President’s Report 2016

In 2015 the executive decided that rather than hold the usual annual SRA (ANZ) conference in 2015 we would have a symposium on Trans-Boundary risk at the World Risk Congress “ Risk Analysis for Sustainable Innovation”, which took place at Singapore in July 2013. The Society awarded 2 travel awards to early career researchers Catherine Wong and Lucie Bland. Over 30 people have registered for this year’s conference in Adelaide, and once again we have a full program of workshops and presentations as well as conference dinner. A report on the conference, as well individual presentations will be available on the SRA-ANZ website (sraanz.org.nz).

The SRA-ANZ remains in a good financial position. This is the result of sponsorship and careful management of past and current conference. I would like to acknowledge and thank our long standing sponsors the Centre for Excellence in Biosecurity Risk Analysis (formerly Australia Centre for Risk Analysis). The sponsorship and support has allowed the Society to establish a sound footing without having to impose a large membership fee.

## The relationship between SRA-ANZ and the parent organization SRA has changed. In 2015 the SRA Council unexpected passed by-laws that that required all new regional members to join SRA and the regional organization. The change will mean that all new and re-new members of the SRA need to be affiliated with a regional group if not based in USA. This could increase our membership if there are significant numbers of SRA members who reside in the region who are not currently members. There is still lack of clarity as to whether existing members of SRA-ANZ are required to join the parent body.

The SRA-ANZ is continuing to develop our online presence thanks to the efforts of Steve Corin and Kirrilly Thompson. Steve has transitioned material previously hosted by ACERA/CEBRA to [www.sraanz.org.nz](http://www.sraanz.org.nz). Kirrilly has continued to add material to the SRA-ANZ Facebook page. All of this is a work in progress and we are looking for suggestions and inputs from members.

## This year the role of editor for the newsletter has been in a state of change. Catherine Wong left us late 2015 to purse opportunities in Europe and the batten was passed to Tracey Hollings. Tracey has taken a break from this role as she takes on the new role of motherhood and we now have Martina Hoffman as editor. I wish to take the opportunity to thank Catherine and Tracey for their efforts and wish them well in life’s new endeavors.

## In 2015 the Executive for the Society held a strategic planning meeting. The key topic was growing and diversifying the membership base for the society. The 2016 conference theme, keynotes and workshops were selected to widen the appeal of the Society. We have continuing to making connections with other organizations with overlapping interests. Should any Members have suggests for groups we should contact please contact myself or another member of the Executive.

## Finally, I would like to thank the 2016 SRA-ANZ Executive Committee and the local organizing committee for the 2016 conference for all their hard work over 2016. These people have built on the success of previous years to develop SRA-ANZ as a valuable profession organization in the region.