Conference Program

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Location: Resources for the Future, First Floor Conference Center, 1616 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20036, phone: 202-238-5000
Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for joining us!

On behalf of the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) and Resources for the Future (RFF), I’m pleased to welcome you to the “New Ideas for Risk Regulation” conference. We look forward to thoughtful and insightful discussion of numerous ideas for improving regulatory development and analysis. This conference is particularly timely given the new Administration’s interest in innovation, as illustrated by President Obama’s request for comment on a new Executive Order on regulatory review.

The conference focuses on regulating environmental, health, safety, and security risks, and considers the national and international role of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The following pages provide an overview of the conference program followed by the detailed agenda, as well as Internet links for biographical information on the speakers and moderators.

SRA (www.sra.org) is a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, scholarly, international society that provides an open forum for all those who are interested in risk analysis. Risk analysis is broadly defined to include risk assessment, risk characterization, risk communication, risk management, and policy relating to risk, in the context of risks of concern to individuals, to public and private sector organizations, and to society at a local, regional, national, or global level.

RFF (www.rff.org) improves environmental and natural resource policymaking worldwide through objective social science research of the highest caliber. It is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that conducts independent research – rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences – on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public health issues.

The conference video, as well as downloadable copies of the slides and papers from many sessions, will be posted on the event website in late June (http://www.rff.org/Events/Pages/New-Ideas-for-Risk-Regulation.aspx). We will also provide a conference summary later this summer, and the December 6-9, 2009 SRA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland (http://www.sra.org/events_2009_meeting.php) will feature related sessions. Selected articles based on the conference presentations will be published in SRA’s journal, Risk Analysis, in 2010.

We look forward to an interesting and thought-provoking discussion.

Best,
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair
(Lisa.A.Robinson@comcast.net)
New Ideas for Risk Regulation

OVERVIEW

Monday, June 22, 2009

8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:15 Welcome and Overview
9:15-10:45 Panel 1 - OIRA Domestically: Towards Better Regulation
10:45-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Panel 2 - OIRA Internationally: Towards Global Cooperation
12:30-2:00 Lunch Speaker: Sally Katzen
2:00-3:30 Panel 3 - Regulating Highly Uncertain and Potentially Catastrophic Risks
3:30-3:45 Break
3:45-5:15 Panel 4 - Integrating Risk Assessment and Risk Management
5:15-6:30 Reception

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:15 Welcome and Overview
9:15-10:45 Panel 5 - What does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? Positive and Normative Justifications
10:45-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Panel 6 - Beyond Efficiency: Incorporating Equity in Regulatory Analysis
12:30-2:00 Lunch Speaker: Paul Portney
2:00-3:30 Panel 7 - Do We Know What We Prefer? Implications of Behavioral Economics for Research on Preferences
3:30-3:45 Break
3:45-5:15 Panel 8 – Concluding Roundtable: The Future of Regulatory Oversight
5:15 Adjourn
New Ideas for Risk Regulation

DETAILED AGENDA

Monday, June 22, 2009

8:30-9:00  Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:15  Welcome and Overview
Mark Cohen, Resources for the Future
Jonathan Wiener, Society for Risk Analysis
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair

9:15-10:45  Panel 1 - OIRA Domestically: Towards Better Regulation
The advent of a new Administration provides an opportunity to reconsider the regulatory development process. This panel will focus on OIRA’s role in prompting and reviewing domestic regulations as well as its requirements for regulatory analysis, reflecting the views of those who have worked within OIRA, interacted with OIRA as agency representatives, and studied OIRA’s legal authority and effectiveness.

Arthur Fraas, Resources for the Future (Moderator)
“Analysis on the 17 Most Political Acres on Earth”
Donald Arbuckle, University of Texas
“OIRA: What's It Good For?”
Donald Elliott, Yale University, Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher LLP
“Using Regulatory Impact Analyses to Inform Regulatory Decisions”
Richard Williams, George Mason University
“Defragmenting the Regulatory Process”
Stuart Shapiro, Rutgers University

10:45-11:00  Break

11:00-12:30  Panel 2 - OIRA Internationally: Towards Global Cooperation
As nations work to improve the quality of their policies and legislation, there are substantial opportunities for mutual learning. This panel will explore the successes and failures of U.S., E.U., and other regulatory reform efforts, highlight opportunities to learn from other’s policy innovations, and examine options for increasing international cooperation in evaluating and improving the quality of each nation’s policies and laws.

Dominic Mancini, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (Moderator)
“Better Regulation in the EU: Learning by Doing”
Marianne Klingbeil, European Commission
“Transatlantic Regulatory Impact Assessment: Tomorrow's Dream or Realization”
Alberto Alemanno, HEC Paris
“Fostering Quality Regulation for the 21st Century”
Stephane Jacobzone, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
“Toward a Global Policy Laboratory”
Jonathan Wiener, Duke University
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DETAILED AGENDA

Monday, June 22, 2009 (continued)

12:30-2:00  Lunch
Moderator: John Morrall, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (retired)
Speaker: "Which Way the Political Winds Are Blowing"
Sally Katzen, Podesta Group

2:00-3:30  Panel 3 - Regulating Highly Uncertain and Potentially Catastrophic Risks
Risks that are highly uncertain but potentially catastrophic, such as climate change,
terrorism, or natural disasters, provide special challenges for regulators. Difficult issues
include determining the effects of regulations on the likelihood of catastrophic outcomes, the
ways in which government agencies should address the associated fear, the extent to which
regulations should be precautionary, and the appropriate roles of the public and private
sectors.

Jennifer Baxter, Industrial Economics, Incorporated (Moderator)
“The Five Neglects: Risks Gone Amiss”
Richard Zeckhauser, Harvard University
“Duty to Inform When All Hell Could Break Loose”
Baruch Fischhoff, Carnegie Mellon University
“Considering Risk in Developing a Regulatory Response to Climate Change”
Mort Webster, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
“At War with the Weather and Other Extreme Events”
Howard Kunreuther, University of Pennsylvania

3:30-3:45  Break

3:45-5:15  Panel 4 - Integrating Risk Assessment and Risk Management
Better integration of science, economics, and decisionmaking has long been a significant
concern in regulation. Most recently, the National Research Council report, Science and
Decisions: Advancing Risk Assessment, made several recommendations for changing how
these issues are addressed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These
recommendations, as well as preceding proposals and newer ideas for fundamental change,
have significant implications for how environmental and numerous other risks are assessed
and regulated.

Kara Morgan, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (Moderator)
“Assessing and Managing Risk: First Things First”
Gail Charnley, HealthRisk Strategies
“Integration of Risk Assessment and Risk Management: The Need for Caution”
Bernard Goldstein, University of Pittsburgh
“Solution-Focused Risk Assessment: Reversing the ‘Red Book’ Relationship”
Adam Finkel, University of Pennsylvania
“Risk Assessment and the Behavioral Science of Economics”
Sandra Hoffmann, Resources for the Future

5:15-6:30  Reception
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DETAILED AGENDA

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:15 Welcome and Overview
Jonathan Wiener, Society for Risk Analysis
Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future
Lisa Robinson, Conference Chair

9:15-10:45 Panel 5 - What does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? Positive and Normative Justifications
While benefit-cost analysis has long been the dominant method for assessing regulatory impacts, its focus on individual preferences and on monetary valuation of nonmarket benefits has been the subject of some debate. This panel will discuss the role of benefit-cost analysis as a positive or normative framework. It will also consider alternatives to benefit-cost analysis, including cost-effectiveness analysis and utilitarian decision analysis, as aids to decision-making.

Joseph Cordes, George Washington University (Moderator)
“Positive and Normative Justifications for Benefit-Cost Analysis”
James Hammitt, Harvard University
“Prospects for Utilitarian Decision Analysis”
Jonathan Baron, University of Pennsylvania
“Self-Selection in Cost-Effectiveness Analysis”
David Meltzer, University of Chicago
“What Does Benefit-Cost Analysis Tell Us? What are the Alternatives to BCA?”
Maureen Cropper, Resources for the Future

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 Panel 6 - Beyond Efficiency: Incorporating Equity in Regulatory Analysis
While Federal agencies have been required to consider the distributional impacts of their regulatory actions for many years, these effects are not subject to the same sort of rigorous assessment as economic efficiency. This session will discuss how to improve consideration of distributional impacts and equity.

Kelly Maguire, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Moderator)
“Six Pathways for Distributional Effects of Environmental Policy”
Don Fullerton, University of Illinois
“Incorporating Equity Metrics into Regulatory Review”
Matthew Adler, University of Pennsylvania
“Avoiding the Normatively Ideal with the Positively Good”
Scott Farrow, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
“When Injustice? Relevant Inequalities and How We Should Address Them”
Wilhelmine Miller, George Washington University
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DETAILED AGENDA

Tuesday, June 23, 2009 (continued)

12:30-2:00  
Lunch
Moderator: Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future
Speaker: “Benefit-Cost Analysis and Common Sense: Friends or Foes?”
    Paul Portney, University of Arizona

2:00-3:30  
Panel 7 - Do We Know What We Prefer? Implications of Behavioral Economics for Research on Preferences
Nonmarket benefits of regulatory policies, including reduced risks to human health and the environment, are often valued using stated or revealed preference methods. However, work by behavioral economists has challenged the assumptions that underlie these methods, suggesting that individual preferences often diverge from the standard tenets of rational choice. This panel will consider diverse perspectives on this problem.

James Hammitt, Harvard University (Moderator)
“The Implications of Behavioral Economics for Stated Preference Research”
    Alan Krupnick, Resources for the Future
“How are Preferences Revealed?”
    David Laibson, Harvard University
“Six Nagging Questions in Preference Elicitation”
    Jason Shogren, University of Wyoming
“Whose Preferences Should We Use?”
    David Schkade, University of California, San Diego

3:30-3:45  
Break

3:45-5:15  
Panel 8 – Concluding Roundtable: The Future of Regulatory Oversight
This concluding session will invite former OIRA and government agency officials and leading scholars to reflect on the results of the conference, discuss the implications of the presentations, and identify the key issues to be addressed in the future.

Jonathan Wiener, Duke University (Moderator)
John Graham, Indiana University
Michael Livermore, New York University
Richard Morgenstern, Resources for the Future
Rena Steinzor, University of Maryland
Richard Zerbe, University of Washington

5:15  
Adjourn
New Ideas for Risk Regulation

LIST OF PANELISTS

Matthew Adler (University of Pennsylvania):
http://www.law.upenn.edu/cf/faculty/madler/

Alberto Alemanno (HEC Paris):
http://www.hec.fr/Professeurs/Liste-alphabetique/Alemanno

Donald Arbuckle (University of Texas):
http://www.utdallas.edu/~donald.arbuckle

Jennifer Baxter (Industrial Economics, Incorporated):
http://www.indecon.com/iec_Web/mainmenu/profile.asp#baxter

Jonathan Baron (University of Pennsylvania):
http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~baron/

Gail Charnley (HealthRisk Strategies):
http://www.healthriskstrategies.com/

Mark Cohen (Resources for the Future):

Joseph Cordes (George Washington University):
http://www.gwu.edu/~tspppa/faculty/cordes.cfm

Maureen Cropper (Resources for the Future):

Donald Elliott (Yale Law School, Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher LLP):
http://www.policyintegrity.org/about/AdvisoryBoard.html

Scott Farrow (University of Maryland, Baltimore County):
http://www.umbc.edu/economics/faculty_cv/SFumbcCV.pdf

Adam Finkel (University of Pennsylvania):
http://www.law.upenn.edu/cf/faculty/afinkel/

Don Fullerton (University of Illinois):
http://works.bepress.com/don_fullerton/

Baruch Fischhoff (Carnegie Mellon University):
http://www.hss.cmu.edu/departments/sds/src/faculty/fischhoff.php

Arthur Fraas (Resources for the Future):

Bernard Goldstein (University of Pittsburgh):
http://www.pitt.edu/~bdgold/
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LIST OF PANELISTS (continued)

John Graham (Indiana University):
http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/faculty/graham-johnd.shtml

James Hammitt (Harvard University):
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/faculty/james-hammitt/

Sandra Hoffmann (Resources for the Future):

Stephane Jacobzone (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development)
http://www.oecd.org/regreform

Sally Katzen (Podesta Group):
http://www.podesta.com/biopages/SallyKatzen.htm

Marianne Klingbeil (European Commission):
http://ee.europa.eu/governance/better_regulation

Howard Kunreuther (University of Pennsylvania):
http://opimweb.wharton.upenn.edu/people/faculty.cfm?id=37

Alan Krupnick (Resources for the Future):

David Laibson (Harvard University):
http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/laibson

Michael Livermore (New York University):
http://www.policyintegrity.org/about/staff.html

Kelly Maguire (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency):
http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/webpages/Staff.html

Dominic Mancini (U.S. Office of Management and Budget)

David Meltzer (University of Chicago):
http://harrisschool.uchicago.edu/faculty/web-pages/david-meltzer.asp

Wilhelmine Miller (George Washington University):
http://www.gwume.edu/sphhs/faculty/miller_wilhelmine.cfm

Kara Morgan (U.S. Food and Drug Administration)

Richard Morgenstern (Resources for the Future):
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LIST OF PANELISTS (continued)

John Morrall (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, retired)

Paul Portney (University of Arizona):
http://econ.arizona.edu/faculty/portney.asp

Lisa Robinson (Independent Consultant)
http://regulatory-analysis.com/

David Schkade (University of California, San Diego):
http://management.ucsd.edu/faculty/directory/schkade/

Stuart Shapiro (Rutgers University):
http://policy.rutgers.edu/faculty/shapiro/

Jason Shogren (University of Wyoming):
http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/shogren/

Rena Steinzor (University of Maryland):
http://www.law.umaryland.edu/faculty/profiles/faculty.html?facultynum=118

Mort Webster (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):
http://esd.mit.edu/Faculty_Pages/webster/webster.htm

Jonathan Wiener (Duke University):
http://www.law.duke.edu/fac/wiener/

Richard Williams (George Mason University):
http://mercatus.org/PeopleDetails.aspx?id=17136

Richard Zeckhauser (Harvard University):
http://ksghome.harvard.edu/~rzeckhauser/

Richard Zerbe (University of Washington):
http://evans.washington.edu/faculty-staff/bios/current-hz/zerbe