



Society for Risk Analysis New England Chapter

President's Message – August 2008

Dear SRA-NE Members:

I wanted to introduce myself as the President of SRA-NE for this upcoming year, and before we hit the dog days of summer, give you some important updates and ask for some key input.

First, I want to thank Donna and Sandy for doing a wonderful job over this past year, both organizing some excellent seminars and helping to steer SRA-NE in some very useful directions – I will certainly have big shoes to fill!

I also want to ask for your suggestions for seminar speakers or seminar topics for this year – I have a number of ideas, building on topics from past years but also introducing some topics that have not historically been well represented in the SRA-NE seminar series, but I obviously want to make sure that we select speakers and topics that would be of interest to the membership. Feedback regarding the timing of the seminars would also be helpful, both in terms of the number of seminars and their time of day. The default plan is to maintain the general timing and frequency from 2007-2008.

As a second point of business, as you know, the SRA Annual Meeting will be held in Boston from December 7-10, 2008. This will be a great opportunity for a good showing from SRA-NE members, and for SRA-NE to play a role in the Annual Meeting. One possibility would be for SRA-NE to be responsible for judging the poster session on Monday evening, December 8. This would give us nice visibility at the meeting, and has been offered up as a possibility by SRA. To do this, we would need approximately 6-8 volunteers who reasonably span the key disciplines typically represented at SRA. If you are interested in being involved, please e-mail me no later than August 22, 2008, indicating both your willingness to participate and the disciplinary areas you would feel comfortable judging. In the unlikely event that we have too many volunteers, I'll select people on a first-come first-served basis, until we have the key disciplines covered.

There is also an upcoming workshop on nano-materials organized by SRA; please see the attached flier.

Finally, don't forget to renew your membership to SRA-NE! The renewal form is enclosed below; it can also be downloaded from www.sra-ne.org. Furthermore, in the spirit of expanding our membership, please forward this letter to colleagues who may be interested in the activities of SRA-NE (including, for those in academic settings, graduate students and post-doctoral researchers).

Thanks for your attention, and have a wonderful rest of the summer.

Jon Levy

PRESIDENT (2008-2009)

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Society for Risk Analysis New England Chapter

MEMBERSHIP FORM: 2008-2009

PLEASE Print Clearly, ESPECIALLY THE E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Date:

Name:

Mailing Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone:

Email address:

Employer:

Position:

Areas of Interest:

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Membership dues for SRA-NE are independent from the dues charges by the National Society for Risk Analysis. Your SRA-NE dues support the activities of this chapter and pay for expenses relating to guest speakers.

Annual dues for SRA-NE are as follows:

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| \$15.00 | Regular Member |
| \$ 7.00 | Student Member |

Thank you for your interest and continuing support of the New England Chapter of SRA. Mail your membership application and payment to SRA-NE Treasurer at the address below. Please make checks payable to: Society for Risk Analysis - New England Chapter.

Arlene Levin  
Eastern Research Group  
110 Hartwell Avenue  
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Please RENEW for the 2008-2009 academic year! Thank you!

# Nano Risk Analysis:

## ***Advancing the Science for Nanomaterial Risk Management***

**10-11 September 2008      Washington, DC, USA**

*Organized by Society for Risk Analysis, Emerging Nanoscale Materials Specialty Group*

### **Purpose**

This workshop brings together experts from diverse disciplines to evaluate how the field of risk analysis can address the considerable uncertainties currently associated with impacts from nanoscale materials and nanotechnologies. The rapidly expanding development and use of nanoscale materials has generated new challenges for the approaches historically applied to guide health, safety, and environmental protection. Unique properties of these materials could have significant implications for basic components of the traditional paradigm for informing risk management decisions: hazard identification, exposure and dose-response assessments, and risk characterization.

These properties may confound the accurate assessment of potential risks and could require changes in how these risks are communicated to stakeholders and managed by policymakers. *NanoRisk Analysis* will bring together experts and others from the growing community interested in advancing the theory and practice for understanding and managing risks of these emerging materials. Workshop objectives are two-fold:

- ❖ Identify *integrated risk analysis approaches* to address the unique challenges posed by nanotechnology and nanomaterials.
- ❖ Enhance and establish *collaborative networks* to advance the science and understanding of nanomaterials.

### **Participants**

This workshop will convene experts in risk analysis, nanotechnology, environmental science, communication, and policy, as well as key stakeholders and members of the public interested in risk analysis, public health, communication, and nanotechnology.

### **Format**

A mix of invited presentations, panels, and deliberative breakout sessions will focus on unique aspects of the risks of nanoscale materials and risk analysis for these materials. Ideas for advancing the science regarding key aspects of risk analysis for these emerging materials will be developed in facilitated topical discussions. The workshop is open to the public. To register, visit: [www.sra.org](http://www.sra.org).

### **Themes**

Topical white papers developed for the workshop will provide the foundation for deliberations on: material characterization, exposure assessment, toxicology and dose-response assessment, uncertainty analysis, risk characterization (including risk reduction benefits of nanotechnology), and risk communication.

## Schedule

*Day one: plenary overview and panels.* An introductory plenary presentation will anchor targeted presentations and panel discussions on specific white papers prepared by experts in risk analysis and nanotechnology. The afternoon session will feature a round table debate on the scientific requirements to ensure the safety of nanomaterials in products.

*Day two: breakout sessions and integrated summary.* Interactive discussions will address core themes, including exposure assessment, toxicology, uncertainty analysis, risk communication, and risk/benefit tradeoffs. Session chairs will present plenary report-outs.

## Products

The topical white papers and deliberative discussions will be integrated into a publication series, intended as a resource for researchers and others interested in risk analysis and nanotechnology.

## Location

*NanoRisk Analysis* will be held at the Cafritz Conference Center of George Washington University, 800 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20006. The Cafritz Conference Center is located on the third floor of the Marvin Center, and the main entrance is on 21st Street between H and I Streets.

## Sponsors

Sponsor:

- ❖ Emerging Nanoscale Materials Specialty Group, Society for Risk Analysis (SRA)

Co-sponsors:

- ❖ National Science Foundation
- ❖ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ❖ Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
- ❖ Women's Council for Energy and Environment
- ❖ International Life Sciences Institute- Health and Environmental Science Institute
- ❖ Johns Hopkins Institute for NanoBioTechnology

*Additional professional societies, governmental agencies, and industry groups are invited to co-sponsor this multi-organizational workshop.*

## Speakers Selected speakers include

- ❖ Ann Bostrom, PhD (Professor University of Washington)
- ❖ Rick Canady, PhD (Senior Science Policy Analyst, FDA Nanotechnology Task Force)
- ❖ Kristen Kulinowski, PhD (Director, International Council on Nanotechnology, Rice University)
- ❖ Garrick Louis, PhD (Professor, University of Virginia)
- ❖ Andrew Maynard, PhD (Science Advisor, Project on Emerging Nanotech, Woodrow Wilson Center)
- ❖ Peter Preuss, PhD (Director, EPA National Center for Environmental Assessment)
- ❖ Nancy Rachman, PhD (Senior Director, Grocery Manufacturers Association)
- ❖ Lorraine Sheremeta, JD (Research Officer, National Institute for Nanotechnology, Canada)
- ❖ Nigel Walker, PhD (Lead, Nanotechnology Safety Initiative, National Toxicology Program)

## Contact

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