

# APIC

Association for Professionals in  
Infection Control and Epidemiology

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## **Dear Members:**

Our May education meeting featured Karen Thomas from Evanston Hospital discussing bariatric surgery. This is a relatively new type of surgery and poses a number of potential issues. Kay O'Connor provided some insight into the care of this patient population.

The national meeting featured Dr. Julie Geberding as the keynote speaker. Dr. Geberding discussed the importance of infection control professionals as the world becomes smaller and diseases travel from one area to another in record time.

There were a number of presentations by our members at the National Conference. Abstract posters were presented by: Connie Cutler, Karen Martin, Beth Beck, Cathy Paulus, Teresa Chou. Oral abstracts were presented by: Sylvia Garcia-Houchins, Grace Alcasid, Mary Beth Fry, Robin Larson and Anne Malloy. Congratulations to all our presenters.

**National News:** Kathy Wayre, APIC executive director announced that APIC would be looking to work with the CDC and CMS to develop a national hospital infection reporting structure and to identify criteria and definitions.

The new national APIC web site was debuted. The web site is easier to navigate and can grow with our organization. Take the time to go on line and check it out [www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org). The APIC text has been updated and will be available sometime late this summer. Once again the text is available in hard copy and on computer disc. The education committee announced that they are planning to introduce more e-learning opportunities this year. The CBIC board conducted a survey to determine members' interest in obtaining advance certification. CBIC will publish the results at a future date. The Treasurers report showed a favorable bottom line.

Membership has not shown any growth over the past year and the executive director announced that one of her goals is to identify opportunities to increase our membership.

The national office has restructured and there will be another position developed to work with Jennifer Thomas on public policy.

The national board also announced an increase in membership dues for 2005. The dues will be increase to \$150.00. The board sited that an increase in national dues had not taken place in a number of years and that the increase was due in part to inflation and decreasing membership.

The Research Foundation of National APIC recognized our chapter at the annual conference for being the largest donator. Chicago APIC donated \$2000 at the BD booth to ensure that it would be part of the vendor match.

A number of national membership awards, grants and scholarships are available to members. Chicago APIC sponsors scholarships for CBIC verification\re-certification and for registration to the annual conference. If you are interested please contact a member of the board.

National APIC lobbied OSHA's recent decision to apply the General Industry Respiratory Protection Standard to respiratory protection against TB, APIC has sent an official letter to OSHA Administrator John Henshaw and is expecting a response from OSHA that may mean a delay in enforcement of the TB standard and fit-testing. APIC will post any response from OSHA on the web.

**Willingness to Serve:**

Are you interested in serve as a board member or on one of the chapter committees? Working on the Board can be a great challenge and a lot of fun. If you are interested please contact any of the board members for more information.

**Programs being offered:**

Zoonosis and Infection Control – Brookfield Zoo registration 11:30, sign up with Robin Larson([rlarson@uic.edu](mailto:rlarson@uic.edu))

Managing SARS and Other Infectious Diseases by Design, July 15 at MCHC and July 16 Springfield Memorial Hospital.

**Positions Available:**

There are open Infection Control Positions at Central Dupage hospital, Resurrection hospital and Weiss hospital.

Opportunities for Infection Control – Contact Jim Brown ([jbrown@galileosearch.com](mailto:jbrown@galileosearch.com)) and Erin Caruso has more opportunities ([erincarus@verizon.net](mailto:erincarus@verizon.net)).

**Mark your Calendar:** October 15,2004 - the Annual Chicago APIC Infection Control Update and Educational Event. December 1, 2004 - the Chicago APIC Business Meeting.

Sincerely:  
Carol Schultz