



# 2nd World Congress on Risk

Society for Risk Analysis  
and participating organizations

The theme for the Second World Congress is "Risk and Governance," which reflects the worldwide trend toward making better use of risk-oriented concepts, tools, and processes (derived from both research and practice) in public decision making and risk management. SRA expects to be cosponsoring the Congress with other scientific and professional societies interested in risk.



Hilton Guadalajara, Mexico- June 8-11, 2008



## Background

The second "World Congress on Risk" is an International Conference to be held from 8-11 June 2008 at the Hilton Guadalajara Hotel in Mexico.

This is the second of a series of World Congresses on Risk that are important, logical steps to further develop the field of risk analysis and its applications. In partnership with other professional societies and organizations, the Society for Risk Analysis launched the first of this series in 2003.

The unifying theme for the Second World Congress is "Risk and Governance," which reflects the worldwide trend toward making better use of risk-oriented concepts, tools, and processes (derived from both research and practice) in public decision-making and risk management. SRA expects to co-sponsor the Congress with other scientific and professional organizations interested in risk.

**Conference Organizers:** Robin Cantor, Navigant Consulting, Inc. and Javier Urbina-Soria, School of Psychology, National University of Mexico

## Planning Subcommittee Chairs

**Programming:** Robin Cantor (Navigant Consulting), Gail Charnley (HealthRisk Strategies), Bert Hakkinen (Gradient Corp.), Garrick Louis (University of Virginia/EPA) and Javier Urbina-Soria (National University of Mexico);

**Workshops:** Katherine Walker (Geneva, Switzerland)

**Marketing and Outreach:** Olivier Salvi (INERIS), Jo Anne Shatkin (Cadmus Group), Igor Linkov (InterTox), and Kuen-Yuh Wu (National Health Research Institute);

**Fund Raising and Finance:** Sabine Bonneck (Cologne, Germany), Michael Dourson (TERA) and Henry Willis (RAND Corp.);

**Publication:** Elizabeth Anderson (Exponent)

**Local Organizing:** Mabel Padlog (CUCSH -Universidad de Guadalajara) and Javier Urbina-Soria (National University of Mexico).

**Conference Coordinator:** Society for Risk Analysis (Burk & Associates), 1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402, McLean, VA 22101, 703-790-1745, Fax: 703-790-2672, email: SRA@BurkInc.com

## Financial Support

Financial support for this conference has been requested from a number of organizations. Other sponsors are wel-

come.

## Program

The Second World Congress will consist of meetings over a three-day period. Each of the three days will begin with a plenary session to launch a set of issues or methodological "views." Three "sub-themes" have been developed by the planning committee for purposes of identifying plenary programs and the breakout sessions that will follow. Each sub-theme will also guide the selection of symposia for the afternoon concurrent sessions. These sub-themes are:

- a) Global and trans-boundary risks
- b) Chemical, biological, and radiological hazards
- c) Risk and sustainable development

Speakers for the plenary sessions have been selected by the planning committee to provide broad participation by, and representation of, the physical, environmental, and social science communities, and to reflect different international perspectives.

Each plenary session will be followed by breakout sessions that will combine groups of participants to consider the issues and methods addressed in the plenary in the context of specific deliberation problems, such as energy planning, infectious disease, and nanotechnology. Planning these breakout sessions will be an important activity for SRA and the partner organizations involving both a leadership and coordination role, especially in ensuring that groups truly cut across the perspectives of participants. Participants, or their designated rapporteurs, will reconvene after the breakout sessions to share and document insights across groups about risk and governance.

Specific objectives of the program are to (1) stimulate dialogue on emerging risk issues of worldwide interest, (2) share insights about analytic methods and decision processes used in different regions of the world, (3) demonstrate and disseminate recent advances in risk assessment, management, and communication, and (4) build an organized, international community of individuals dedicated to advancing the state of the art and promoting appropriate use of risk-related tools, concepts, and procedures.

## Distinctive features of the World Congress Series include:

- Assessment of the state-of-the-art in various subfields of risk analysis made available to each participant as background papers
- Presentation of disciplinary advances in risk analysis that are relevant to scholars and decision makers interested in integrated, multi-disciplinary approaches to problem solving
- Demonstration of how solutions to risk problems can be sensitive to the differing needs and cultures in the developed

## World Congress on Risk

and developing world

- Specialized treatment of major risk problems such as national and corporate security, food safety, energy production, chemical regulation, natural hazard control, environmental protection, infrastructure, including transport, safety and security, and radiation protection
- Comparative information on how different countries and regions of the world are addressing the same risk, including the success and limitations of any efforts at international harmonization and the roles of international organizations
- Information on the growing number of scientific and professional journals dedicated to risk-related tools and issues as well as the growing number of educational opportunities.

### Mini-Symposia Submissions

The afternoon sessions will be concurrent mini-symposia sessions selected by the program subcommittee. Current arrangements will allow for 10 concurrent mini-symposia to take place in each of two afternoon meeting periods per day for a total of 60 mini-symposia sessions. Strong preference will be given to proposals for mini-symposia where the presentations cut across different disciplinary, scientific, or regional perspectives.

### Proposal Preparation

Proposals for mini-symposia will be accepted through the SRA website, submission deadline will be posted. Please note that we expect to receive more proposals than available program space so earlier submissions will have a better chance of being accepted. As noted, we can accept only sixty 90 minute sessions for the three day conference. Acceptance decisions will be made by January, 2008. Proposals should be submitted in a format and length consistent with the directions that will be posted on the SRA World Congress website [www.sra.org](http://www.sra.org). These directions will be posted by August 15, 2007, and will include the following conditions:

**Proposal length:** A proposal description between 7,740 and 11,610 characters which is equivalent to 2-3 pages in length. Each proposal description must include the following information:

- a) Title and concept description
- b) List of speakers and their contribution to the concept
- c) Contact information of organizer (submitter) and speakers

The selection decisions will be based upon the following criteria:

- a) Compatibility with each day's sub-theme for the Congress.
- b) Incorporation of explicit risk-analysis and management elements.
- c) Multi- or interdisciplinary focus represented among the speakers and papers, that is, the session is balanced across and within the social and natural sciences and engineering.
- d) A balance of international perspectives.
- e) Provide either (1) state of science for new approaches or research contributions to risk assessment or (2) tools and resources of risk assessment for risk and governance problems.

Accepted Mini-Symposium presenters will be required to register for the World Congress by May 1.

### Poster Presentations

The planning committee is also encouraging participation in a limited number of poster sessions. Posters for these sessions will be selected by using criteria consistent with those used in judging the mini-symposia. Visit the SRA website for the deadline for proposals for individual posters for poster sessions. Poster sessions will be grouped by subject and presented in larger groups. Author attendance during the relevant poster session is required as a condition of acceptance.

Accepted Poster presenters will be required to register for the World Congress by May 1.

### Congress Partnerships

SRA is continuing to seek, and strongly welcomes, partner organizations to assist with the following activities in support of the World Congress:

- I. Help with the meeting organization and sponsorship of key speakers/break-out organizers. This would include funding the expenses for such participants;
- II. Help advertise and promote the call for concurrent mini-symposia proposals and assist in the review of proposals; and
- III. Help raise funds to support significant participation of developing and Eastern European countries. In particular, SRA intends to request financial support from multiple funding sources to sponsor broader attendance by junior faculty/researchers and participants from financially disadvantaged countries.

SRA believes that the last of these activities is critically important to the overall success of the Second World Congress on Risk. Providing the opportunity for meaningful participation of developing countries is a key goal of the World Congress series. In this regard, organizers expect the meetings to be a significantly different experience from the regular annual meetings of risk-related professional societies. In particular, the World Congress series will emphasize international and interdisciplinary dialogues and will give deliberate attention to sharing information that can help address high priority risk management issues.

### **Travel Stipends**

SRA is seeking funding from sponsors to create travel stipends for junior faculty/researchers and participants from financially disadvantaged countries. To be eligible for a travel stipend, an award candidate must satisfy one of the following criteria:

- (a) Live in one of the countries eligible for borrowing from the World Bank, or
- (b) Be no more than seven years beyond obtaining a Ph.D. or equivalent level of experience (as per guidance found in, for example, the NSF's Alan T. Waterman Award).

To receive an award, an eligible candidate must demonstrate to the planning committee that he/she has a strong risk analysis career interest. Priority will also be given to candidates who propose to organize and participate in one of the mini-symposia or poster sessions. To apply for a travel stipend, candidates will submit to SRA (1) a statement of personal career goals and the expected benefits to the candidate and the candidate's home institution from participation at the World Congress; and (2) a statement outlining the candidate's financial situation and need. The deadline for proposals for travel stipends will remain open until February 29, 2008. See upcoming details available on the SRA website, [www.sra.org](http://www.sra.org).

### **Technical Program Schedule**

Times for the technical program are subject to change. The schedule will be finalized after the deadline for submissions has closed. Please note that the timing is approximate.

### **Cancellation Policy**

All cancellations are subject to a \$50 service charge. Cancellations must be in writing to the SRA Secretariat. Cancellation letters received by May 1 will be refunded total registration fees **minus the \$50 service charge** and will be refunded after the meeting. No refunds will be issued on cancellations received after May 1.

### **Three Ways to Register:**



Register online at [www.sra.org](http://www.sra.org)

**Register by fax:** Fax your completed form with credit card information to (703) 790-2672



**Or by mail:** Mail your completed form with payment to:

SRA World Congress  
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402  
McLean, VA 22101

## Workshops at the World Congress

On Sunday June 8th, preceding the World Congress, SRA is pleased to offer four excellent professional development workshops. The workshops have been carefully selected to provide opportunities for those international conference participants who might be new to risk assessment and SRA as well as to those looking for additional in depth training in risk communication, dose response assessment, and risk analysis related to food safety standards.

### **Workshop 1. Risk Analysis: Fundamental Concepts, Applications, and Controversies**

**Instructor:** David Hassenzahl, Associate Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Workshop fee:** \$225

**Language of Instruction:** English

This half-day workshop will provide a broad introduction to the field of risk analysis. We introduce fundamental risk analysis concepts, terminology, applications and calculations. Students will also be introduced to the range of topics covered by the Society for Risk Analysis (e.g. biological stressors, decision analysis and risk, dose-response, ecological risk assessment, economics and benefits analysis, emerging nanoscale materials, engineering and infrastructure, exposure assessment, risk communication, and risk policy and law). The workshop is suitable individuals with limited or no experience in risk analysis. Upon completion of this workshop, students will understand the origins, applications and controversies surrounding risk analysis. They will be prepared to evaluate risk analysis reports and presentations. Most importantly, they will be prepared to engage comfortably in the range of conversations at the World Congress.

### **Workshop 2. Risk Communication**

**Instructors:** Ana Rosa Moreno, MSc, former official of WHO/PAHO and present Coordinator of the Environmental Health Program of the Mexico-United States Foundation for Science, Mexico, D.F.

Dr. Óscar Tarragó, Coordinator for Training in Risk Communication of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, of the Centers for the Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

**Course fee:** \$300.00

**Language of Instruction:** Spanish

This full-day course was created by the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Risk Assessment and Management Unit. It offers orientation on the theory and methodology of risk communication. The elements of risk communication are described, as well as strategies and effective procedures for intervention in this area. The aim is to develop participants skills so that they are able to create communication plans with the target population, construct an interactive information-sharing process, and attain an operational and sustainable vision of risk communication.

### **Workshop 3. Recent Developments in Risk Assessment - International Frameworks for Evaluating Toxicity Data for Human Health Assessment**

**Instructors:** Lynne Haber, Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA)

Bette Meek, Assoc. Director, Chemical Risk Assessment, University of Ottawa, Canada

Jay Zhao, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Workshop fee:** \$250.00

**Language of Instruction:** English

This full-day workshop is designed for all chemical risk assessors, with the aim of providing familiarity with cutting-edge international (WHO/IPCS) methods for considering weight of evidence of mode of action and chemical-specific adjustment factors. The course will begin with review of basic concepts of risk assessment, including hazard characterization and dose-response analysis, providing a background for all in the basic concepts, and then move on to address how recent developments affect the approaches used. Several case examples will be given. For more information go to: [http://www.tera.org/education/RA\\_developments2008.htm](http://www.tera.org/education/RA_developments2008.htm)

### **Workshop 4. Use of Risk Analysis in the Development of Better Food Safety Standards**

**Instructors:** Amir Mokhtari, Research Environmental Scientist, Research Triangle Institute (RTI), International

Steve Beaulieu, Director, Risk Assessment and Environmental Modeling Program, RTI International

**Workshop fee:** \$245.00

**Language of Instruction:** English

This full-day workshop deals with risk assessment and risk management issues in establishing standards, guidelines, and other recommendations for food safety that are intended to ensure consumer protection on both a national and international level and to facilitate international trade. Key objectives of this workshop include: (i) to describe the principles and present a framework for using risk analysis to develop microbiological food safety standards; (ii) to discuss how this risk analysis framework fits within the context of a more general framework for managing food-borne risks to consumers; (iii) to investigate how different types of food safety measures can be derived using the outputs of risk analysis; (iv) to provide guidelines on the interactions between risk managers and risk assessors; and (v) to present practical examples showing how risk analysis can be used in the development of food safety measures. This course will be of primary interest to governments; however, other organizations, companies, and interested parties who need to evaluate and/or establish food safety standards will also find it valuable. The audience should have a basic understanding of risk analysis concepts and be familiar with the risk assessment process. For more information: <http://rtidemo.rti.org/WRC2008>

## DAY 1

### Global and Trans-Boundary Risks

*Christopher Bunting, IRGC, chair*

**Plenary Session:** Global risks: priorities, interdependencies, and integrated mitigation approaches

*Howard Kunreuther, Wharton School and*

*John Drzik, Mercer Oliver Wyman (invited)*

### Breakout Sessions:

- a) International disasters and critical infrastructure
- b) Global climate change
- c) Agriculture, biotechnology, & food safety
- d) Harmonized decision support

**Luncheon Speaker:** *Mario J. Molina, Nobel Prize winner in chemistry (invited)*

## DAY 2

### Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Hazards

*John Ahearne, Sigma Xi, chair*

**Plenary Session:** Nanotechnology and its emerging risks

### Breakout Sessions:

- a) Radiological risks and long-term waste management
- b) Information management (e.g., REACH, HPV, biomonitoring)
- c) Environmental justice in Latin America
- d) Emerging sources of risk (e.g. nano-scale materials)

**Lunch Speaker or Sponsored Poster Session (TBD)**

## DAY 3

### Risk and Sustainable Development

*Bernard Goldstein, University of Pittsburgh, chair*

**Plenary Session:** *Helene Gayle, MD, MPH, President and CEO, CARE USA (invited) [formerly director of Bill & Melinda Gates HIV/AIDS Foundation in Africa]*

### Breakout Sessions:

- a) Public health priorities: infectious disease & safe drinking water
- b) Globalization, trade and development
- c) Sustainable energy
- d) Risks to biodiversity & human health from invasive species

**Luncheon: Sponsored Poster Session**

## World Congress on Risk

June 8-11, 2008

*Registration Deadline: May 1*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees (includes breakfasts, breaks & Monday and Wednesday luncheons):**

\$350 *On/Before May 1*

\$425 *After May 1*

### WORKSHOPS – Sunday, June 8

\$225 *Workshop 1 – 1/2 day (Hassenzhal)*

\$300 *Workshop 2 – Full day (Moreno/Tarrago)*

\$250 *Workshop 3 – Full day (Haber/Meek/Zhao)*

\$245 *Workshop 4 – Full day (Mokhtari/Beaulieu)*

**NOTE:** Comparable amounts in pesos will be accepted on site during the meeting.

*Mail completed registration form to SRA Headquarters with check, purchase order or credit card information. You are considered registered when full payment or purchase order has been received.*

Visa  MasterCard  American Express

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Hotel Accommodations

The World Congress on Risk has arranged a special rate at the Hilton Guadalajara Hotel, a 356 room hotel, where World Congress events will take place. The Hilton Guadalajara hotel has 450 guestrooms with the most advanced technology available. It offers Five-Star services in each guestroom with two-line phones, data port, voice mail and wireless high-speed internet. The Hilton Guadalajara hotel offers Executive Floor rooms for guests wanting the utmost in privacy and amenities.

Located within business complex of the Guadalajara World Trade Center. As the winner of the Guest Service Award, it provides all the services and amenities expected of a full-service hotel.

**RATES:** Standard: Single/Double \$140 US  
Club: Single/Double \$160 US

Please note that this rate includes taxes.

Hilton Guadalajara Hotel  
Ave. de la Rosas 2933  
Guadalajara, Mexico 44540  
Tel: 52-33-3678-0505  
Fax: 52-33-3678-0557

To reserve your room, call National toll free 1- 800-364- 5800, or the Hilton Hotel directly at 52-33-3678- 0510 and ask for one of the following reservation agents: Micaela Trejo [mtrejo@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx](mailto:mtrejo@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx); Karla Escamilla [kescamilla@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx](mailto:kescamilla@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx); Adriana Alcazar [aalcazar@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx](mailto:aalcazar@hiltonguadalajara.com.mx). You may also reserve online directly at: [www.guadalajara.hilton.com](http://www.guadalajara.hilton.com) or via email at one of the addresses above by May 4. Be sure to identify yourself as a SRA World Congress attendee to receive the group rate.

## Hilton Guadalajara Hotel

Ave. de la Rosas 2933  
Guadalajara, Mexico 44540

Tel: 52-33-3678-0505; Fax: 52-33-3678-0557

Check In Time: 3:00 PM – Check Out Time: 1:00 PM

Standard: Single/Double \$140 US  
Club: Single/Double \$160 US

*Room rates include taxes.*

Reservation must be received and guaranteed by May 4, 2008 with one of the following:

- An enclosed check or money order covering the first night's stay.  
Amount of Check/Money Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

- Major credit card with an expiration date and an authorized signature.

Deposits will be refunded only if cancellation notification is received at least 2 weeks (14 days) prior to arrival.

**Reservations must be received by May 4, 2008.** Reservations received after this date will be on a space and rate available basis. Rates are valid from 6-13 June. Rates subject to availability before and after these dates.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing Room With: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Depart. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Room Type :  Smoking  Non-Smoking  
 Queen  2 Double Beds

**Accommodations for the Disabled:** The Hilton Guadalajara has equipment and services available. Please inform them of your needs prior to arrival.

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card:**  American Express  MasterCard  VISA  
 Diners Club  JCB

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please copy this form and mail or FAX your reservation to the Hotel address/FAX number above**