EDITED BY ANDREAS VOSS, MD, PHD WILLIAM R. JARVIS, MD

SHEA News

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Annual Meeting—Important Dates

November 1, 2000: Electronic submission of abstracts began.

January 8, 2001: All abstracts must be submitted by this date. No changes can

be made to your abstract after this date.

March 1, 2001: Last date to register for the conference and make your hotel reservation.

Franz Daschner, MD, Receives Award

One of SHEA's first foreign members, Franz Daschner, director of the Institute of Environmental Medicine and Hospital Epidemiology at the University Hospital in Freiburg, Germany, has won the highest award for environmental protection in Europe. The \$250,000 award from the

Federal German Environment Foundation was presented by the Federal President. Franz Daschner was honored for his efforts and achievements combining nosocomial infection control, cost-saving, and reduction of environmental pollution. He is the first doctor to be awarded the prize.

UK Surveillance Report

Reports from the Nosocomial Infection National Surveillance Scheme, which contain the aggregated data collected by 147 English hospitals that participated in the surveillance of surgical-site infection or hospital-acquired bacteremia between 1997 and 1999, are now available on the PHLS web-site publications: http://www.phls.co.uk/publications/index.htm.

Collaborations to Improve Healthcare Quality

The efforts of SHEA and the Health Care Division of the American Society for Quality to collaborate resulted in a jointly sponsored Health Care Quality Special Interest Group, composed of more than 40 members from six countries. Members of this special interest group have organized a symposium entitled "Collaborations to Improve Health Care Quality," which will take place in Toronto, Ontario, Canada,

during SHEA's next annual meeting. Objectives of this symposium are to inform participants of progress and future plans in collaborative initiatives for health-care quality improvement, as well as new funding and applied research programs, and to provide an opportunity to build networks. For more information, please contact David Birnbaum at brnbaum@interchange.ubc.ca.

Calendar

Jan 9-11. International Symposium on Mycobacterial Diseases: Pathogenesis, Protection, and Control. Calcutta, India. Info: www.boseinst.ernet.in.

Mar 26-28. 19th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases. Eilat, Israel. Info: espid2001@kenes.com.

Apr 1-3. SHEA's 11th Annual Scientific Meeting. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Info: www.shea-online.org.

Apr 1-4. 11th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. Istanbul, Turkey. Info: www.akm.ch/eccmid.

May 7-9. Directions for Success: Evidence-Based Health Care. Tucson, AZ. Info: cardena sanson.m@ghc.org.

May 20-24. 101st ASM General Meeting. Orlando, FL. Info: www.asmusa.org.

Jun 30-Jul 3. 22nd International Congress of Chemotherapy. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info: icc@eurocongres.com.

Sep 22-25. 41st International Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. Chicago, IL. Info: www.asmusa.org.

Oct 14-17. Resistance to Antimicrobial Agents. Cannes, France. Info: omega@omega studio.com.

Brief items of interest for the 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.