

# MHIMA e-Alert

May 15, 2010

Volume 21

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<http://www.mohima.org/AboutMHIMA.html>

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**MHIMA** *an affiliate of AHIMA-American Health Information Management Association*



## President's Message

Here we are in the month of May already! Time just seems to be moving too fast for me lately. Our Annual Meeting has come and gone, and we are now receiving the evaluations from the attendees. So far, the vast majority of responses have rated the meeting either excellent or good. It's nice to receive that much positive feedback, thanks to all who have responded. We have received a few suggestions for improvement that will be given to the Committee for next year's meeting. I think the Annual Meeting Committee did an excellent job this year, which has thus far been confirmed by your evaluations.

Early next month, MHIMA delegates will be voting on the proposed delegate reapportionment bylaws change for AHIMA. But first, delegates will need to vote on MHIMA's motion to postpone the vote for further discussion. If our motion fails, then we will vote on the proposed bylaws change. Briefly, what the proposal will do is change the way delegates are apportioned. A mid-sized state such as Missouri will lose one delegate, or one voice at the national level. Smaller states such as Kansas and Nebraska will lose 2 delegates, while large states like Illinois, Florida, and California will gain a delegate. What this will effectively do is place control of AHIMA in the hands of the 18 largest states. Naturally, most of the states that will lose delegates are against this proposal, but the large states are using some twisted logic to try to sell this proposal. This is the reason that MHIMA brought forth the motion to delay the vote, which was seconded by KHIMA. If any of you have any further questions on this, you can access the State Leader CoP, or e-mail one of the MHIMA delegates. My e-mail is [president@mohima.org](mailto:president@mohima.org), you can find the other delegate's e-mail addresses at [www.mohima.org](http://www.mohima.org). Please let us know your thoughts on this important matter.

MHIMA's Board is in a transitional phase now, working to finish projects we have started and laying the groundwork for the new Board, who take office in July. We have had a pretty successful year and I think the foundation has been put in place for the next Board's success. This is also my next to last monthly message as President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as President; I hope you have enjoyed my monthly messages.

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter, and enjoy the rest of spring. Pause on Memorial Day to remember those who have died to protect our freedom. Take some time off to rest your mind and body; we've got quite a bit of work ahead of us in the world of Health Information Management.

*Continued on page 2*



### MHIMA Vision:

*MHIMA will dedicate efforts and resources to serving members by increasing, promoting, and perpetuating the visibility of the health information management profession through education, communication and advocacy.*

And now for the part that some have told me is their favorite part of my message; this month's Bizarre Holidays:

May 9<sup>th</sup> is Lost Sock Memorial Day



May 19<sup>th</sup> is Frog Jumping Jubilee Day



May 10<sup>th</sup> is Clean Up Your Room Day

May 22<sup>nd</sup> is Buy A Musical Instrument Day

May 11<sup>th</sup> is Eat What You Want Day

May 27<sup>th</sup> is Body Painting Arts Festival

May 12<sup>th</sup> is Limerick Day (There once was a man from...)

May 28<sup>th</sup> is National Hamburger Day



May 14<sup>th</sup> is Dance Like a Chicken Day



May 31<sup>st</sup> is National Macaroon Day



Next time you are having a bad day, think about this poor man and things won't seem so bad. Peter Collard of Brisbane, Australia has his house up for sale. One day, he received a call from his real estate agent saying he should rush home because two men were digging in his yard, according to the Brisbane Daily Telegraph. Collard rushed home to find \$17,700 in damage done to his yard. The men mistakenly began digging a swimming pool in his yard, and loaded up their backhoe and left without explanation when they discovered their mistake. Collard's insurance will not cover the damage, so now the poor man has a large hole in his yard and no swimming pool in a house that he is trying to sell. And I thought the low spot in my back yard that collects water was bad!

Have a good May.

Jeff

### April Shooting Star



The MHIMA Board would like give a BIG THANK YOU to the MHIMA 2010 Annual Meeting Team for planning a great meeting this year. Many thanks to:

**Mary Jellinek, Chairperson**

**Barb Beckett**

**Marsha Dolan**

**Michelle Kornfeld**

**Deanna McCarty**

**Ann Nowlin**

**Erin Sweeney**

**Lucy Sweiger**

**Julie Wolter**

You all voluntarily came together to make this year's meeting a huge success. Thank you for all your very hard work, dedicated efforts, and fantastic team work!



## *Thank You From MHIMA Scholarship Winner*

I would like to thank you all for the opportunity that you have given me by awarding me this scholarship. Furthering my education in the healthcare field is something that is very important to me, and I sincerely appreciate your financial assistance as I finish my school work with Saint Louis University.

I look forward to finishing my HIM degree and working with you all in the future to give back to the HIM profession.

With utmost thanks,

Abby Steppig

Saint Louis University HIIM Senior

## *St. Louis Community College Receives Grant to Train HIT*

As one of 17 institutions participating in the Midwest Community College Health Information Technology Consortium, St. Louis Community College will receive \$817,194 in funding to train 300 healthcare workers over a two-year period.

The consortium, led by Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, Ohio, is part of a nationwide effort to respond to the mandates of the HITECH Act requiring that all U.S. citizens have an electronic medical record by 2014. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is providing funding for the initiative.

The grant will allow STLCC to develop and deliver short-term training for six different roles in the health information technology field. The non-degree training programs will take no more than six months to complete and provide individuals with the skills needed to help integrate electronic health record information systems at hospitals, doctor's offices and other medical facilities.

The future healthcare workers can choose to be trained in jobs such as clinician/practitioner consultant, implementation support specialist, and technical/software support staff.

"We welcome this exciting opportunity to work with Cuyahoga Community College and its partners to help prepare the Midwest work force to meet the demands of the future," said Rod Nunn, vice chancellor for workforce and community development. "Health care plays a vital role in the St. Louis economy, and workers trained through this program will be instrumental in jumpstarting our region's transition to electronic medical records."

At STLCC, the program will be a joint effort between the Health Information Technology of the Forest Park campus and STLCC's Division of Workforce and Community Development. Classes will be held primarily at the Forest Park campus and are expected to begin this fall.

If you have any questions about the program, contact Patricia A. Sherman, M.Ed., RHIA, the HIT Coordinator at [psherman@stlcc.edu](mailto:psherman@stlcc.edu) or if you have any questions regarding the grant, contact Maryjo Ritchie 314-644-9292 or [mritchie@stlcc.edu](mailto:mritchie@stlcc.edu).

## *HIM and Health Literacy*

Health Literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

Health information can overwhelm even persons with advanced literacy skills. Medical science progresses rapidly. What people may have learned about in health or biology class during their school years often becomes outdated or forgotten. Moreover, health information provided in a stressful or unfamiliar situation is unlikely to be retained.

MHIMA - Consumer Education project team is looking for anyone interested in starting a discussion about Health Literacy and what role HIM professionals play? The discussion will start this summer.

Contact Julie Wolter at [wolterjl@slu.edu](mailto:wolterjl@slu.edu) if you are interested.



## *HHS Asking for Responses on Accounting for Disclosure Regulations*

OCR published a request for information seeking comments to better inform upcoming rulemaking that will expand an individual's right to receive an accounting of disclosures under the HIPAA Privacy Rule. Currently, the HIPAA Privacy Rule provides an individual with the right to receive a listing, known as an accounting of disclosures, that provides information about when a HIPAA covered entity discloses the individual's information to others. The current HIPAA Privacy Rule does not require a covered entity to list disclosures to carry out treatment, payment, and health care operations.

The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, provides that an individual has a right to receive information about disclosures made through a covered entity's electronic health record for purposes of carrying out treatment, payment, and health care operations. The HITECH Act requires the Secretary to balance the interests of individuals in learning about these disclosures with the administrative burden on HIPAA covered entities to track the disclosures.

This request for information seeks comments so that OCR can learn more about the interests of individuals and the burden on covered entities with respect to accounting for disclosures for purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations. The request for information will be followed by a proposed rule, providing further opportunity for comment. [Click here for more information.](#)

## *HHS: HIPAA Regulations Expected in May*

The timing of the release of proposed HIPAA regulations per the HITECH Act became a little clearer last week. The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) released its semi-annual regulatory agenda in the [Federal Register April 26](#), and wrote that modifications to the HIPAA privacy, security, and enforcement rules will be coming in May.

HHS did not detail exactly which proposed rules would be released. But on its Web site, the Office for Civil Rights, which enforces the HIPAA privacy and security rules, writes that regulations forthcoming include:

- Business associate liability
- New limitations on the sale of personal health information, marketing, and fundraising communications
- Stronger individual rights to access electronic medical records and restricting the disclosure of certain information

[Click on here to read more.](#)

## *Democrats Sponsor Proposal for Biometric Social Security Cards*

Democrats are sponsoring a proposal that would have the Social Security Administration issuing biometric cards 18 months after the law is passed. "These cards will be fraud-resistant, tamper-resistant, wear resistant, and machine-readable social security cards containing a photograph and an electronically coded micro-processing chip which possesses a unique biometric identifier for the authorized card-bearer," states the conceptual proposal for immigration reform.

The biometric information would be stored in template form on the card and not in any databases. When verifying employment eligibility the card would be inserted into a reader, the cardholder would present the biometric for matching against the template stored on the card and it would either match or not match. The proposal doesn't specify which biometric technology would be used with the system. The proposal for a biometric Social Security card provides some specifics on how the new credential would work, but there is no indication as to the biometric modality to be used.

[Click here](#) to read the complete article from SecureIDNews



## Take Advantage of AHIMA Membership Benefits

### Need A Rental Car This Summer?

Whether you are traveling for business or pleasure, Avis has membership programs and personal services to make your travels easier and more enjoyable. And low rates are just the beginning! Avis goes the extra mile for you with special offers and personalized attentive service. Avis offers AHIMA members' great money-saving coupons on top of special weekend, weekly, and monthly rates.

Go [here](#) for more information, or to make a reservation, or contact Avis Reservations at (800) 331-1212. Be sure to use the AHIMA **Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number S002800** and you will automatically receive the lowest rate available. When making a reservation, it is very important that you **always** ask for the best rate available. You should make sure the **AWD** number appears on the rental agreement before leaving the rental counter.

**Affinity Programs**  
 AHIMA membership provides you with something extra: special access to valuable services, including express shipping, and insurance. Each of these services is offered to AHIMA members at some of the lowest rates available. And every time you use these services, the companies listed below also make a contribution to AHIMA. More benefits will be added in the near future. When contacting these organizations, please have your AHIMA membership number available.

- Avis Rent a Car
- FedEx
- Liberty Mutual Home and Auto Insurance
- Group Insurance Plans through Marsh
- Affinity Group Services
- PDA Verticals
- T-Mobile
- MasterCard World Points

**AHIMA is proud to offer this member benefit, which is just one of the many benefits you have through membership. For a complete listing of member benefits [click here](#).**

## Hot Topics Survey

This month's survey question asks if you plan on taking advantage of AHIMA member benefits discussed in the above article.

- Yes, I plan on taking advantage of AHIMA membership benefits in the Affinity Program.
- No, I do not plan on taking advantage of AHIMA Affinity Program membership benefits.

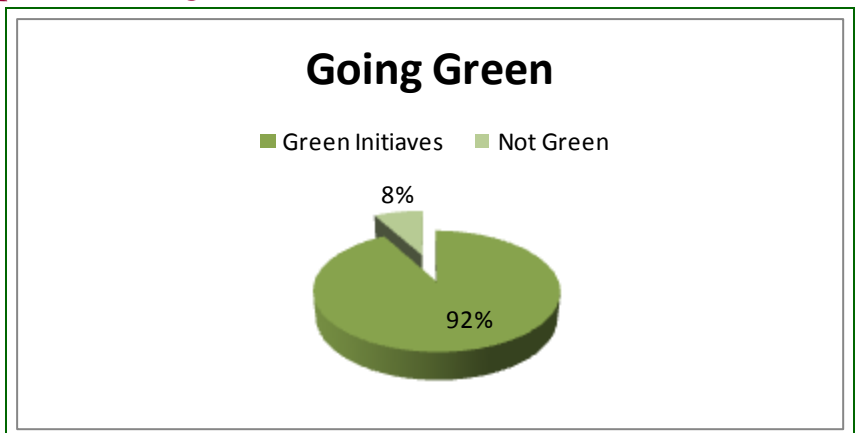


[Click here to vote](#)

## Hot Topics Survey Results

Thanks to everyone who participated in the April survey! Last month's survey asked readers if their organization had implemented "green" initiatives. As the chart shows, 92% of respondents said yes and 8% said no.

We hope you enjoy taking our surveys and seeing the results. This month's survey results will be reported in the June newsletter.



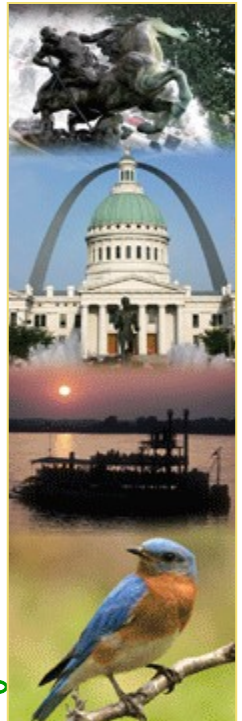
# Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 4

PEHIMA

Time and Location to be Determined

Mark Your Calendars



KHIMA/MHIMA Joint Meeting  
 September 16-17, 2010  
 Kansas City, MO  
  
 When: Sep 16 – 17 2010  
  
 Where: Holiday Inn Kansas City Southeast, 9103 E 39th St.,  
 Kansas City, MO  
  
 The Kansas and Missouri HIMA's will join forces this year for  
 the 2010 Fall Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Holiday  
 Inn Kansas City Southeast (previously known as Sheraton  
 Kansas City - by Sports Complex) To make hotel reservations,  
 call 816-737-0200. More information will be coming soon.

To visit the MHIMA calendar of Events: [Click here](#)

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- Michelle Kornfeld*  
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## Regional Links

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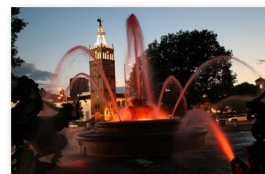
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