

RISK *newsletter*

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NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER IS No. 1, EASTERN TENNESSEE CHAPTER No. 2

The National Capital Area Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis has become the first local chapter to receive official approval by the SRA Council. Close behind it is the Eastern Tennessee Chapter, which also has obtained official status.

NCA Chapter Met in November

The National Capital Area Chapter had its first meeting on November 16, with Rita M. Lavelle, Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, speaking to the group on the significance of risk analysis in regulating hazardous waste. The next meeting will be held on January 26 (see story on page 2). Officers of the NCA Chapter are A. Alan Moghissi, president; Janice Longstreth, secretary; and Lee Abramson, treasurer. Council members are Daniel Byrd, III, and Vincent T. Covello. A third council member is still to be selected.

ET Chapter to Meet in January

Elections for the Eastern Tennessee Chapter are currently under way. Herbert Inhaber is acting as the head of the Ad Hoc Steering Committee, and George F. Flanagan is serving as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Officers being elected are president, secretary, treasurer, and 4 members of the council. The results of the election and the date and place of the Inaugural meeting (in January) will be mailed to the 49 members of the chapter shortly after January 1.

1983 SRA WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AUGUST 1-3 IN NEW YORK CITY

The Society's 1983 workshop will be held August 1-3 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City and will have as its theme "Risk Analysis in the Private Sector." The call for papers will be issued in January (cont. on p. 2).

COUNCIL CHOOSES SOCIETY LOGO

The Society for Risk Analysis now has an official logo (see below). The winning design was created by John Holbrook, who has been an illustrator at Oak Ridge National Laboratory for the past 8 years. Being selected as the winner came as a big surprise to Holbrook (see picture on page 2), since his design was actually submitted for the competition by Robert B. Cumming, SRA's 1981-82 president. Holbrook had worked with Cumming in designing a logo for the program of the 1982 Workshop on Low-Probability/High-Consequence Risk Analysis, and, at Cumming's request, later modified the workshop design to represent the society itself. All the logo designs entered into the competition were mailed to the 14 SRA Council members by President Chris Whipple, and the balloting was completed in mid-November.

*SRA's new logo
features a
fulcrum
and balance
supported by
the "R" in SRA.*



NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER TO HEAR REPRESENTATIVE RITTER

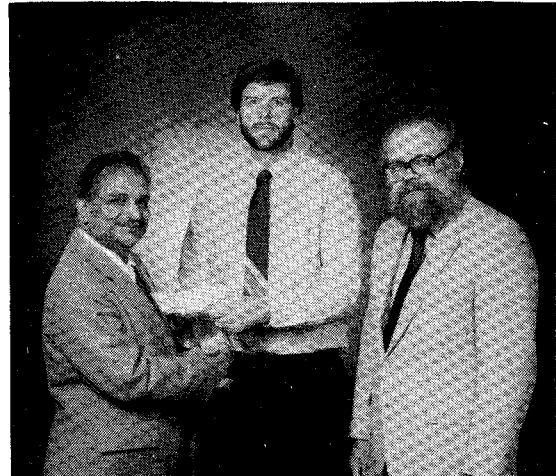
Representative Donald Ritter (PA), sponsor of a bill on risk analysis, will be the speaker at the second meeting of the National Capital Area Chapter of SRA. The meeting will be held on January 26, 7:30 PM, at the Capital Hill Hotel, 200 C St. SE, Washington, D.C. Chapter members will be admitted free. Nonmembers will be charged \$5; however, those wishing to join the society may apply that amount against their annual chapter dues, which also are \$5. [Note: Make check for dues payable to National Capital Area Chapter, SRA, and mail to: Richard J. Burk, Jr., Executive Secretary, Society for Risk Analysis, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 506, Bethesda, MD, 20814.]

NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER PLANS 1-DAY SEMINAR

The National Capital Area Chapter plans to sponsor a 1-day seminar on the Methodology of Health and Environmental Risk Analysis on February 10, 1983. The speakers will be selected from academia, U.S. government laboratories, regulatory agencies, and industry. For further information on the seminar or the chapter, contact: A. Alan Moghissi (202-382-5991) or Janice Longstreth (301-468-2500).

1983 SRA WORKSHOP (cont. from p. 1)

Current plans are that the workshop will begin with a plenary session, after which two concurrent sessions will be conducted -- one addressing risk topics from a technical perspective and the other from a management perspective. The technical session will deal with occupational risk analysis, mathematical risk models, laboratory studies for human risk analysis, and consumer product risk analysis. The management session will center on legal issues and liability, insurance and corporate risk management, behavior and risk control, and organized labor and risk analysis. Other sessions will be added as abstracts are accepted and as the meeting date draws near. Co-chairmen for the workshop are: Vincent Covello (202-357-9828), Richard Schwing (313-575-3240), Robert Tardiff (202-334-2216), and Chris Whipple (415-855-2443).



John Holbrook (center) is presented with a \$50 check by SRA Treasurer Ram Uppuluri for his winning design of the SRA logo. Robert B. Cumming (right) joins in offering congratulations.

NSF AWARDS ANNOUNCED

In addition to the awards announced in the April issue of the newsletter, the National Science Foundation Risk Analysis Program has made the following FY 1982-83 awards:

---"An Exploratory Assessment of Insurance for Managing Risk to Health, Safety, and Environment." Principal Investigators: Michael S. Baram and Raymond Miyares, Bracken and Baram.

---"Institutional Influences on Public Policy for Risk Management, Phase I - Conceptual Development." Principal Investigator: Rex V. Brown, Decision Science Consortium.

---"Utilization of Information from Risk Analyses in State Governments." Principal Investigator: Ward Wright, Council of State Governments, Lexington, Kentucky.

---"U.S. Federal Republic of Germany Risk Analysis Conference." Principal Investigator: Lester B. Lave, Brookings Institution.

For further information about these and other grants, contact the principal investigator(s) or Vincent T. Covello, Program Manager, Technology Assessment and Risk Analysis Program, National Science Foundation, 1800 G St., NW, Washington, D.C., 20550.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

---Fourth EuReData Conference: RELIABILITY DATA COLLECTION AND USE IN RISK AND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT, March 23-25, 1983, Venice, Italy. Contact: Dr. Viviana Colombari, ENI, Via Triulziana 40, I-20097 San Donato Milanese (MI), Italy. Phone (02)5206863, Telex 310246 ENI-I.

---Three-Day Course: RISK ANALYSIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, March 30-April 1, 1983, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts. \$500. Contact: Office of Continuing Education, Harvard School of Public Health, 677 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115. Phone (617)732-1171.

JOURNAL CONTENTS ANNOUNCED

The contents of Issue 4 of Volume 2 of the society's journal, *Risk Analysis*, have been established and the manuscripts forwarded to the publisher. Issues 2 and 3, whose contents were announced in our last newsletter; are both in the final stages of publication. [Submissions for publication in the journal should be mailed to: Dr. Robert B. Cumming, Editor, Risk Analysis, PO Box 531, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA, 37830.]

Author(s)	Title
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Robert B. Cumming	<i>Editorial: Risk and Behavior</i>
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Alvin J. Nelson	A Correction to S. Kaplan's Method of Discrete Probability Distributions
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Stanley Kaplan	Response to Nelson and Rasmuson's Letter
ARTICLES	
Gerald J. S. Wilde	The Theory of Risk Homeostasis: Implications for Safety and Health
Paul Slovic	<i>Comment: Targeting Risks: A Comment on Wilde's Theory of Risk Homeostasis</i>
Baruch Fischhoff	
John D. Graham	<i>Comment: On Wilde's "Theory of Risk Homeostasis"</i>
Lloyd Orr	<i>Comment: Goals, Risks, and Choices</i>
Gerald A. Cole	<i>Comment: The Risk of Aggregation: A Comment on Wilde's Theory</i>
Stephen B. Withey	
Gerald J. S. Wilde	<i>Response: Critical Issues in Risk Homeostasis Theory: A Reply</i>
Leonard Evans	Car Occupant Life Expectancy: Car Mass and Seat Belt Effects
Dennis E. Blumenfeld	

NOTICE: CALL FOR 1983-84 NOMINATIONS

The SRA Nominating Committee, chaired by Bill Vesely, is presently considering nominations for the society's 1983-84 officers. Positions to be filled are president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and three council positions. The secretary and treasurer will each serve two years and the council members will each serve three years. The recommended individuals need not be members of SRA at present. For each name submitted, please include some biographical information. Nominations should be submitted to:

Bill Vesely, Chairman
SRA Nominations Committee
Battelle-Columbus
505 King Avenue
Columbus, Ohio, 43201
[Phone (614)424-6424]

IDEAS FOR 1984 WORKSHOP NEEDED

The Conferences and Workshops Committee is beginning to make plans for the society's 1984 annual meeting. Paul Slovic, who chairs the committee, would like to hear from society members regarding ideas for sites, themes, and general program topics. Persons interested in serving on the steering committee for the meeting should also contact Slovic. His address is: Decision Research, 1201 Oak Street, Eugene, Oregon, 97401 [Phone (503)485-2400].

PAPERS SOLICITED FOR BOOK

As announced in the last newsletter, Plenum Press will be publishing a series of SRA-sponsored books on contemporary issues in risk analysis. One volume will be titled *Contemporary Issues in Risk Analysis: Engineering and Physical Sciences*, and papers to be included in this volume are now being solicited. The papers, which cannot have been published previously, can be somewhat longer than journal articles; review articles describing past and current research and research needs for particular types of risk analyses are appropriate. Abstracts of proposed papers should be submitted to Chris Whipple, EPRI, 3412 Hillview Ave., Palo Alto, CA, 94303. Editors for the volume will be Whipple, Bob Budnitz, Elizabeth Drake, and Henry Piehler.

The final papers should be 25 to 50 double-spaced pages and should consist of five sections as follows:

(1) Introduction (3 - 5 pages) - This should consist of a brief statement of the issue and its importance.

(2) Important Previous Work (5 - 10 pages) - This section should resemble a literature review; it should discuss significant work that contributes to the current research.

(3) Current Research (10 - 20 pages) - This section should discuss your own work and work by others as appropriate; it should focus on results/conclusions/implications. (Discussions of designs/aspirations/expectations should be kept to an absolute minimum.)

(4) Important Issues for Future Research (5 - 10 pages) - This section should discuss directions for future research suggested by previous and current research; it should also identify important but neglected issues.

(5) Conclusion (3 - 5 pages) - This should be a brief review, and, to the extent possible, it should "stand alone" as an abstract or summary of the paper.



RISK newsletter is published quarterly by The Society for Risk Analysis.

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Society Secretariat: Richard I. Burk, Jr., Executive Secretary, Society for Risk Analysis, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 506, Bethesda, MD, 20814, (301) 654-3080

SRA TO CO-SPONSOR NATO STUDY

The Society for Risk Analysis will co-sponsor an Advanced Study Institute (ASI) which the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will be holding August 21-31, 1983, in the French Alps. The ASI topic will be "Technology Assessment, Risk Analysis, and Environmental Impact Assessment: Contributions from the Psychological and Decision Sciences." It will be held at the Les Arcs Conference Center and Resort Complex, and the total cost, which includes full room and board, will be approximately \$600. Travel grants are not currently available.

SRA's co-sponsorship of the ASI does not involve financial support. For more information on the program, contact: Ram Uppuluri, Society for Risk Analysis, PO Box 531, Oak Ridge, TN, 37830; or Vincent T. Covello, U. S. National Science Foundation, 1800 G St., NW, Washington, D.C., 30550.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I wish to express some comments on behalf of a few of us "non-nuclear" people attending the Low Probability/High Consequence Workshop held in Arlington last June.

Let me first congratulate the organizers of the workshop for the very smooth manner in which it was conducted. The program was generally coherent, but it seemed at times that the "high consequence" part of the workshop was completely overlooked, the majority of the papers dealing quasi-exclusively with probability assessment.

It was also surprising to see the field of transportation represented, at best, very scantily. Many facets of transportation deal with LP/HC risks on an everyday basis. Current issues such as car seat belt programs and a number of other relevant transportation safety problems, which could all fall under the LP/HC label, were not discussed at the workshop. All in all, the Department of Transportation definitely could have made a valid contribution to the workshop.

Generally, research efforts (and money) are directed towards where the market dictates. President Reagan's pro-nuclear stand obviously provides an incentive (\$\$\$) to further research in very specific fields. However, being risk analysts, we should remember that multi-disciplinarity is at the heart of the Society for Risk Analysis. It is this very characteristic which makes risk analysis such an interesting and potentially useful discipline. We should therefore encourage researchers from as many relevant fields as possible to join the society or present their views at the annual meetings and workshops. It can only be healthy for all of us.

*Roch Parayre
Professor, Faculty of Administration
University of Ottawa
Ottawa, Canada*

RISK newsletter
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