SHEA Newsletter

Edited by Robert A. Weinstein, MD

The Society of Hospital Epidemiologists of America

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SHEA Board Meeting Summary

The SHEA Board met Saturday, January 30, 1988 in Orlando, Florida. This site was chosen to facilitate interactions with the board of the Association of Practitioners in Infection Control (APIC) which met in Orlando that weekend. On January 31, the joint SHEA-APIC AIDS Task Force also met. Timothy Townsend, MD, SHEA secretary and cochair of the joint AIDS Task Force, filed the following summaries of these two meetings.

As of December 31, 1987 the SHE.4 membership was 461. Because of' the new affiliation with the journal, *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, and the attendant new dues-subscription structure, the Board felt that it would be difficult to predict membership changes and finances for this coming, transitional year. SHEA may still need to seek outside funding, at least for the near future.

The issue of organizational liability has not yet been resolved satisfactorily, and Walter J. Hierholzer, Jr., MD will work with legal counsel on this matter.

An outline of' the SHEA/CDC course for hospital epidemiologists to be piloted in August 1988 in Atlanta, was presented (see below). Initial plans for a national conference focusing on the expanded role of the hospital epidemiologist were also discussed. It was agreed that a long-range planning committee consisting of past presidents of' SHEA will have its first meeting in spring 1988.

The Educational Committee has had a disappointingly limited response to calls for applications for the small grants program. The scope of that program will probably be curtailed in the future.

The SHEA and APIC presidents attended each other's board meetings to continue the open line of communication between the two organizations.

SHEA/APIC AIDS Task Force Meeting

The first joint venture between SHEA and APIC, the AIDS Task Force, reviewed its first year's activities:

- Members of the task force attended two meetings at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and one meeting at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- A joint resolution was developed to encourage state and local AIDS advisory committees to include infection control persons as committee members.
- In conjunction with the APIC Education Committee, an AIDS packet was revised and updated and is now available through the APIC national office.
- An educational brochure about AIDS and the health care worker was developed and is ready for distribution to SHEA and APIC members.
- A response to OSHA's Advanced Notice of' Proposed Rule Making was sent by APIC.

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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: (Please print) _____

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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