



President's Message

*International System Safety Society President
Dr. Rodney Simmons*

Safety Education and the Future

The recent International System Safety Conference (ISSC) in Orlando, Florida, preceded by a two-day Executive Council (EC) meeting, can be judged a success on several aspects. Most importantly, for Conference attendees, there was the opportunity for learning from others, either by attending paper presentations, panel discussions or tutorials. As system safety professionals, we recognize the importance of continuing education as a way to add value to our employers and clients. Thanks to changes made in the way we run the tutorial program, I was able to attend a superb tutorial presented by Professor Chris Johnson, "Threat Management for the Cyber Security of Safety Critical Systems," and I recently received a PDF of my CEU certificate via email.

Several members of the EC had an informal meeting with Paul W. Hanley, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Safety), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment). Mr. Hanley was interested in learning how the Society could work with the Navy as it seeks to upgrade the skills of its employees.

As I mentioned during my address at the General Membership meeting, as well as during my closing address at the Awards Luncheon, the Society is now engaged with the College of Engineering at Arizona

State University, which has the largest undergraduate engineering enrollment in the U.S. and is ranked No. 1 by *U.S. News & World Report* in its "Most Innovative Schools" section for a project that could potentially

transform engineering education. In short, there is a growing realization on the part of academics and industry that if engineers want to be successful in improving the safety of the systems they are designing, maintaining and managing, they need a firm grounding in the basics of system safety. The Society, through the efforts of OVP for Engineering Education Charlie Hoes and OVP for Professional Development Russ Mitchell, is playing a key role in the development of curricular materials

to support this initiative.

The next ISSC will be held in August 2017 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It's time to start thinking of a paper that you'd like to deliver, or perhaps a tutorial that you'd like to present. The Society's members have a long history of giving back to the profession by presenting papers, teaching tutorials and participating as panelists. You can be an important part of that legacy! I'll see you in Albuquerque.

Best wishes,
Rod

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2017 INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM SAFETY CONFERENCE

The 35th International System Safety Conference will be held on **August 21-25, 2017** at the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town in Albuquerque, New Mexico. More information will soon be available at issc2017.system-safety.org, www.system-safety.org and future issues of *Journal of System Safety*.