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CALL FOR
ABSTRACTS

SRA 2017

RISK ANALYSIS

The Profession · The Practitioners · The Research

December 10 - 14 · Arlington, VA

The Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) invites your abstracts for presentations at the 2017 SRA Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia, USA, December 10-14.

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.

The theme of the conference “*Risk Analysis – the Profession, the Practitioners, the Research*” highlights the important role risk analysts have in tackling risk problems and improving the science and practice of risk analysis.

Abstracts are due no later than May 31, 2017, midnight EST.

[Click here for complete submission guidelines and to submit your abstract.](#)



SRA 2017

RISK ANALYSIS

The Profession · The Practitioners · The Research

Continuing education workshops will be offered on Sunday, December 10 and Thursday, December 14 in either 4 or 8 hour sessions. We are looking for proposals for workshops that meet basic member training needs. This year we especially encourage proposals aimed at improving the foundations and/or practice of risk analysis (Risk analysis fundamentals, risk assessment, risk perception and communication, risk management & governance, or solving real risk problems & issues).

[Click here for complete workshop submission guidelines and to submit your proposal.](#)

Continuing education workshop proposals are due no later than June 7, 2017.

Save the Date! **Upcoming Webinars**

April 26 at 12/noon ET: [Using mental modeling in OH&S: A study of electricians' safe work decisions](#)

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.

The EISG has revamped its webpage! We encourage members to [check it out](#)! Some highlights include the Student Spotlight



[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*. **Presenters' registration deadline is April 30**. The full scientific program will be released

Section, in which we feature the research and accomplishments of an SRA student member, and current job openings. If you would like to contribute news or other information to this webpage, please email [Allison Reilly](#).

The Risk Policy and Law Specialty Group intends to support or sponsor one or more presentations at SRA 2017. We are especially interested in collaborating with other specialty groups on panels that cross over group lines. If you have suggestions, please reach out - soon - to this year's chair, Kirk Hartley, who can be reached via [email](#) or at [312-857-5545](tel:312-857-5545).

Are you planning to attend a March for Science on April 22nd?

SRA is an official partner of the March for Science and we need your help to show our support for the important role science plays in serving society and advancing the common good. If you are attending a march, be sure to **post your photos on Twitter and tag SRA (@SocRiskAnalysis)**. If you are planning to bring a sign, visit SRA.org for some risk-related slogans.

For more information on the Society's partnership, check out this [press release](#).

African Americans Less Likely to Get Flu Vaccine than White Americans

Fewer than half of American adults get vaccinated despite strong recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and widespread availability of free and low-cost vaccines. Furthermore, African Americans are less likely to get the flu shot than white Americans, and concerns about side effects from the vaccine play a large role in this disparity. According to the CDC, only 41 percent of African American adults received the flu vaccine compared with 47 percent of white adults.

this month.

SDSG invites you to submit abstracts for the *International Conference on Risk Analysis, Decision Analysis and Security*, July 21-24 at Tsinghua University in Beijing. **The deadline for abstract submission is April 15.** Attendee registration is open until July 15. Topics include risk analysis, decision analysis, game theory, homeland security, risk perception, risk communication, community resilience, and disaster management.

Visit the event [website](#) for additional information.

For those who opted not to get vaccinated, the risk of suffering side effects from the vaccine seemed greater than the risk of getting the flu itself, according to the new study, “The role of risk perception in flu vaccine behavior among African American and white adults in the US,” published in the latest issue of the journal *Risk Analysis*. One of the reasons white participants decided to forgo vaccination was because they did not view getting sick with seasonal flu as a “big deal.” Many African Americans said they worried about the safety of the shot itself. [Read more.](#)

New Study on Resilience Helps Governments Prevent Disaster-Related Loss

Hurricanes, wildfires, tsunamis and other disasters cannot be stopped, but countries can plan for them — something some areas of the world seem to do better than others, according to a new study published in the journal *Risk Analysis*.

Oceania, which includes Australia and surrounding Pacific islands, was deemed to be the most resilient region of the world, meaning it would likely suffer fewer losses during a disaster than other areas. The study also revealed that Asia is the least resilient. Understanding resilience — and how to improve it — can help governments better prepare for disasters and reduce risks to human life.

“Resilience is the ability to prevent loss caused by disasters,” according to Hong Huang, corresponding author and professor at the Institute of Public Safety Research at Tsinghua University in Beijing. “High resilience is like an umbrella that can protect against not only single and normal disasters, but also against miscellaneous and unconventional emergencies.” [Read more.](#)

SRA Europe Chapter Tackles Risk Debate on Vaccines and Anti-microbial Resistance

by Randa Kachef

On March 20, 2017 the second Annual Meeting of the SRA Europe Benelux chapter took place at the Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM). The setting could not have been more appropriate for the subject of the meeting: ‘From vaccine to anti-microbial resistance: Exploring risk-risk trade-offs.’

Debates about the use and efficacy of vaccinations make headlines regularly. Discussions, though, are primarily in the media rather than within the scientific community. One of the most hotly contested issues

in the media is the perceived fear of the repercussions of vaccines, often backed with quotes from celebrities citing negative experiences as evidence of the supposed risks of infant inoculation. The scientific community, however, agrees that the benefits outweigh the relatively low risk associated with vaccinations and that they not only save lives, but also mitigate the increasing threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

While a focused debate on AMR took place later in the conference, the specific discussions on vaccinations was hugely engaging. Attendees debated how science can effectively shape wider media discussions. In particular, how can science be on the front line to frame issues such as this, rather than being defensive and fending off negative perceptions, often shaped by misinformation in the press. [Read more.](#)

SRA has officially joined Facebook! Please be sure to like and follow our new [page](#) and invite your friends and colleagues to do so as well. If you would like to post something on the page, please email [Melanie Preve](#) with your request. Be sure to also follow SRA on Twitter, [@SocRiskAnalysis](#).



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