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PREFACE

This is a collection of papers presented at the 1985 annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis. As always seems to occur at these meetings, the discussion was lively, the sessions were filled, and people complained about not being able to hear all the papers they wanted to because of concurrent sessions. If ever someone is in charge of a meeting, I wish them the good luck to have it be one for the Society for Risk Analysis.

While I was responsible for the meeting, it could not have taken place without the efforts of the general chairman, Alan Moshiszi. The program committee was chaired by Janice Longstreth, and included Lee Abramson and Vincent Covello. Together we assembled disparate papers into reasonably coherent sessions, prodded authors into getting us manuscripts on time, and dealt with all the last minute changes that are required for a major meeting.

The Washington chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis hosted the meeting. Dr. Longstreth was president of the chapter during this fateful year and deserves a great deal of thanks to her organizational skills and efforts. Rick Cothorn, Jerry Chandler, Kathleen Knox, Sue Perlin, and Paul Price played major roles in organizing the meeting and making it run smoothly. Special thanks go to Richard J. Burk, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Society, and his staff for handling the logistics.

The greatest debt is to the members of the Society for Risk Analysis who made this such a stimulating meeting, and to the authors of these papers. The intent was stimulation, keeping the intellectual pot boiling. I think that intent has been amply realized.

Lester B. Lave
Carnegie-Mellon University

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