Symposium on the Management of Systemic Risk in Finance (SMSR-F 2014)

Overview

This is the first in a series of symposia on systemic failures in four major domains:

- Finance
- Sustainable Energy and Environment
- Smart Infrastructure
- Healthcare

Experienced leaders from academia, industry, business, and regulatory agencies will promote discussion across the domains, exploring their interconnections.

Goals

The symposia are an opportunity to explore and understand systemic failures from a common systems engineering perspective.

Recent systemic failures such as the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, India’s power blackout, and the subprime market crisis have reminded us, once again, of the fragility of complex systems.

In each case, official postmortem inquiries were conducted and reports of the accidents were produced. Chemical engineers may study the BP oil spill report and the finance experts the subprime crisis report, but there is an important need to compare failures across different domains, to study their commonalities and differences in order to identify the mechanisms driving them. Understanding these mechanisms is essential if we are to avoid similar disasters in the future.

Such studies need to be carried out with public policy and regulatory experts and governmental agencies so that scientific, engineering, and human decision-making lessons are translated into effective policies and regulations.
**About the Center for the Management of Systemic Risk**

We conduct transdisciplinary research to understand and manage systemic risk in complex systems across technical, health, economic, and social domains. Our mission is to:

- Support research, education, and outreach programs on systemic risk modeling, analysis, control, and management
- Engage with researchers, practitioners, regulators, and policy makers on challenges important to society
- Focus on challenges in the domains of finance, sustainable energy and environment, healthcare, and smart infrastructure

We seek to improve the design, control, optimization, and management of systems to minimize systemic risk.

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| Registration (coffee and light breakfast) | 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. |
| Welcome and Opening Remarks | 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. |

**TECHNICAL SESSION I:**

Grand Challenges in Systemic Risk Management I

- **Nick Silitch**, Senior Vice President and Chief Risk Officer, Prudential Financial
- **Harry Mamaysky**, Head, Systemic Risk, Citi
- **Gregg Berman**, Associate Director, Office of Analytics & Research, SEC
- **Venkat Venkatasubramanian**, Professor, Co-Director CMSR, Columbia

Coffee Break 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Panel Discussion 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.
Lunch 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

**TECHNICAL SESSION II:**

Grand Challenges in Systemic Risk Management II

- **Andrew Lo**, Professor & Director, Laboratory for Financial Engineering, Sloan School of Management, MIT
- **Thomas Wipf, MD**, Global Head of Bank Resource Management, Morgan Stanley
- **Eric Reiner**, Independent Financial Consultant, former MD at UBS
- **Rick Bookstaber**, Research Principal, Office of Financial Research, Department of Treasury

Coffee Break 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Panel Discussion 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Wine and Cheese Reception 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.