

J Policy Group

THE ANNAPOLIS CENTER

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*promoting responsible environmental,
health, and safety decision-making*

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and safety decision-making . . .*

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Accomplishments

The Center has already developed and distributed a number of products that are making an impact on public policy decision-making:

- ***Risk Analysis.*** Under the direction of John Graham Ph.D., of the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis. The Center created, "*The Annapolis Accords for Risk Analysis: A Citizen's Guide for Risk-Assessment and Risk-Management*". These principles allow the lay public to ask fundamental questions about the completeness of a "scientific" study. These principles were mailed to journalists, Members of Congress and State officials. A number of states indicated that they would adopt the principles. The *Accords* are also used in college text books on risk assessment.
- ***Benefit-Cost Analysis in Environmental, Health, and Safety Regulation.*** Partnering with Resources For the Future (RFF) and the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), The Center sponsored a workshop that invited top economists from across the country to discuss the use and limitations of cost/benefit analysis. This project, chaired by Paul Portney of RFF and Robert Hahn of AEI, resulted in the document, "*Benefit-Cost Analysis in Environmental, Health, and Safety Regulation*". This document was the basis for a number of op-eds on the issue of cost/benefit analysis. The document was the basis for the next document:

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- ***The Annapolis Accords for Benefit-Cost Analysis.*** As a second leg of the method by which to evaluate a risk (risk analysis being the first), the Center developed a set of easy-to-understand principles on benefit-costs analysis. As with *The Annapolis Accords for Risk Analysis*, these principles assist the public in determining the completeness of a benefit/cost study.
- ***Reporting on Risk, A Handbook for Journalists and Citizens.*** For all of the discussion about risk analysis, many people do not understand what constitutes a risk, how a risk is measured, etc. Working with the Michigan Sea Grant and The Foundation for American Communications (FACS), the Center developed a handbook that explains the issue of risk for the non-scientist. The Center distributed over 5,000 copies of this primer to Members of Congress, Executive Branch officials, the media and the public.
- ***The PM Report: A Discussion of the Science for the U.S. EPA's Proposed Particulate Matter Rule.*** The Center conducted a critical examination of many of the scientific issues surrounding the PM 2.5 issue. The workshop's report, which was sent to over 2,000 journalists, all Members of Congress, and governors, was used to brief members of the Administration and Members of Congress.

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- ***Global Climate Change: Policy Making in the Context of Scientific and Economic Uncertainty.*** The Center conducted a critical examination of many of the scientific issues surrounding the issue of global climate change. This report, issued in October 1997, was sent to Members of Congress and members of the media.
- ***Annual Benefit Dinner and Award.*** In May of 1998, The Center honored Harvard Center for Risk Analysis Director John D. Graham, Ph.D. for his work in risk analysis and communications. In his speech, Dr. Graham stated, "I think this town we are in today has numerous single issue groups and single issue organizations, all of them intensely dedicated to particular outcomes. I think it's wonderful for The Annapolis Center to be one of those few organizations dedicated to improving the decision-making process, with more integrity and science driven."

In May of 1997, The Center honored ABC journalist John Stossel for his reporting on risk issues to the American public. Mr. Stossel's speech stressed to the over 200 scientists and opinion leaders in attendance the need for scientists to get involved in issues and for policy-makers to pay attention to the science underlying regulatory actions.

Also in 1998, the Center has held workshops on **epidemiology and potential health effects from climate change.**

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The Annapolis Center is a national nonprofit organization that supports and promotes responsible environmental, health and safety decision-making. The Center evaluates risk and cost-benefit analysis both to assist the public in understanding hazards and the relative risks they may present; and to identify areas for emphasis in research and policy. Through our *Annapolis Accords*, we can assist decision-makers, the media, and the judiciary to determine whether the science behind a potential hazard is adequate.

The Center was created in 1993. From its inception, The Annapolis Center has focused on the quality of science and education in evaluating potential hazards. The Center's decisions are based on quality science, not emotion. We will report our judgments on those hazards which require national concern, and we will work to see that the policy decisions which affect our future are made in a rational manner.

The Annapolis Center is supported by a combination of corporate, individual and foundation sources. *It is the policy of the Center to not accept restricted gifts for scientific studies.*

For more information on The Annapolis Center; or to order any of our products call (800) 408-1871 or visit us online at www.annapoliscenter.org.

The Annapolis Center is a 501 (C) 3 education organization.

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