SHEA Newsletter

Edited by Robert A. Weinstein, MD

The Society of Hospital Epidemiologists of America

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SHEA Board Meeting

The SHEA Board of Counselors and SHEA Committee Chairs held their annual new year planning meeting on Jan 21, 1989 in San Francisco. The current SHEA membership is approximately 500 and the Society remains solvent.

A Resource Development Committee, chaired by Dr. Richard Garibaldi, with Drs. Donald Goldmann, Peter Gross, and Walter Hierholzer as members, was formed. This group will be charged with seeking additional sources of corporate and foundation funding for society activities and developing revenue-generating programs and new initiatives. Members who might have special contacts or ideas for funding should contact Dr. Garibaldi.

Educational programs were singled out as the major focus of the Society. Upcoming activities were discussed. The SHEA/CDC training program will be held in Atlanta, March 29-31, 1989. The national meeting, which is jointly sponsored by SHEA and the journal, is scheduled for March 10-12, 1989 in Baltimore. Dr. Dennis Schaberg was appointed chairperson of an evaluation committee, which will include Drs. Glen Mayhall and Richard Garibaldi, to evaluate the Baltimore meeting and make recommendations regarding subsequent national meetings. The annual Society meeting and luncheon will be Tuesday, Sept 19, 1989, in Houston, Texas, during ICAAC. Finally, the Education Committee is looking at programs that will give the Society greater visibility on the national scene, including a possible West Coast course and cooperative programs with IDSA and APIC.

The Board agreed that the Society should foster the development of "position papers" dealing with critical issues in infection control and hospital epidemiology. A draft of a position paper on HIV-infected health care workers has been prepared by the APIC/SHEA AIDS Task Force and currently is being reviewed. The vice-president of the Society will chair a position paper committee to identify future topics for position papers and to distribute assignments. This new committee is chaired by Dr. Mayhall and will include Drs. Dennis Maki and Jeffrey Band. Members who have ideas for topical reviews or who want to help formulate position statements should contact Dr. Mayhall.

Dr. Bruce Hamory reported on the IDSA's Manpower Survey of Infectious Disease Specialists, which included a supplemental survey of SHEA members. The results currently are being analyzed. More than 20% of respondees from the

Please send me an application form and information about membership in The Society of Hospital Epidemiologists of America (SHEA). (Eligibility for membership requires a doctoral degree and either activity in hospital epidemiology or current participation in a training program in this field.)

My address is:
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Mail this request to Timothy R. Townsend, MD, SHEA Secretary, Brady 119, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 600 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore, MD 21205.

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general IDSA membershin noted that they spent significant time in infection control or hospital epidemiology. Most received compensation for their time. In addition to their work with infection control committees, IDSA members also spent a great deal of time on pharmacy and therapeutics committees and quality assurance activities.

The Publications Committee, chaired by Dr. William Scheckler, with members Drs. Eli Abrutyn, Walter Hierholzer, and Richard Dixon, is reviewing the status of our journal and analyzing our contract with SLACK, which is due for renewal in 1990.

Lorraine Harkavey, past-president of APIC, presented a report from APIC. She noted that CDC has discontinued, at least temporarily, its course for infection control practitioners. Consequently, APIC is developing its own week-long course for beginning infection control practitioners and will debut this course in Chicago in April.

IDSA Liaison Report

Dr. William Scheckler reported on the activities of the IDSA Clinical Affairs Committee. The IDSA Counsel has approved an official motion endorsing the planned regional Clinical Affairs Committee-sponsored course for infectious disease specialists, which will be held in San Diego, January 1990. The possibility of joint sponsorship between IDSA and SHEA for regional conferences is being explored.

SHEA Annual Luncheon Meeting

For those of you who like to plan ahead, please note that the SHEA Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Sept 19, 1989 during the ICAAC meetings in Houston, Texas. Further information regarding our annual meeting will be published in the *Newsletter* this summer.

SHEA Directory—Update

The SHEA directory is scheduled for republication in 1989. If your address or phone number is incorrect in, or has been omitted from the current directory, please notify Dr. Timothy Townsend, SHEA Secretary, of your corrections as soon as possible.

SHEA Associates—The Cost-Effective Approach

SHEA encourages infectious diseases fellows to join its ranks and receive the journal as *Associate Members.* Infectious disease fellows wishing to take advantage of this reduced-rate category for trainees should contact SHEA secretary, Dr. Timothy Townsend, Brady 119, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 600 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore, MD 21205.

Brief items of interest for the SHEA Newsletter may be sent to Robert A. Weinstein, MD, SHEA Newsletter Editor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Michael Reese Hospital, Lake Shore Drive at 31st St., Chicago, IL 60616. Copy must be typed, double-spaced, and may not exceed five pages.

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