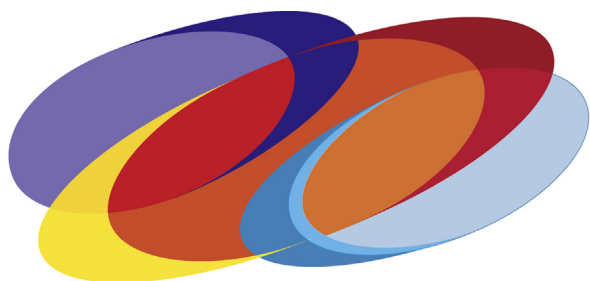




Message from APIC

Innovation and research at the forefront of the 43rd Annual Conference



APIC 2016

June 11-13 • Charlotte, NC

The APIC Annual Conference is most comprehensive infection prevention conference in the world, presenting leading infection prevention experts, cutting-edge education, the largest exhibit hall dedicated to infection prevention, and vibrant networking events. In 2016 the conference will take place in the easily accessible and charming southern city of Charlotte, North Carolina, June 11-13.

APIC 2016 will feature a full slate of plenary sessions headlined by innovative thought leaders. Opening keynote speaker Stephen J. Dubner is an award-winning author and journalist best-known as co-author of the *Freakonomics* series of books and podcasts. Dubner will speak about applying *Freakonomics*-style unconventional analysis to infection prevention, and how infection preventionists can “think like freaks” to improve their infection prevention programs and reduce healthcare-associated infections.

Dr. William Rutala, a renowned expert in the field of disinfection, sterilization, and antisepsis, will also lead a plenary session on the latest breakthroughs, current issues, and new research. Dr. Rutala, professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and director and co-founder of the Statewide Program for Infection Control and Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina (UNC) School of Medicine, also serves as the director of the Hospital Epidemiology, Occupational Health and Safety Program for the UNC Health Care System.

Closing keynote speaker Josh Linkner, a renowned tech entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and bestselling author, is an authority

on fostering creativity, entrepreneurship and disruptive innovation. Linkner will offer fascinating insight on the risks that companies face when they rely on the past to determine the future, as well as valuable tools and techniques for fostering innovation, creativity and disruption within one's organization.

Creative problem solving—and how it supports the role of infection preventionists as change agents in varied practice settings—is also a common educational theme for 2016. Sessions such as *Jedi Mind Tricks to Create Change and Increase Compliance*, *Centralization of Surveillance for a Hospital System: A Boon to the Bane of Infection Preventionists' Existence*, and *Can We Fix It? Yes We Can!: Building and Maintaining an Infection Prevention Practice During a Major Demolition Project*, are just a few of the 80+ sessions offering practical tools, best practices, case studies, and innovative strategies for IPs to engage and involve healthcare staff and leadership.

Cutting edge research is an integral component of the conference, which will feature 150+ peer-reviewed abstracts and poster presentations. The global growth of scientific publishing will be profiled in a special session entitled *Publishing Goes Global*. The editors of three journals—*American Journal of Infection Control*, *Journal of Infection Prevention*, and the *Canadian Journal of Infection Control*—will deliver a unique presentation on the subject of scientific publishing in the field of infection prevention and control that will illustrate the growth in the number of international submissions and the relevance and value of publishing for the practice of infection prevention.

The official APIC 2016 Annual Conference Call for Abstracts is now open and runs through **December 14, 2015**. The APIC 2016 Annual Conference Committee invites attendees to present research papers and educational presentations of scientific quality in the areas of infection prevention and control, healthcare, epidemiology, and related fields.

Abstracts are peer-reviewed for quality of research, educational or scientific content, logical presentation, and impact on infection prevention, infection control and related fields. Accepted abstracts are scheduled as either poster or oral presentations and published as a supplement in the June 2016 issue of the *American Journal of Infection Control*.

By submitting an abstract, the author(s) acknowledges that the abstract has not been previously published in another copyrighted journal and agrees that the abstract will be presented as scheduled, if accepted.

For more information on abstract submission requirements, please review the official 2016 Call for Abstracts on the conference website at ac2016.site.apic.org/education/call-for-abstracts/.

Learn more about the 2016 APIC Annual Conference at www.apic.org/apic2016.