

Increasing the value of the IP



BY KATRINA CRIST, MBA, CAE, APIC CEO

“APIC’s strategy for collecting data about the IP profession came to fruition recently with the first published paper from the *MegaSurvey* in the *American Journal of Infection Control (AJIC)* providing the methodology and overview of the findings.”

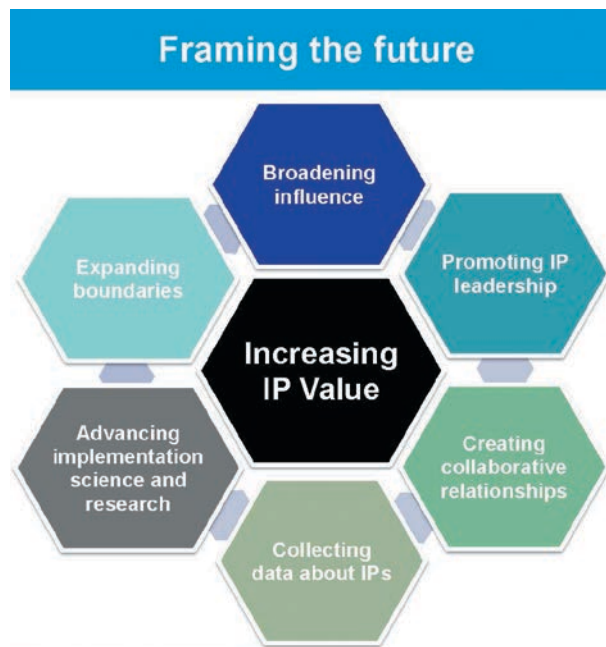
APIC HAS SIX overarching strategies to increase the value of the infection preventionist (IP) over the next few years, as illustrated in the conceptual model below. We are off to a strong start with *Broadening influence* and *Collecting data about the IP profession*.

In February of this year, APIC was invited to present to the President’s Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria (PAC-CARB) where Linda Greene, 2017 APIC president, sat at the table as an equal partner to her counterparts at the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA). As part of strengthening our partnership with SHEA, the healthcare epidemiologists recognize and advocate for the need to include the IP perspective to these physician-driven advisory bodies. As I write this column, both Linda Greene and I are in Geneva, Switzerland at the invitation of the World Health Organization (WHO) to learn more about the Global Infection Prevention and Control Network (GIPC�).

APIC’s strategy for collecting data about the IP profession came to fruition recently with the first published paper from the *MegaSurvey* in the *American Journal of Infection Control (AJIC)*. The Research Committee is now hard at work on publishing additional papers from this data over the next 12-18 months, which will address the following topics:

- Current and future IP practice
- IP compensation and satisfaction
- Current IP practice: Staffing and organizational structure
- IP competency and diversity
- IP practice: Non-acute care settings
- Certification and organizational factors

We are committed to increasing the value of the IP, and APIC will be deploying all of these key strategies to advocate for healthcare leaders to include the infection prevention program as a visible and integral part of the facility’s leadership structure to promote a strong culture of accountability and patient safety.



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MISSION

APIC’s mission is to create a safer world through prevention of infection. The association’s more than 15,000 members direct infection prevention programs that save lives and improve the bottom line for hospitals and other healthcare facilities. APIC advances its mission through patient safety, implementation science, competencies and certification, advocacy, and data standardization. Visit APIC online at www.apic.org.