

# May Newsletter

## Highlights:

- Meet the new executive committee
- SRA-ANZ Symposium in Singapore, 19-23 July 2015
- Ortwin Renn Australia Tour, 13-18 July, 2015

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## May Newsletter

### Welcome Message

Dear SRA-ANZ Member,

Thank you for your continued support for SRA-ANZ. If you are new, welcome to the SRA-ANZ family. We have had a great year in 2014 and an even more exciting one ahead. The 8th annual conference hosted by Massey University, Palmerston North was a great success and new members of the executive committee were elected. Some exciting changes are on the horizon, including a new

website, a revamped newsletter and new membership options.

We would like to hear from you if you have any new publications, editorials, grants, awards, recently completed PhDs, etc. The SRA-ANZ is rapidly approaching 100 members in the region from a wide range of sectors including universities, government and industry. As a member of the society, we would like you

to use us as a platform to broadcast your work., connect to researchers or industry partners and create networks.

Enquiries can be sent to Dr. Catherine Wong at [Catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au](mailto:Catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au) or any member of the committee. We look forward to hearing from you!

Kind regards,  
**Dr. Catherine Wong, 黄美灵**  
Newsletter Editor

### Address by SRA-ANZ President 2015

SRA-ANZ is a relatively young society and is the only one in the Asia-Pacific region. Since its inception in 2006, our membership has grown steadily and the executive committee has worked towards carving out a niche for risk research in the region. I seek to continue this work and expand on it.

My vision for SRA-ANZ in 2015 is to increase its visibility regionally and internationally. We are working towards having stronger representation at the SRA International Council this year. We are also setting up a new website with more news, links to the latest research materials and publications by our members, and reports that may be of interest to our members.

Within the region, we also have an exciting lineup of events. Prof. Ortwin Renn, former President of SRA, will be in Australia to give a series of seminars, lectures and workshops across a number of cities. All members are encouraged to participate in this rare opportunity.

We will also be having a Symposium at the SRA World Congress on Risk on transboundary risks in the region, as a way to start a conversation about some of the unique risks we are and will be facing in the future as a region.

We have a big year ahead of us. I and the rest of the executive team are working hard to increase SRA-ANZ's visibility; expand the membership base both in terms of numbers and diversity; and organise activi-

ties that will benefit our members most. Should you have any feedback please feel free to contact me:  
[n.cogger@massey.ac.nz](mailto:n.cogger@massey.ac.nz) or +64 6 350 5553.





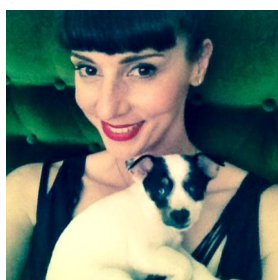
## Meet the 2015 Committee President: Dr. Naomi Cogger

Naomi has been involved with the SRA-ANZ since the first meeting in 2006 and has served on the Executive committee from 2008 to 2010. She graduated from the University of Sydney with a PhD in epidemiology in 2006. In 2003 she moved to New Zealand to work in a research position at the Epi-Centre, Massey University and began working in the area of import risk assessment. Over time she became more involved in teaching

and currently holds the position of Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology and Biosecurity at Massey University. Her research in the area of biosecurity has included projects with government and private sector agencies in New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. She also teaches risk analysis and worked with the Australian Centre for Excellence in Risk Analysis to develop an online course in risk and decision making for postgraduate students in 2010.



## President-elect: Dr. Kirrilly Thompson



Dr Kirrilly Thompson is a Senior Researcher at the Appleton Institute for Engaged Social Sciences, the inaugural Adelaide Campus of Central Queensland University. The Appleton comprises internationally renowned researchers in fatigue risk management systems, human factors, sleep and safety. As a trained anthropologist, Kirrilly uses ethnographic research methods to study the socio-

cultural dimensions of risk perception and preparedness.

She led Australia's first national mixed methods study of passenger crowding in metropolitan railways and currently manages an ARC project on mitigation of environmental impacts of household food waste. Last year, she led South Australia's first bushfire taskforce to determine the community impact of three major fire events. In

2013, Kirrilly combined her research on risk perception and behaviour change with a specialty in human-animal relations in her 2013 DECRA project looking at how pet ownership can be reconfigured as a protective factor.

Kirrilly was awarded a position as one of Australia's Top 5 Researchers Under 40, a scheme run jointly by the ABC Radio National and the University of NSW.



Tom in front of his portrait at the Australian Synchrotron in Melbourne

## Immediate Past President: Dr. Tom Beer

Tom is Director of Safe Systems Solutions Pty Ltd. Prior to that, he was a Chief Research Scientist at CSIRO, the Australian Government Scientific Research Agency and led the Climate Research Program for the Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research (CAWCR), a partnership between the CSIRO and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology. In 1995 he was Science Adviser to the Environment Protection Agency in Canberra and

undertook a risk review of national environmental priorities. Subsequently, Tom was co-ordinator of the CSIRO Environmental Risk Network and undertook two of the preparatory studies for the National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality.

He was a lead author for the Atmosphere Theme Report of the Australian 2001 and 2006 State of the Environment reports. He was also a

member of the IPCC Expert Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Waste, and a lead author for the chapter on waste in the IPCC Special Report on Technology Transfer. The IPCC was awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. Tom has authored fourteen books, over 100 articles in refereed journals, a similar number of book chapters and papers in conference proceedings, and over 44 specialised consultancy reports.

## Secretary: Dr. Sandra Seno-Alday

Dr Sandra Seno-Alday's research and teaching interests are in international business, risk and performance. For more than 10 years, she was a consultant for a variety of medium to large organisations from a broad spectrum of industries, providing strategic international business development and organisation development solutions particularly in Southeast Asia. Notably, she has served as a research and business development consultant to public private partnerships and govern-

ment agencies. Sandra is currently a Lecturer in International Business at the University of Sydney Business School and a researcher at the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre at the University of Sydney.

She has been an active member of the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) and the Society for Risk Analysis – Australia and New Zealand (SRA-ANZ) since 2009. Sandra served as a Councilor of the SRA-ANZ from 2013, and has been involved in organising conferences including the

World Congress on Risk held in Sydney in 2012. She is keen to contribute to raising the profile of the work of SRA ANZ members through regional and international publications.



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## Treasurer: Dr. Hong Jin

Hong's involvement with risk analysis began 14 years ago when he joined the Australia New Zealand Food Authority, now Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), as a senior food scientist.

He prepared his first risk assessment report in 2002 which underpinned the development of a food safety standard to ensure uncooked fermented meat products produced in Australia are

safe for consumption and free from contamination of shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*. Hong completed his PhD in microbiology at the University of Western Australia in 1989, and worked as a lecturer at Charles Sturt University and a senior researcher officer at Carlton United Breweries. Now a senior food microbiologist at FSANZ, Hong is an expert in national and international food safety standards.



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## Secretariat: Erica Kecorius

Erica is PA to the Director/Administrator for the Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA) at the University of Melbourne.

She has held this position with CEBRA since 2012 and has also been involved with the Society for Risk Analysis Australia & New Zealand in the role of Secretariat during that time.







## Council member: Steven Corin

Steve is interested in social impact assessment and the accurate prediction of environmental risk. Formerly an environmental risk advisor working for the NZ Environmental Protection Authority, Steve is now Team Leader of the New Organisms team at the EPA.

His past experience includes expert elicitation, risk assessment, molecular ecology, social impact assessment and working closely with affected stakeholders. Steve is very excited to be part of the SRA-ANZ council and

hopes that the society can position itself to be an effective co-ordination tool for risk practitioners in Australia and New Zealand.



## Council member: Dr. Tracey Hollings

Tracey is a research fellow at the Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA), University of Melbourne.

Her research has centered around disease ecology in wildlife and more recently for biosecurity risk analysis.

Her current work focuses on species distribution modelling and use of remotely sensed imagery to aid livestock demographic estimation for disease preparedness.

tion for disease preparedness.



## Council Member & Newsletter Editor: Dr. Catherine Wong



Catherine is a Senior Research Officer at The Cairns Institute, working on climate governance in Australia, China and the UK. She completed her PhD at the Australian National University in November 2014, looking at risk governance in the Indian nuclear power industry after the Fukushima disaster.

Her current research interests include risk governance in climate change, comparative policy analysis, smart

regulation and deliberative stakeholder engagement.

Catherine also worked in the private and NGO sectors. She was a business planning analyst at Hewlett Packard in Ireland, and project coordinator at the Global Development Network in India, former subsidiary of the World Bank.

She then joined The Straits Times and The Business Times as a journalist and

was later a research associate at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore, where she was also the assistant editor of their flagship publication, the ASEAN Economic Journal.

## Conferences & Events: Upcoming

### SRA-ANZ Symposium in Singapore, 19-23 July, 2015: "Managing Trans-boundary Risk in the Asia-Pacific Region"

The SRA-ANZ Symposium is being held as part of the SRA World Congress on Risk in Singapore, 19-23 July, 2015. This is in conjunction with the SRA-ANZ 9th Annual Conference. The symposium titled "Managing Trans-boundary Risk in the Asia-Pacific Region" will cover a wide range of issues pertinent to the region, with particular focus on the inter-

connectivities in trade and trans-boundary disease, food security, climate change and environmental governance.

Symposium topics, abstracts and speakers at can be found [here](#).

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend the symposium. A conference dinner will also be organized specially for SRA-ANZ members on **Tuesday, 21 July, 2015**.

For enquiries, please contact Dr. Catherine Wong:

[catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au](mailto:catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au)

We look forward to engaging with you in Singapore!



## Conferences & Events

### Ortwin Renn Australia Tour, 13-18 July, 2015

Professor Ortwin Renn, former President of the International Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) 2013-14, and eminent Sociologist in risk governance from the University of Stuttgart will be in Australia from 13-18 July.

In the lead up to the SRA World Congress, he will be in Australia giving seminars, workshops and public lec-

tures in Cairns, Melbourne and Canberra. Details of his Australia tour are as follows:

**13-15 July: Cairns, hosted by The Cairns Institute**

**15-17 July: Melbourne, University of Melbourne**

**17 July: Canberra, Food Standards Australia New Zealand**

**18 July: Sydney, University of Technology Sydney**

For more information, pls

contact the relevant hosts:

Cairns: Dr. Catherine Wong, [catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au](mailto:catherine.wong@jcu.edu.au)

Melbourne: Assoc. Prof. Jens Zinn, [jzinn@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:jzinn@unimelb.edu.au)

Canberra: Dr Hong Jin, [hong.jin@foodstandards.gov.au](mailto:hong.jin@foodstandards.gov.au)

Sydney: Assoc. Prof. James Goodman, [James.Goodman@uts.edu.au](mailto:James.Goodman@uts.edu.au)

*"Has the world become more risky, requiring new forms of risk governance?"*

## Conferences & Events

The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) Annual Conference, Cairns, 23-26 November, 2015: "Neoliberalism and Contemporary Challenges for the Asia-Pacific"

This year, the TASA conference will focus on the theme of neo-liberalism in the Asia-Pacific region. This conference offers the opportunity to further understand the global effects of neoliberal-

ism, especially the ways neoliberalism is experienced in different local contexts. What challenges and opportunities does neoliberalism present and how does sociology respond to those challenges?

There will also be a plenary session on "**Risk Society in Contemporary Asia-Pacific**" with eminent speakers from Australia and the region.

The call for papers will open on **4 May** and closes **28 August**. For key dates see [here](#).

Keynote speakers and other details can be found [here](#).





Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand hosted the 8th SRA-ANZ Annual Conference, 26-27 August.

## Conferences & Events: Past

**SRA-ANZ 8th Annual Conference, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 26-27 August 2014: "Risk Beyond the Numbers"**

The extraordinary crises that the world has experienced in the past 15 years call attention to the unique and constantly changing character of risk. The devastating events of 9/11 to the continuing ripples of the global financial crisis -- along with the identification of new and emerging risks -- raise questions and challenges to the field of

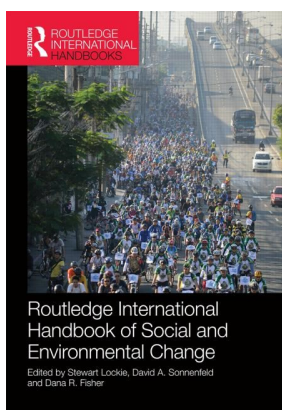
risk analysis and risk management: has the world become more 'risky', requiring 'new forms of risk governance'? Have our traditional risk analysis tools reached the limits of their usefulness? Or have we had a myopic focus on the science of crunching the numbers, while finding ourselves drawing less on the art of interpretation? Have we allowed ourselves to operate within impenetrable risk analysis silos, and not provided sufficient opportunity for the creative cross-

pollination of methods and ideas?

The Conference was a great success with some 60 participants from universities, industry and government.

Conference presentations can now be accessed [here](#).

## Latest Publications: Books and Book Chapters



Renn, O. (2014) "Towards a socio-ecological foundation for environmental risk research" In Lockie, S., Sonnenfeld, D. A., & Fisher, D. (eds). *Routledge International Handbook of Social and Environmental Change*. Routledge, London, UK, pp. 207-220.

Lockie, Stewart (2014) "Climate, scenario-building and governance: comprehending the temporalities of social-ecological change." In: Lockie, S., Sonnenfeld, D. A., and Fisher, D. R., (eds.) *Routledge International Handbook of Social and Environmental Change*. Routledge International Handbooks. Routledge, London, UK, pp. 95-105.

## Latest Publications: Journals

Beer, T. (2014) Risk Research in Australia and New Zealand: A review, *Japanese Journal of Risk Research*, 24(3) 161-163.

Beer, T., Li, J-P., and Alverson, K (2014) Strengthening Multidisciplinary Research on Climate and Environmental Change, *EOS, Transactions of the American Geophysical Union*, 95, 307.

Beer, T. (2014) Climate variability and change: a perspective from the Oceania region, *Geoscience Letters*, 1, 5-14 doi: 10.1186/2196-4092-1-5

Gardner, Lauren M., et al. (2014) "A Scenario-Based Evaluation of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus and the Hajj." *Risk Analysis* 34(8): 1391-1400.

Jin, H., Berven, L., Dalefield, R., Conlan, J., Healy, M. & Crerar, S. (2015) An Australian Process that Assesses Country BSE Food Safety Risk, *European Journal of Nutrition & Food Safety*, 5(2) (April-June): 2347-5641.



## Latest Publications: Journals

MacIntyre, C. R. (2014). The discrepant epidemiology of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV). *Environment Systems and Decisions*, 34(3), 383-390.

Wang, X., Wu, S., MacIntyre, C. R., Zhang, H., Shi, W., Peng, X. & Wang, Q. (2014). Using an adjusted serfling regression model to improve the early warning at the arrival of peak timing of influenza in Beijing. *PloS one*, 10(3).

Wong, C. M. L (2014) "Organisational Risk Perception and Transformations in India's Nuclear Establishment", *Journal of Risk Research*, Vol, No, pp1-18.

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## Latest Publications: Opinion Editorials

Wong, C. M. L. (2014) "The Australia-India Nuclear Deal – A Qualitative Risk Analysis Perspective", *Australian Resources and Investment*, 8(4), pp155-156. [Read it here.](#)

Wong, C. M. L. (2014) "Australian uranium deal could make Indian nuclear power safer", *The Conversation [picked up by ABC The Drum]*, 5 September . [Read it here.](#)

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## Latest Publications: Reports

**James Cook University (2014). *State of the tropics: 2014 report*. Townsville, Qld: James Cook University Townsville on behalf of the State of the Tropics Leadership Group.**

Is life in the Tropics getting better? The inaugural State of the Tropics 2014 Report addresses this nominally simple question. It provides the first in-depth, objective assessment of the Tropics as an environmental and geopolitical entity in its own right. Drawing on the knowledge, experience and diverse backgrounds of leading institutions across the tropics, the report assesses the state of the region and examines the implications of the immense changes the region is experiencing. Read more: <http://stateofthetropics.org/the-report>



## Call for Papers

### **Animals Special Issue: "Horses and Risk"**

*Animals* is an international and interdisciplinary scholarly open access journal. It publishes original research articles, reviews, communications, and short notes that are relevant to any field of study that involves animals, including zoology, ethnozoology, animal science, animal ethics and animal welfare.



*animals*

Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2015

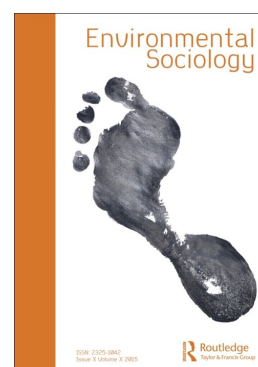
Journal details see: [http://www.mdpi.com/journal/animals/special\\_issues/horses-risk](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/animals/special_issues/horses-risk)

### **Environmental Sociology**

*Environmental Sociology* is an international, peer-reviewed scholarly journal published by Routledge. It is dedicated to applying and advancing the sociological imagination in relation to a wide variety of environmental challenges, controversies and issues including governance, policy and regulation, environmental risks, hazards and uncertainties.

For journal and submission details see:

<http://explore.tandfonline.com/page/bes/aedarchives/rens-call-for-papers/>



## Expressions of Interest: Awards and Prizes

### **Australasian College for Toxicology and Risk Assessment Student Prize**

ACTRA is offering a student prize for outstanding research efforts in the field of toxicology and/or risk assessment, or ecotoxicology. The prize consists of one free conference registration (including dinner) to the ACTRA Annual Scientific Meeting, plus \$500 spending money to assist with travel expenses. The successful candidate must make a short oral presentation at the Annual Scientific Meeting held in Brisbane in October 2015.

Applications close on **1 September 2015**. Submissions will be accepted from any current undergraduate or postgraduate students with research in the fields of toxicology and/or risk assessment.



Australasian College of  
Toxicology and Risk Assessment

## Congratulations!

### **National Health and Medical Research Grant (NHMRC) Grant 2015 Winner**

Congratulations to SRA –ANZ members. Rainer MacIntyre, Lauren Gardner, Anita Heywood, from the University of New South Wales, for winning the NHMRC grant 2015. Their project title is "Real time models to inform prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases". [Read more here.](#)

### **Travel Scholarship Recipients For World Congress on Risk 2015**

Two travel scholarships have been awarded by SRA-ANZ to early-career researchers to attend the World Congress on Risk 2015 to be held in Singapore in July. Dr Lucie Bland, University of Melbourne, and Catherine Wong, James Cook University, received these scholarships to present a poster and oral presentation respectively. Dr Bland's presentation will focus on predicting the risk of ecosystem collapse with Ecosystem Viability Analysis whilst Dr Wong will present on Smart Regulation: A Multi-stakeholder Approach to Environmental Governance. We look forward to seeing them present in Singapore!







The Society for Risk Analysis - Australia & New Zealand (SRA-ANZ) provides an opportunity for an inclusive, broad-based society that promotes communication between disciplines, a breadth of tools and viewpoints, and platforms for training, workshops, and conferences.

**SRA-ANZ's Goals:**

1. To serve as the focal point for interaction of members of the Society and other interested individuals and organisations in Australia and New Zealand.
2. To further understanding, awareness, and appropriate applications of risk analysis, and to promote an exchange of ideas and practical experiences among members of the academic, professional, industrial, and regulatory communities involved in risk analysis and risk management in Australia and New Zealand.
3. To hold scientific and educational meetings.

**Our new website is in the making. Stay tuned!**

## **Executive Members**

### **Executive Members**

Naomi Cogger (President)

Kirrilly Thompson (President-elect)

Tom Beer (Immediate Past President)

Sandra Seno-Alday (Secretary)

Hong Jin (Treasurer)

Erica Kecorius (Secretariat)

Steven Corin (Council member)

Tracey Hollings (Council member)

Catherine Wong (Council Member / Newsletter Editor)

### **Past Presidents**

2014 Tom Beer

2013 Mark Colyvan

2012 Rochelle Christian

2011 Simon Barry

2010 Janet Gough

2009 Jean Chesson

2008 Daniela Leonte

2007 Keith Hayes

2006 Nick Linacre

For enquiries please contact:

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ericak@unimelb.edu.au