

BI Centre for risk and insurance research

13 February 2009

Societal risks and risk society:
a cross-disciplinary and cross-stakeholder dialogue perspective
Samrisk networking project

Seminar Invitation and Call for papers
Interdisciplinary perspectives on societal risk
1st seminar (out of five) 24th – 25th April 2009

Target groups:

Groups, professionals and academics, in Norway, Scandinavia and overseas, with an interest in a broad and interdisciplinary understanding of risk and risk management, or more specifically:

- Typical target groups of the BI Centre for risk and insurance research i.e. the insurance industry and its professionals, for example actuaries and insurance lawyers; insurance customers
- Typical business school target groups: business and consultancy professionals
- Typical target groups of the Norwegian Samrisk programme, that is mainly public sector, non-profit and for profit sector individuals with large societal risk management responsibilities
- Active researchers in the interdisciplinary field of risk and risk management with interest in knowledge sharing, networking and perhaps future research cooperation with colleagues
- PhD students with interest in risk and risk management research are welcome to participate.¹

Seminar structure:

For a detailed programme draft see below.

- The first part of the seminar consists of *keynote lectures* by international experts in the field of risk, meeting the needs and interests of the whole range of target groups mentioned above.
- The second part of the seminar is dedicated to presentation and discussion of papers about research in progress.

¹ About formal conditions for obtaining course credits you'd need to consult with your supervisor and with Jens O. Zinn for conditions (a list of mandatory and recommended readings is available)

Suggested focus for the seminar (by Jens Zinn)

The Samrisk programme, of which our network building project is a part, puts forward topics such as vulnerability of societal infrastructure, humanitarian relief and international coordination, man-made accidents, international threats to public health, terrorism, as examples which should be focused on (cf.

www.forskningsradet.no/samrisk).

A key purpose of this first seminar is to set an agenda for all five network meetings, by discussing common themes of the Samrisk programme, promises made in our application, and the special interests and perspectives of the participating individuals and their diverse working contexts and disciplines. This meeting will begin an exploration of possible interdisciplinary contributions to understanding societal risk management, taking stock of state of the art knowledge in behavioural biology, psychology, risk governance and regulation, risk communication, law, economics and sociology, to set the stage for further workshops on specific topics such as law, insurance, and risk communication).

Practical information:

- The seminar takes place at the Norwegian School of Management BI, in Oslo. For information about how to get there see http://www.bi.no/Content/Article_____62986.aspx . You can also “explore our modern campus” on http://www.bi.no/Content/Article_____66381.aspx
- Participation at the meeting as such is free for presenters of papers. Non-presenters from the industry and from public administration are asked for a voluntary contribution of minimum 1500 NOK.
- Each participant has to cover her/his own travel, overnight stays and meals. Our business school has a special rate agreement with the following two hotels: <http://www.nydalen.radissonsas.com/> and at <http://www.thonhotels.no/stefan> (you need to book yourself; ask for the BI rate)
- To register use the following link <http://confirmit.bi.no/wix/p2636068.aspx>

Additional information:

For more information about the project as a whole see

http://www.bi.no/Content/Article_____66821.aspx, about the Samrisk programme financed by the Norwegian Research council see

<http://www.forskningsradet.no/servlet/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1228296552859&p=1228296552859&pagename=samrisk%2FHovedsidema>

- For seminar programme- and presentation-related questions (incl. PhD course credit questions) contact Jens Zinn, jzinn@unimelb.edu.au,
- for other questions re conference organization contact Magne Aarset, MAAA@hials.no,
- for questions related to our networking project as a whole contact Johannes Brinkmann, JB_project@bi.no.

Welcome to Oslo and to our seminar! (please feel free to forward this email to colleagues and PhD students who might be interested in attending!)

Dr. Johannes Brinkmann
Professor of business ethics and
Head of the BI centre of risk and insurance
research
Project coordinator

Dr. Jens O. Zinn
Head of the Risk and Uncertainty network,
European Sociological Association
Assoc. professor of sociology
University of Melbourne
Responsible for the seminar

Interdisciplinary perspectives on societal risk

Programme²

24th April 2009 (Friday):

Keynote lectures (addressing a broad range of target groups)

12:00-13.30 Registration/Lunch

13.30-14.00

Welcome (prof. Johannes Brinkmann, BI Oslo, assoc. prof. Jens O. Zinn, University of Melbourne)

14.00-15.00

Introduction: Risk in an Interdisciplinary Perspective (Jens O. Zinn)

15.00-16.00

Risk and Regulation (prof. Bridget Hutter, LSE, London)

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-17.30

Risk and the Insurance Industry (assoc. prof. Aaron Doyle, Carleton University Ottawa and BI)

17.30-18.30

Discussion – Risk from Interdisciplinary Perspectives - Differences and Similarities

18.45 Dinner

25th April 2009 (Saturday):

Workshop with paper presentations (open to all; focusing on dialogue and exchange between active researchers in the field)

9.30-11.00 Session stream I

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 Session stream II

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Panel discussion 'What have we learned?' - Planning for further activities

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-17.00 Introduction to the topics of next workshops

17.00 End of network meeting

² There is a risk of some minor adjustments, but within the time frames mentioned