SHEA members wishing to participate in planning or presenting this course should contact committee chairman, Donald Goldmann, MD. The group also noted that the Educational Activities Committee was anxious to help cosponsor regional educational conferences and that interested SHEA members should contact Dr. Goldmann.

The presidents' group reviewed the plans for the March 1989 SHEA/*IC&HE* national meeting and discussed the importance of broad membership participation and of encouraging SHEA members to submit abstracts for the poster sessions.

The group stressed that our liaison activities with a variety of other organizations need strengthening. Walter Hierholzer, Jr., MD, president-elect, will be recharging the liaisons and requesting that they make periodic formal reports to the membership through the *Newsletter.*

The group also thought that position papers on topics important to SHEA members need to be developed. 'The first will discuss the issue of the HIV-infected health care worker (see below).

Baltimore

Baltimore? March? It will be outstanding! SHEA and *IC&HE* are cosponsoring a conference entitled, "Hospital Epidemiology: New Challenges and Controversies." It is SHEA's first venture into the national meeting scene and should be a terrific offering. The presenters and discussants include many of our members and well-known experts on topics to be discussed (not mutually exclusive). However, in order for us to have a successful meeting, we need your help. We need you to come, attend the sessions, and join the discussion: you may consider presenting a poster if you want to participate more actively. An abstract form for the poster session appears on p. 528 of the journal. For additional registration information, please write to: Hospital Epidemiology: New Challenges and Controversies, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086-9447.

AIDS Task Force Position Paper

The SHEA/APIC AIDS Task Force has met three times this year. In addition, a working group met with the American Hospital Association (AHA) last month to discuss the problem of HIV-infected health care workers and is preparing a position paper on this issue. SHEA members who have developed hospital policies and procedures regarding HIV-infected health care workers or who have specific views that they would like to convey to the working group are exhorted to submit these to the current task force cochair. Timothy Townsend, MD, as soon as possible. (After January 1, the SHEA cochair of this task force will be Peter N.R. Heseltine. MD).

Liaison Report—Association for Practitioners in Infection Control (APIC)

Elizabeth Bolyard, 1988 APIC president, reported that APIC now has about 7,900 members. Among current APIC activities are a study of' the reliability of surveillance data; a survey on the reuse of disposables, with the aim of producing guidelines; and the joint AIDS task force, which is surveying APIC members about use of universal precautions.

Ms. Bolyard said that an APIC draft guideline on disinfection will appear in the *American Journal of Infection Control* in December. She hoped that SHEA members would review this draft and provide comments.

Ms. Bolyard noted that approximately 20% of APIC members are certified infection control practitioners but that only 200 have participated in the recent recertification examination. She suggested that hospitals consider reimbursing infection control clinicians for the expense of' the recertification examination.

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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