Council Fellow in biological sciences and from 1934 to 1937 was the investigator in charge of radiation work for the National Research Council Project in Wisconsin.

In 1937 Dr. Hollaender joined the Washington Biophysics Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where he became the head biophysicist. While still with the Institute, he worked five years (1940-45) with the Office of Scientific Research and Development of the U.S. Navy's Office of the Surgeon General and in 1946 became the first director of the Biology Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. In 1950 he resigned from the Institute to devote his full efforts toward establishing the ORNL Biology Division as a national center of excellence for studies on the biological effects of radiation and chemicals.

Upon his retirement from ORNL in 1966, Dr. Hollaender received a citation from the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission for "outstanding contributions to the expansion of knowledge in the field of biology; for his pioneering vision in undertaking the investigations essential to the development of our radiobiological program; for his administrative acumen in organizing and directing one of the world's most advanced large-scale laboratories for basic biological research and for his long and distinguished service to the Commission as Director, Division of Biology, Oak Ridge National Laboratory."

Dr. Hollaender remained as a senior research advisor to the ORNL Biology Division until 1973, at the same time serving as a professor of biomedical sciences at the University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He is still director of the Archives of Radiation Biology at the University of Tennessee and in February, 1987, will be one of several ex-Tennesseans honored for their scientific contributions at a state Homecoming '86 celebration.

In addition to being a consultant with Associated Universities, Inc. (Brookhaven), Dr. Hollaender is currently a consultant with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of State's Agency for International Development. He has been particularly active in promoting the advancement of scientific knowledge in developing nations. In recognition of his work in this area, the Environmental Mutagen Society instituted the EMS Alexander Hollaender Fund for International Programs to provide partial support for foreign scientists receiving training in the United States.

Dr. Hollaender has received many other awards, including the Enrico Fermi Award from the U.S. Department of Energy (1983). He has also served on numerous committees and has been instrumental in organizing a number of international meetings. In 1969 he helped organize the Environmental Mutagen Society and served as its president from 1970 to 1973. In 1973, he helped organize the International Association of Environmental Mutagen Societies and served as the association's president from 1973 to 1977. He is also recognized as an editor of many books in the biological sciences.

From the perspective of SRA, one of Dr. Hollaender's most significant achievements has been his support of the Society, particularly in helping SRA to obtain its tax-exempt status. With his long years of concern about environmental risks, he also serves as a role model which if only partially emulated by our individual members would ensure our collective contribution to the reduction of risks in society.

REPORT FROM RISK ANALYSIS WORKSHOP HELD IN INDIA

Eighteen developing nations had representatives among the 79 attendees of the five-day Workshop on Risk Analysis in Developing Countries that was held at the Administrative Staff College of India in Hyderabad, India last Oct. 27 to Nov. 1. Other participants were from the U.S., France, Italy, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Lave Was Keynote Speaker

The Workshop focused on evaluating the applicability of health and environmental risk analysis methods in the context of developing countries, and from this attendee's viewpoint, it was extremely successful. SRA's President Lester Lave gave the keynote address, stating that in risk management developing countries can make use of much of the scientific and economic information developed in the industrialized countries.

IAEA to Emphasize Safety Assessment

Luis Lederman of the International Atomic Energy Agency announced that the Agency is joining with the International Labor Organization, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Economic Program in a project on assessing and managing health and environmental risks from energy and other complex industrial systems. The product of the project will be a risk management procedures guide which will also describe case studies in both developed and developing nations.

Weinberg Fears Fear of Technology

Alvin M. Weinberg, Emeritus Director of the Institute for Energy Analysis at the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, U.S.A., speaking on "Science and Its Limits: The Regulator's Dilemma," said that he doubts that the fruits of technology can be enjoyed without risks. Moreover, he believes that the balance of risks and benefits cannot be made for all societies for all time. He concluded that it would be "a grim distortion of common sense" if exaggerated concerns prevented developing countries from achieving their own abundance and freedom from poverty through intelligent use of technology.

Recommendations from India

B. Bowonder, Administrative Staff College of India, reported that he and colleagues are recommending that the risk management process be institutionalized in government. They are also recommending that detailed risk profiles be made of each country and that risk management in developing countries cover human beings as well as natural systems such as forests, rivers, etc.

R. Ahuja, Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi, India, identified six energy systems used in India, all of which have had some adverse impacts on the country's environment and/or public health.

Bhopal Among Case Studies

The International Atomic Energy Agency sponsored three case studies: "Nuclear Power Plant Design," led by S. Chakraborty, Switzerland; "Nuclear Power Plant Radiological Risks," led by J. Lochard, France; and "Transport of Hazardous Nuclear Materials," led by P. Hubert, France. Other case studies included the Bhopal accident as a low-probability event.

Bowonder listed 11 risk-assessment lessons learned from the Bhopal accident: various storage alternatives for toxic substances should be studied; detailed failure analyses should be performed before any modifications to a plant are made; second-order risks due to the decomposition of a chemical need to be examined; a toxic substances control information base should be maintained at the government level; risk assessment should consider human errors; risk assessment should be based on worst-case scenarios; the sensitivity of different age groups to toxic materials should be established; changes in human settlement patterns should be considered; plant management should maintain risk assessment as a continuing exercise; risk assessment should explicitly examine expected losses from low probability/high consequence accidents; and the necessity for storing toxic materials should be assessed by a group independent from plant management.

International Collaboration Wanted

The technical people of India are interested in collaborative research with risk analysis specialists in the developed nations, and participants from several of the developing countries expressed interest in holding similar workshops in their own nations. At such workshops, each country would want to focus on case studies of concern in that country.

Workshop Sponsors

The Workshop in India was organized by the Centre for Environmental Management and Planning (CEMP) of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and the Administrative Staff College of India, and it was sponsored by SRA, the U.S. National Science Foundation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Department of Environment of India, UNESCO, and a few other European agencies.

Ram Uppuluri
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

REPORT FROM 1985 ANNUAL MEETING.....by Herbert Inhaber

(Editor's Note: Thanks to volunteer Herbert Inhaber of Risk Concepts, Inc., Oak Ridge, TN, we received a rather detailed report from the 1985 SRA Annual Meeting. However, he could not be everywhere at once, and so the report does not cover all aspects of the meeting. Also, the editor has pre-empted some of the material he submitted for use in other stories and, because of space limitations, has omitted his paper summaries.)

What follows is a subjective report on the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, which was held at the Radisson Mark Plaza Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia, October 7-9, 1985.

President's Report

Elizabeth Anderson, outgoing SRA president, reported that as of October 1, the Society had 1019 members, which included 285 new members but did not include 17 who had dropped membership or 110 who were behind in their dues.* She commended H. Inhaber, outgoing chairman of the Membership Committee, for his efforts in increasing the membership.

The president also reported that there were 243 registrants at the meeting and that 146 papers would be presented. She announced that the 1986 meeting would be held in Boston and that the 1987 meeting would probably be in Houston. (This was later confirmed.)

President Anderson also showed a videotape of her earlier presentation of the 1985 Distinguished Contribution Award to Dr. Alexander Hollaender and introduced the 1985-86 officers (see stories elsewhere in newsletter).

Treasurer's Report

Howard Kunreuther, outgoing treasurer, reported a balance of about \$69,000. The 1984 receipts were approximately \$95,000, and the expenditures were about \$80,000. To date, the 1985 receipts have been about \$107,000, and the expenditures have been approximately \$61,000, with some bills not yet paid. Kunreuther noted that SRA has sustaining members who contribute \$500 or more annually, some specifically for the annual meeting.

Report on Society Publications

Incoming SRA President Lester Lave noted that the Society's journal, *Risk Analysis*, is now on schedule and that about 30% of the papers submitted to the editor are published. The nearly expired contract with Plenum Press, the journal publisher, has been renegotiated under terms more favorable to the Society.

Revenues from this source are expected to be about \$74,000 over the next five years.

President Lave also pledged that the newsletter would be issued at least twice each year. He cited other goals which are included here in his President's Column (see page 2). (Cont. on page 7.)

MARINA WHITMAN, BANQUET SPEAKER, LAUDS SRA

The Tuesday evening banquet speaker, Marina Whitman, Vice President, General Motors, opened her talk with the statement that SRA is having a remarkable impact on regulation, and she believes the Society deserves immense credit for its efforts.

Whitman pointed out that the term "acceptable risk" is an oxymoron, like "jumbo shrimp" or "criminal justice." And there is often a divergence between what people think about risks and what risks really are. Quoting from a book by Douglas and Wildavsky, she noted that one African tribe beset by tropical diseases is far more fearful of bronchitis, lightning, and barrenness. She feels an analogous situation prevails in North America.

In terms of reducing risks in automobile travel, she said that from 1966 until a few years ago, the vehicle was the center of attention -- seat belts were mandated, cars were to be made more structurally sound, passive restraints such as air bags were encouraged, etc. Now, however, laws are also focusing on the driver. We have seat belt laws and stronger laws against drunken driving. As a result, in the state of New York alone, seat belt use has increased from 16% to 67%, indicating that laws can work if they are enforced. On the other hand, she cautioned, more regulation isn't necessarily better.

NOTE: Marina Whitman's address to SRA, entitled "Black Hats, Economists, and Societal Risk Assessment," was reprinted in its entirety in *Vital Speeches of the Day*, Vol. 62, No. 4, 115-118, Dec. 1, 1985.

*Peggy Hinton, Membership Manager at the Secretariat, reports that as of December 10, the membership is 1059.

JOURNAL CONTENTS (cont.)

We continue to reprint the tables of contents of the SRA journal *Risk Analysis*. The contents through Vol. 5, No. 3 were included in the last newsletter, and those for Vol. 5, No. 4 and Vol. 6, No. 1 are given here. Manuscripts to be submitted to the journal should be mailed to: Curtis Travis, Editor, *Risk Analysis*, Bldg. 4500S, S204, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, PO Box X, Oak Ridge, TN, 37831.

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	Dilution Factors in River Basins
Stephen D. Unwin	A Fuzzy Set Theoretic Foundation for Vagueness
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James J. Buckley	Stochastic Dominance: An Approach to Decision
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ANNUAL MEETING REPORT (cont. from page 6)

President Anderson Honored

President Lave presented a citation to outgoing President Anderson, noting that during her tenure the application of risk analysis methods by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency had increased considerably. He credited this progress to Anderson, who is Director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Health and Environmental Assessment.

Comments from the Floor

Lave solicited comments from the floor, and Inhaber suggested the need for publicity on both the technical level and the public level. Chauncey Starr said that we need annual meeting sessions dealing with the needs of specific industries, such as chemicals, pharmaceuticals, etc. John Chicken felt that some effort should be made to involve the defense industry in SRA meetings.

SRA JOURNAL INVITING SOFTWARE REVIEWS

The June, 1986, issue of *Risk Analysis* will announce that future issues of the journal will include papers on software used for risk assessments, and the new "software editor," Paul D. Moskowitz, is already soliciting material. He wants both critical reviews of software that has been written specifically for risk assessments and articles describing how general-purpose software such as LOTUS can be applied in risk assessments. The software can be for micros, minis, or mainframes. It is anticipated that the journal will also begin publishing a list of available risk-assessment software. The editor invites your ideas (and papers). Write or phone

Paul D. Moskowitz
Biomedical and Environmental Assessment Division
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, NY 11973
Phone: (516)282-2017; FTS 666-2017

EAST TENNESSEE CHAPTER SPONSORS COMMUNICATIONS AND ETHICS PROGRAMS

SRA's East Tennessee Chapter recently joined with several other organizations to sponsor a second Communicating Risk Workshop in Oak Ridge on November 23, and the chapter will be cosponsoring a session on ethics and technology on February 13 at the annual WATtec Energy Conference to be held in Knoxville.

MRS Became Issue at Workshop

Harold Lewis, professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara and author of the well-known "Lewis Report," gave an uninterrupted keynote address at the chapter's second Communicating Risk Workshop, but verbal skirmishes surfaced during a subsequent panel discussion in which the audience interjected itself. The panelists were Lewis; Richard Smyser, editor of *The Oak Ridger* and the panel moderator; C. C. Coutant, an environmentalist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Kelly Leiter, acting dean of the Communications College at the University of Tennessee; Ruby Miller, associate director of public relations for Martin Marietta Energy Systems; and John Seigenthaler, publisher of *The Nashville Tennessean*.

The subject of communications was reduced to discussions of the opposing editorial policies of the two newspapers regarding the Monitored Retrievable Storage Facility (MRS), a facility for the temporary storage of spent nuclear fuel which the Department of Energy proposes to locate in Tennessee. Coutant said that an editorial in the Nashville paper, which called the MRS a "nuclear dump," must have been "based on profound ignorance." Publisher Seigenthaler defended the editorial on the grounds that it reflected "the passionate concern of the writer." Smyser said he had read the paper's MRS editorials and did not agree with them. Seigenthaler, in turn, reacted to a Lewis remark that "most reporters do a good job," Seigenthaler saying "I do not know any dumb or nondedicated reporters." Leitner complained that scientists always say "there is absolutely no risk to the public" even when there may be, and he challenged public relations personnel (in particular, Miller) to accept his thesis that everything is the public's business and to offer to educate reporters on difficult subjects. Miller responded that her company has held special sessions for reporters but that the reporters never appear unless a crisis is at hand. Audience participation further enlivened the discussion, which eventually ended on the consensus that all parties should be better communicators.

SRA REDUCES DUES FOR MEMBERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

At the Workshop on Risk Analysis in Developing Countries held in India October 27 – November 1, 1985, SRA announced that it was offering membership to persons in the developing countries at a reduced rate of \$22 (U.S.), providing the following conditions can be met:

1. A coordinator must be named for each area from which persons will be requesting membership.
2. The coordinator should collect the dues from each individual and mail the total amount to the SRA Secretariat.
3. The coordinator should be willing to receive materials mailed in bulk by the Secretariat and distribute them to the members in his area.

Countries in which the reduced rate is offered are those countries which have less than a \$1000 annual per capita income.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The office of president-elect and three council positions will be up for election this coming year. The outgoing councilors are Granger Morgan, Arthur Upton, and Pieter-Jan Stallen, who is the Society's European representative. The nominating committee would like suggestions from the membership for candidates for these positions. Please send your nominations and a brief paragraph supporting each to:

Paul Slovic
Decision Research
1201 Oak Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

WATtec Session to Include Panel Discussion

The East Tennessee Chapter of SRA and the local chapter of the Society for Technical Communications are cosponsoring the February 13 WATtec session on Ethics and Technology, which will be held at the Knoxville Hyatt Regency Hotel. Dr. Jean Porter, professor of ethics at Vanderbilt University's Divinity School, will open the session with a luncheon address on "Ethics and the New Technologies: Problems and Prospects for a New Millennium," after which a panel discussion will convene. In addition to Porter, members of the panel will be Frederick Fields, a Knoxville, TN, attorney; Frank Munger, a news reporter; Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky of the Oak Ridge, TN, Jewish congregation; and James Wilson, Monsanto Corporation, St. Louis. Joe Minarick of the local chapter will be the moderator.

SHORT COURSES OFFERED BY HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

D. W. Moeller, Associate Dean for Continuing Education, Harvard School of Public Health, has announced the following three short courses for March and April:

—**Occupational and Environmental Radiation Protection.** March 24-28, 1986. This course will explore the fundamentals necessary for working safely with radiation in nuclear facilities, industrial installations, medical and educational institutions, and research laboratories. \$800.

—**Risk Analysis in Environmental Health.** March 25-27, 1986. Emphasis will be on the problem of calculating risks when data are uncertain and on methodologies for risk evaluation. Introductory sessions will examine techniques for assessing occupational cancer risks. Subsequent sessions will focus on health risks associated with specific contaminants in the occupational environment and with physical agents such as ionizing radiation. \$500.

—**Environmental Radiation Surveillance.** April 14-18, 1986. This course presents a comprehensive review of the basic principles and practices, as well as the latest developments, relevant to the field of environmental radiation surveillance. Subjects include the history of the field, applicable radiation standards, models for the assessment of environmental pathways, supporting laboratory operations, data management, and basic program design. \$800.

For additional information on these courses, contact: Office of Continuing Education, Harvard School of Public Health, 677 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115. Phone (617)732-1171.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR 1986 ANNUAL MEETING IN BOSTON

The Annual Meetings Committee, chaired by President-Elect Paul Diesler and including Ray Boykin, Tony Buhl, and Joe Fiksel, has already issued an early announcement of the meeting. The meeting will be held in Boston November 9-13 and will highlight the interplay between risk and innovation. Papers are invited that describe

- The emergence of new risks as old risks are abated,
- The process of balancing old risks associated with existing technology against the new risks and benefits that accompany technological innovation, and
- Advances or innovative techniques in the fields of risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication that will enhance our ability to deal with risk and uncertainty.

In addition, sessions will be organized that cover a broad area of risk analysis topics, including, for example,

- Public health and environmental protection,
- Occupational health and safety,
- Control of large and complex facilities,
- Consumer product safety assurance,
- Transportation safety and accident prevention,
- Regulatory policy and decision-making, and
- Emergency response and crisis management.

Since the annual meeting participants will represent many different disciplines (e.g., biology, epidemiology, economics, engineering, law, medicine, and mathematics) and a variety of perspectives (e.g., those of government, industry, academia, and public interest groups), submitted papers should be directed to a broad audience and should emphasize the transfer of pragmatic knowledge.

A more complete announcement and call for papers will be made later. In the meantime, please address any questions you may have about the meeting to: Dr. Joseph R. Fiksel, General Chairman, SRA 1986 Annual Meeting, % Arthur D. Little, Inc., Acorn Park, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

—Feb. 9-11, 1986. EIGHTH ANNUAL EPRI RADWASTE WORKSHOP, Savannah, Georgia. Sponsored by ASME Radwaste Systems Committee and the Electric Power Research Institute. Contact: W. T. Gregory, III, Chem-Nuclear Systems, Inc., 220 Stoneridge Dr., Columbia, South Carolina, 29210 (Phone 803-256-0450) or P. Robinson, EPRI, PO Box 10412, Palo Alto, California, 94303 (Phone 415-855-2414).

—Feb. 11-14, 1986. THIRTEENTH ANNUAL WATtec NATIONAL ENERGY CONFERENCE, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Knoxville, Tennessee. Sponsored by 34 technical and professional societies. East Tennessee Chapter of SRA will cosponsor half-day session on ethics and technology (see story in this newsletter). Contact for WATtec: L. T. Mashburn, Public Information Chairman, LTM Consultants, 220 Peters Rd., Knoxville, Tennessee, 37923 (Phone 615-693-0485).

—Feb. 17-19, 1986. WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN RISKS OF TRITIUM, Karlsruhe, Federal Republic of Germany. Sponsored by the Commission of the European Communities.

—Feb. 26-March 2, 1986. MEETING OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICIANS, East Palm Beach, Florida. Contact: American College of Nuclear Physicians, 1101 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 700, Washington, DC, 20036.

—April 9-11, 1986. FIFTH EuReData CONFERENCE ON RELIABILITY DATA COLLECTION AND USE IN RISK AND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT, Heidelberg, Federal Republic of Germany. Contact: H. J. Wingender, NUKEM GmbH, D-6450 Hanau, PO Box 110080, Federal Republic of Germany. (Cont. on page 10.)



RISK newsletter
is published by
The Society for
Risk Analysis.

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CHANGE IN NEWSLETTER EDITOR ANNOUNCED

Beginning with the calendar year 1986, I will step down as editor of *RISK newsletter* and that task will be assumed by Mrs. Lorraine Abbott, who has been the associate editor. When I accepted the editor's position in 1981, it was understood that this move would take place as soon as Lorraine became familiar with the Society, its goals and officials. She is soon to retire from her full-time position at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and it seems to be an appropriate time to make the transfer. I will remain in a technical advisory role to Lorraine.

I wish Lorraine well and hope that the membership and officers of the Society will cooperate with her by submitting material for the newsletter in a timely manner.

George F. Flanagan, Editor
RISK newsletter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (cont. from page 9)

—June 16-20, 1986. PACKAGING AND TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS (Patram '86), Vienna International Centre, A-1400 Vienna, Austria. Sponsored by International Atomic Energy Agency.

—September 8-12. RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT, Cape Town, South Africa. The Radwaste Conference Secretariat, Building 2100B, Nucor, Private Bag X256, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

—Nov. 9-12, 1986. SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR RISK ANALYSIS, Boston, Massachusetts. (See story in this newsletter.) Contact: J. R. Fiksel, General Chairman, % Arthur D. Little, Inc., Acorn Park, Cambridge, MA 02140.

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