



Ragnar Lofstedt PhD, Professor of Risk Management, Department of Geography, King's College London.

Ragnar has been a member of the Society for Risk Analysis since 1988 when he attended his first annual meeting (Mayflower Hotel, Washington DC). Since joining SRA he has been an active member of the Society. He was a member of SRA-Europe's executive committee (1995-2003), board member of the SRA risk communication specialty group 1997-1999, 2003-2006 (and Chair 1999-2000), and sat on SRA's Council 2013-2016 where he co-chaired the communications committee. He co-organized two annual meetings for SRA-Europe: Guildford in 1996 and London in 2010. He founded the *Journal of Risk Research* in 1998 (the official journal for SRA-Europe and SRA Japan) and he has been Editor-in-Chief ever since. He is currently on the editorial boards of both *Health Communication* (since 2002) and *European Journal of Risk Regulation* (since 2010) and served on the editorial board of *Risk Analysis* 1998-2008. He has published over 100 peer reviewed articles/book chapters and authored/edited more than 10 books on risk analysis themes. His research has been funded by both the public and private sectors including the US National Science Foundation, the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Swedish Research Foundation, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, the UK Food Standards Agency, the General Electric Foundation and Pfizer Global Research and Development.

Ragnar received the Chauncey Starr Distinguished Young Risk Analyst Award in 2000, was made a Fellow of the Society in 2005, and received the Richard Burk Outstanding Service Award in 2006 and Distinguished Educator Award in 2018.

Ragnar received his BA (University California Los Angeles), MA (Clark University) followed by a PhD (Clark University) in geography. He was a postdoctoral researcher at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria before becoming a lecturer (Assistant Professor) at the Centre for Environmental Strategy, University of Surrey in 1993. Following his promotion to Reader (Associate Professor) in 1999 at the University of Surrey, he became a Full Professor and the Director of the King's Centre for Risk Management, King's College London in 2002. In the period 1999-2000 he had a sabbatical at Harvard University (Center for Risk Analysis), and today is an Adjunct Professor at both Carnegie Mellon University and Mitt University (Sweden).

Aside from teaching and conducting research Ragnar's main interest is working with regulators and policy makers to promote evidence based and risk informed decision making. This includes frequently speaking for government agencies ranging from Health Canada, to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), to the European Medicines Agency (EMA), as well as a number of EU member states such as policy makers at the German Bundestag and the UK House of Commons and House of Lords. He has consulted for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on best practice risk communication and the UK Food Standards Agency on the use of social science to make policy decisions. He is probably best known for Chairing the UK Government Commissioned Lofstedt Review in 2011 entitled *Reclaiming Health and Safety for All: An independent review of health and safety legislation*, after which all 26 of Ragnar's policy recommendations were accepted by the UK Government. In 2012 he helped establish the Informal Working Group on Risk in the European Parliament (chaired by Julie Girling MEP), in 2019 he was a member of the UK Government's Science Advisory Group providing scientific advice on the risks and dangers posed by the aftermath of the fire at Grenfell Tower, and in 2020 he served as a member of the International Best Practice Advisory Group on COVID 19 (reporting to a team at the UK Cabinet Office and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office) where he established and chaired the Informal International Working Group on Risk Communication.

In his spare time Ragnar enjoys working in his Swedish trees (300+ hectares) in Smaland, Sweden

Statement of Goals

The Society for Risk Analysis is a strong and vibrant society as demonstrated by organizing excellent annual meetings and chapter events, its flagship journal *Risk Analysis*, and, perhaps more importantly, maintaining a truly close “risk community”. These strengths of the society are very much welcome and must be preserved into the future. At the same time, however, there is room to be more ambitious. One concern I have, for example, is that SRA is no longer gaining more members. If I am elected your president my main goal would be to better connect the society with senior policymakers, create an environment for young professionals to thrive, and hold an annual event that connects academics, industry, senior government officials, and other stakeholders in the true tradition of SRA. These issues are discussed below:

My first goal is to strengthen ties between SRA and policy makers/regulators. I want to encourage more participation from governmental officials to our annual meeting-especially those held in the greater Washington DC area-either via keynote sessions or policy roundtables. A great deal what we do as SRA members be it teaching/research or evidence-based practice is highly relevant to government officials-yet too many practitioners just don’t know about us. I am struck, for example, that in past risk summits that I have arranged in the European Parliament, the Dutch government and elsewhere that most participants had neither heard of the Society nor knew of its existence.

My second first goal is to help ensure that SRA meetings continue to be attractive for graduate students and early career professionals. To be clear the Society has already begun addressing this issue such as through its formal mentoring program, but I feel more can be done. Ideas worth exploring include establishing a Young Risk Professionals advisory board which I would chair as president.

My third goal is to strengthen the international dimension of the society. There is significant potential to grow membership internationally. As an international member based in London, UK I have been encouraged by the establishment of several regional chapters over the years ranging from Benelux to Iberia. Going forward I would want to see a greater number of these chapters and to better build from the successes of the World Congress events.

My final goal would be to organize an excellent SRA annual meeting in Washington DC in December 2021 some 33 years after attending my first one there. I have already been thinking about possible key notes sessions and clearly one should be COVID-19 related (such as comparing COVID-19 communication strategies between different countries ranging from New Zealand to Germany) and a second one will be on evidence based and risk informed policy making possibly comparing North America with Europe. Rest assured that if I am elected president all key note panels will include individuals with strong policy/regulatory backgrounds and that there will be an international focus.

Thank you for taking the time to read about me and about my goals. I would be humbled and honored if you were to elect me to become the next president for the Society for Risk Analysis.