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SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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SHEA's Long-Term–Care Committee

Caroline Freer, Hanover, Pennsylvania, Nelson Gantz, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Sky Blue, Boise, Idaho, were introduced as new members to the SHEA Long-Term–Care Committee. David Bentley, Richard Garibaldi, Ellen Neuhaus, and Brenda Nurse rotated off the committee. Presently, an influenza position paper is the most advanced project of the committee. Initial work toward new position papers on TB and urinary tract infections in long-term–care facilities, as well as an update of papers dealing with antimicrobial use and resistance, will be undertaken through 1999.

Attendance at SHEA Annual Meeting

Have you thought about how to increase attendance at the Annual Meeting? The Dutch Working Group for Hospital Infection Epidemiology created a SHEA travel grant, sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry, for the best Dutch abstract to be presented at SHEA's Annual Meeting. Since the introduction of the award, the number of abstracts and participants from The Netherlands increased significantly. The award enables those to attend whose institutions are not in a position to cover their expenses. Could you propose a similar arrangement?

Mexican Society for Infection Control

The Mexican Society for Infection Control has more than 400 members. One of the SHEA News editors (Sigfrido Rangel-Frausto) is vice-president and president-elect of the society. The society's yearly meeting is held in September and usually is attended by 800 to 1,000 participants. Besides the annual meeting, the society has a monthly meeting in Mexico City, where infection control problems are discussed with guests from hospitals throughout the country. The society also provides leadership for policy making in the country and, with the Mexican Infectious Disease Society, organizes several other activities. Look forward to reading more about the Mexican and other South American infection control societies in one of this year's newsletters.

Spotted the Site?

Are you interested in molecular typing? The European Study Group on Epidemiological Markers (ESGEM) has set up an e-mail list for discussing issues related to molecular typing of nosocomial (and other) pathogens for epidemiological purposes. To get all information on the list, send an e-mail to majordomo@hospvd.ch, with the message "info epi-typing," or "subscribe epi-typing" if you want to subscribe.

Calendar

- March 21-24. Ninth European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Berlin, Germany. Info: berlin@cpo-hanser.de.
- April 14. Hospital Infection Society, Spring Meeting, Brighton, UK. Info: http://www.his.org/main.htm.
- April 15-16. Annual Meeting of the Society for Hospital Epidemiology of Switzerland (guest speakers Drs. Kassirer and Wenzel). Info: awidmer@uhbs.ch.
- April 18-20. SHEA Ninth Annual Scientific Meeting, San Francisco, California. Info: http://www.medscape.com/shea.
- May 19-21. European Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases' 17th Annual Meeting, Heraklion, Crete, Greece. Info: http://www.upatras.gr/conferences/espid99.
- May 30-June 3. ASM 99th General Meeting, Chicago, Illinois. Info: meetingsinfo@asmusa.org.
- June 6-10. Sixth Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Contact: info@eventsintl.com.
- Oct 29-Nov 2. SHEA/ESGNI Training Course, Ooghduyne, The Netherlands. Info: a.voss@mmb.azn.nl.

Brief items of interest for SHEA News or the SHEA Newsletter *may be sent to Andreas Voss, MD, PhD, Dept. of Medical Microbiology, University of Nijmegen, Postbus 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands; fax, 31-024-354-0216; e-mail, a.voss@mmb.azn.nl.*

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