



Society for Risk Analysis
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

SRA-ANZ Member Newsletter

The purpose of the Society for Risk Analysis - Australia & New Zealand (SRA-ANZ) is to provide 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.

Highlights:

- SRA-ANZ Annual Conference 2019
- What makes a good *Risk Analysis* article?

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Message from the President

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2019. As this is my first introduction as your new President I think it is only fitting that I say a massive thank you to Sandra for all the hard work she has put in as President over the last two years. I am glad that she will be around for a while as Immediate Past President - for her knowledge of all things SRA, and for support and guidance as I settle in to this new role. I want to mirror her thanks to those committee members who stood down at the end of last year: Naomi who worked tirelessly for the region with our international counterparts, Anca Hanea for expanding the network our society has with other international experts and societies, and Martina Hoffman for her



SRA-ANZ President, Lee Bailey

hard work developing the strong relationship we now have with the Australasian Bayesian Network Modelling Society (ABNMS – more about them later!)

It is also a great pleasure to welcome some new faces to the committee. Aaron Dodd joins us as our new President-Elect. Anna Kosovac, who has ably put this newsletter together, has joined us as a Counsellor. Victoria Hemming joined the committee for a brief time before she took up an exciting job opportunity – we hope she'll be back soon though!

A lot of my energy so far this year has been taken-up planning for this year's conference. When I first talked to members of the committee before I put my name forward last year, I knew I would have to organise the conference. Oh, how naively I thought: "how hard could that be!?" Thankfully Sandra and I had already discussed the possibility of another joint conference with ABNMS. After a slow start, not helped by me returning to the UK for Christmas, and a great deal of patience and poking by my counterpart at ABNMS (Annemarie Christophersen), I am now quietly confident that we have an interesting conference planned for Wellington this November. A big thanks goes out to Bob Cavana and Bronwyn Howells at Victoria Business School for their help in securing rooms at the VBS site in central Wellington, and to GNS for hosting websites etc. There are more details later in the newsletter – please make a note of the key dates and keep an eye out for further details later in the year.

As I think back to the first meeting Annemarie and I had, we ended the conversation on why we joined our respective committees, what we wanted to achieve as

President, and why we wanted to be involved with the conference. I'll admit that I didn't put my name in the hat at SRA-ANZ because I wanted to organise a conference. I was more interested in helping people to conduct better risk assessments. And, just as importantly, to explain the process and outcome of those assessments in a way that is readily understandable.

To the chagrin, I'm sure, of some of the contaminated land consultants whose reports I reviewed as a regulator back in the UK, I never took favourably to those who threw numbers in a spreadsheet without explaining why that model and value had been chosen, and how the inputs and outputs

related to the real world. Maybe I have my old consultancy environmental/training director to thank for that. One of the key things I remember from the three years working with him was that it was important to "tell the story"; to lead the reader (whether that be client or regulator) through your thinking; to use language that your audience can follow so that they can understand your conclusions and recommendations. On a basic level, if the client didn't understand then they'd likely go elsewhere next time; if the regulator didn't, it was harder to get the client's project approved (and they might go elsewhere next time). Taking a big-picture view if nothing was done, this could mean land affecting the health of people and the environment was not cleaned-up, or money wasted on land that didn't need it.

Jumping forward 15 years from those conversations, I think that being able to explain how we reach a risk assessment conclusion and the recommendation that follows is just as important. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that for people to follow or accept those recommendations we also need to consider their intrinsic values. This doesn't necessarily mean that the outcome of an assessment/recommendation process will be different. Hopefully, it means that more people are more likely to accept the actions that follow, even if they don't necessarily agree with them.

This all leads nicely back to this year's conference: Risk and Decisions: how different aspects of risk underpin reasonable and culturally-appropriate decision-making. I hope we can bring together researchers developing new techniques and insights, practitioners using some of those techniques in anger (as it were), regulators reviewing proposals, and policy makers and decision makers deciding what and how to implement risk analysis and the resulting management options, so that others inside and outside our society have a greater appreciation of good risk analysis and the benefits that it can bring for organisations, us, the environment, and society.





The 2019 SRA ANZ Conference

SRA-ANZ 2019 Annual Conference: “Risk and Decision-Making: How different aspects of risk underpin responsible and culturally-appropriate decision-making”

November 13-14 at Rutherford House, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

The SRA-ANZ is excited to announce that its 2019 Conference will be held on November 13-14 in Wellington, New Zealand. The 9th Annual Conference of the SRA-ANZ calls for papers relevant to risk and engagement from all academic disciplines and industries.

Risks and their management are an integral part of our lives in the 21st century. Identifying and assessing risks and their uncertainties is paramount for organisations and governments (from local to international) to be able to incorporate these risks into policies and decision-making to protect people, the environment and the economy. The Scientific Programme includes various topic streams, spanning Natural Hazards under a Changing Climate, Biosecurity, Chemical Management, Organisations and Governance, and Health.



2019 SRA ANZ Conference Key Dates

We invite abstracts for oral and poster presentations.

Call for Abstracts: Mid July 2019

Abstract Submission Deadline: 13 August 2019

Abstract Notification of Outcome: 13 September 2019

Registration opens: 1 September 2019

Early Bird Registration closes: 13 October 2019

Registration closes: 3 November 2019

More information: <https://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/News-and-Events/Events/Risk-Conf-2019/Welcome>

Workshops

Workshops during the conference:

- Introduction to Bayesian Network Modelling training tutorial course: 11-12 November 2019
- Research Student Seminar: 12 November 2019
- Theory of Constraints for Risk Analysis and Decision-Making: 15 November 2019
- More workshops to be announced over the coming months

Please see the website for updates on workshops or subscribe for email alerts!





What makes a good “Risk Analysis” Article

Want to get your research published in the SRA’s Risk Analysis Journal?

Our main focus has traditionally been on public health, safety, and environmental (HS&E) risk analysis, including risk assessment, modeling, and model validation; risk perception; risk communication and deliberation; and risk management decision-making, policy-making and evaluation.

Risk Analysis papers are usually characterized by cross-disciplinary methods applied to important real-world HS&E problems; they typically advance the theory and practice of risk analysis in ways that are useful to other practitioners.

We seek to expand *Risk Analysis* as a trusted and trustworthy source for the most-cited, most-used innovations in the theory and practice of HS&E risk analysis; as a preferred outlet for the best work of top authors in the field; as a reference for authoritative and accessible explanations of advances, disseminating useful knowledge and improvements in risk analysis theory and practice; and as an intellectual hub linking and applying progress in multiple disciplines to improve important real-world risk management and policy decisions. In 2016, we encourage authors to consider submitting policy-oriented papers showing how risk analysis has been used successfully to inform and to demonstrably improve policy decisions and decision processes. This could include papers on global risks and risk management policies and results in areas such as Infrastructure risks analysis; HS&E risks in supply chain networks; import/export hazards; and risk analysis of cybercrime and cyberphysical hazards. We also encourage papers that forge tighter links between risk analysis and benefit-cost analysis.

Further discussion of the historical scope of the journal and what makes for a good *Risk Analysis* paper are offered in Cox et al., 2008 and Guikema and McClay, 2014.

Cox, LA Jr., Greenberg MR, Bostrom A, Haas C, Haines Y, Landis W, Lowrie KW, Moolgavkar S, North W. (2008) What is the scope of the journal *Risk Analysis*. *Risk Analysis* 28(5): 1135-1136

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1539-6924.2008.01138.x/full>

Guikema S, McClay L. (2014) Guidance on publishing in the mathematical modeling area for *Risk Analysis*. *Risk Analysis* 34(10): 1778-1779

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.12291/full>

Report of the 5th World Congress on Risk: Development and Resilience

May 6-8 2019, Capetown

The Fifth World Congress on Risk: Development and Resilience organised by the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA), was held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre between May 6 and 8, 2019 in association with Africa 9th Biennial Conference of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC).

This conference was preceded with a one-day workshop of “An introduction to ecological and human health risk assessment”.

The conference was attended by 326 registered delegates from 39 countries. A total of 493 abstracts were received for presentation at this conference.

The conference had 3 plenary sessions on the topics of:

- International perspectives on risk and resilience;
- One health; and
- Resilience and industry.

SETAC held a separate plenary on “risk-based weight-of-evidence approach for chemical management.



A total of 60 sessions were held during the conference on various topics including nanomaterial safety, risk and resilience, plastics in our environment; risk, safety and standardisation in emerging nations; food safety; Public health – epidemiological management; risk analysis in an interconnected world. Among the 60 sessions, 8 were symposiums.

The symposium organised by SRA’s Australia and New Zealand Chapter (SRA-ANZ) with support from China’s National Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment on the topic of “risk analysis in an interconnected world” was well attended by conference participants. It was one of the best sessions held at the conference. The five presentations delivered at the symposium were:

- A system designed to detect and predict emerging food safety risks (Hong Jin, Food Standards Australia New Zealand, Australia)
- Does size matter to biosecurity risk at the border? (Andrew Robinson, Centre of Excellence on Biosecurity Risk Assessment, University of Melbourne, Australia)
- An organisational perspective of constructing novel risks: the case of bisphenol A (Cynthia Hardy, University of Melbourne, Australia)
- Risk assessment on dietary exposure to rare earth elements in Chinese population (Lei Zhang, National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment, China)

Dr Hong Jin

Upcoming Conferences & Events



SRA Annual Meeting | Dec 8-12 2019 Arlington, VA

The theme of the conference, "Risk Analysis in the Data Analytics Era," highlights the important role risk analysts have in tackling risk problems and improving the science and practice of risk analysis.

The Second Conference on Risk Analysis, Decision Analysis, and Security

Following the success of the First International Conference on Risk Analysis, Decision Analysis and Security, the second conference is now scheduled for July 30– August 2 2019 in Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY, USA.

The 2019 conference focuses on the theme "Risk Analysis in the Digital Era." More info [here](#).

7th International Conference on Risk Analysis and Crisis Response (RACR-2019)

The next RACR, a series of biennial international conferences on risk analysis and crisis response, organized by SRA-China, will be held in Athens, Greece, during 15-19 October, 2019. Registration open. More info [here](#).



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.

Renew your membership

As a SRA ANZ member you will be invited to attend meetings, workshops and events as well as participate in specialist discussion groups

Memberships for SRA ANZ run from January to December so it is now time to renew your membership if you haven't already done so! You can do this quickly and easily online at our website: <http://www.sraanz.org.nz/join.html> membership.html. Membership fees are AUD\$65 and student membership is available for AUD\$10.

Executive Members

Executive Members

Lee Bailey (President)

Aaron Dodd (President-elect)

Sandra Seno-Alday (Immediate Past President)

Hong Jin (Secretary)

Steven Corin (Treasurer)

Erica Kecorius (Secretariat)

Anna Kosovac (Council member)

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