

August 18, 2008

Volume 1

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## *President's Message*

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Welcome to the “dog days” of summer! I hope all of you are finding ways to keep cool, as the beginning of the school year looms closer.

Your delegates will be especially hard-pressed to keep cool with the issues they will be considering and voting on soon. Please refer to the Summer Team Talks summary and the links to more details on the specific Resolutions. Your delegates represent you, so we want your comments on these issues.

Please remember that your voice counts on the issues that affect you as members. Feel free to send any comments on the House of Delegates issues to me or any delegate, whose information is on the MHIMA website. We want to hear from you!

The Newsletter Committee is working on a revised format with this newsletter issue in order to give you more information in a great format. The newsletter will highlight each month's Shooting Star and this month our Star is Melanie Schattauer.

We hope you enjoy the new format of our e-Alert, and if you have suggestions on improvements, please let the Newsletter Committee know.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

*Send your comments to the Newsletter Committee:*

Janice

[newsletter@mhima.org](mailto:newsletter@mhima.org)

## *Coding Round Table*

EMHIMA hosted a Coding Roundtable at St. John's Mercy on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, with approximately 35 people in attendance. Topics included:

1. Navigation of various websites including MOHIMA ([www.MOHIMA.org](http://www.MOHIMA.org)), AHIMA ([www.AHIMA.org](http://www.AHIMA.org)), the AHIMA CoP ([cop.AHIMA.org](http://cop.AHIMA.org)) and CMS ([www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)).
2. Update on national and state HIM issues
3. Recap of the Coding Summit in Chicago

For more Coding Roundtable information:

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

Special points of interest:

- 2008 Summer Team Talks
- Spotlight on Eastern Regional
- Calendar of Events
- FORE Triumph Award Winners

## *Spotlight on Eastern Regional*



**“MOHIMA is currently reimbursing the students \$100 if they pass the registry exam. Eastern is trying to match that for the St. Louis students attending St. Louis University, Stephens College and St. Charles Community College”**

I hope everyone is staying cool this summer. I would like to give you a brief update of what has gone on this year in Eastern, what is coming up for the rest of the year and our initiatives for the year.

We have had two meetings so far this year and both were successful. We have three more meetings scheduled this year that we would love to have you attend. The first is September 17th at 4:30 with Dr. Myesorkar speaking on Hyperbaric Wound Center and Trauma Experience. This meeting is being held at St. John's Hospital in St. Louis. The second is October 2nd at 4:30 with Tom Flanigan speaking on RHIO's in Missouri. This meeting is also being held at St. John's Hospital in St. Louis. The third meeting is our annual meeting which is held on November 7 at the Viking Conference Center at the corner of Lindbergh and Watson from 4:30- 7:30. During this meeting Jim Appelbaum will be speaking on the FBI's Role in Healthcare Fraud. You can find this information posted on the MOHIMA website under the calendar of events link or see the Calendar of Upcoming Events in this edition of the e-Alert.

As a Board, we decided to focus on a couple of things to get accomplished this year. The initiatives are signing an affiliation agreement with MOHIMA, notification of meetings, and student recognition. The first one I would like to talk about is the affiliation agreement with MOHIMA. With signing the agreement, we now have the opportunity to revisit our bylaws and update what is necessary. We are trying to have these finished by the annual meeting.

The second initiative is notifying the members of our meetings. We have chosen to "go green" and save paper. We will no longer be sending out reminder cards of when meetings are being held. The third and final initiative that we are trying to accomplish this year is regarding student recognition.

MOHIMA is currently reimbursing the students \$100 if they pass the registry exam. Eastern is trying to match that for the St. Louis students attending St. Louis University, Stephens College and St. Charles Community College. We are still working out the details, more information to follow.

If there are any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to email one of the board members. Our email addresses can be found at

[http://www.mohima.org/EMHIMA\\_AboutUs.htm](http://www.mohima.org/EMHIMA_AboutUs.htm)

Sincerely:

Erin Sweeney, RHIA  
President Elect for Eastern Missouri



## 2008 Summer Team Talks

The 2008 Summer Team Talks, held in Chicago, had a very full agenda. Some of the House of Delegate (HOD) items that were discussed were:

1. Resolution on Privacy and Security
2. Nominating Committee Bylaws Amendment
3. Revisions to the Standards for Ethical Coding
4. Alternate Paths to the RHIA

The Resolution on Privacy and Security, written by Michelle Kornfeld and Jeff McGraw, and supported by the MHIMA Board and the Privacy and Security Practice Council, will be voted on in October at the face to face HOD meeting at the National Convention. The Nomination Committee Bylaws Amendment and the Revisions to the Standards for Ethical Coding are scheduled for an electronic HOD vote in September.

After much passionate discussion, the Alternate Paths to the RHIA proposal was sent back to the Council on Certification (COC) for more discussion. Since then, the COC has decided that it will not forward this proposal to the HOD at this time.

Further information regarding any of these topics can be accessed via the AHIMA website (you will need to log in):

<http://cop.ahima.org/COP/StateLeadersandHOD/Resources/Attachement.fusion?AttachmentID=28220>

As a reminder of how your Association works for you, here is a thumbnail about MHIMA Delegates and Member responsibilities:

**Responsibilities of the MHIMA Delegates:** Serve as a conduit for the collection and dissemination of both national and state information that directly impacts the practice of health information management. Provide updates to regional HIM associations. Solicit input from the regional associations on issues that will be either discussed or voted on at the House of Delegates. Represent the MHIMA in the House of Delegates of the American Health Information Management Association.

Representation includes participating in discussions and voting via Internet as well in person. Act in good faith, exercise prudence in assigned activities and confine duties to those conferred upon the position by the Board of Directors and/or bylaws. Become conversant with all the policies, procedures and activities of the association including those that pertain to the Project Teams for which this position is responsible.

**Responsibility of MHIMA Members:** Provide feedback to your delegates regarding national and state issues. There are several ways to do that:

1. Go to the [mohima.org](http://mohima.org) website. Search "About Us" and locate the contact information for the Board members. Email one of the delegates or Board members and give your feedback.
2. Attend a regional association meeting. Discuss national and state issues with your colleagues and have your regional association Board members bring it to the state Board's attention.
3. Call any of the MHIMA Board members. We are here to represent you.



## *Innovations in Current HIM Practice Awards*

Do you have a best practice in HIM Department management or coding that you'd like to share with your colleagues?

Would you like a chance to win a MHIMA or AHIMA gift certificate to be used toward a continuing education project or purchase of HIM Week products?

Through a grant funded by First Class Solutions, the Innovation in Current HIM Practice Awards has been developed. The Awards program is intended to facilitate the exchange of ideas and solutions that have a positive impact on our practices, the healthcare systems we work in and the patients we serve and to recognize those innovative, proven practices applied to the traditional paper-based and transitional settings.

Follow the link for more information:

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



## *HISPC*

Missouri is now joining 42 other states in this important initiative to implement a national collaborative effort to address privacy and

security practices, policies and laws. Missouri is participating in two of the projects, one of which is the Provider Education Toolkit (PET). MHIMA hopes to partner with the state of Missouri this important task force.



## *Shooting Star Award*

Melanie Schautter, MA, RHIA, has been selected by the MHIMA Board of Directors to receive the July 2008 Shooting Star Award.

Melanie is currently the Privacy & Data Security Officer at St. John's Health System, and the Immediate Past President of Ozark Area Health Information Management Association (OAHIMA).

During her tenure as president of OAHIMA, Melanie worked with the Board of Directors to re-energize their association and increase membership. She also developed job descriptions for the officers and created a toolkit for officers and created a toolkit for Future OAHIMA presidents on meeting requirements, AHIMA domain, and guidelines for CEU administration. Melanie held monthly board meetings to help the organization stay on track with meeting development and administrative duties.

Due to Melanie's hard work, OAHIMA was the first Regional Association in the state of Missouri to sign their Affiliation Agreement with MHIMA. Clark Chaffin, RHIA, CCS, had the privilege of working with Melanie to fine tune OAHIMA's Bylaws in preparation for the affiliation. "She has made great strides in her role and

Is always willing to work hard for our Association. She is truly a great HIM professional and I am very thankful to be able to work and network with her throughout all journeys that are brought our way." Teresa Knox, RHIA, agrees that "Melanie has been a wonderful mentor for the OAHIMA board members".

Melanie recently accepted the position of Annual Meeting Chairperson for the 2009 MHIMA Annual Meeting which is a true honor for both the Association and herself.

Great job Melanie! You deserve it!



For more information on Shooting Star Awards go to:  
<http://www.ahima.org/fore/contribute/giftsmemorial.asp>

## *FORE Triumph Award Winners* *Congratulations!*



Congratulations to Jennifer Melvin and Rose Dunn! Both were selected to receive Triumph Awards at the National Convention this year.

The FORE Triumph Awards are national awards designed to recognize those special individuals who have made a difference in the HIM profession. The awards program was developed as part of the Foundation of Research and Education's (FORE's) campaign to forecast future trends in HIM, envision HIM roles in the future, and focus on emerging HIM knowledge and skills. The FORE Triumph Awards honor leadership; in the HIM field, reward contributions that build our knowledge base, recognize excellence in preparing future HIM professionals, encouraging fresh talent and new leadership.

Jennifer Melvin, RHIA is a 2003 graduate of St. Louis University with a BS in HIM and a Certificate in Management Information Systems. She began her career at St. Luke's Hospital in 2003 as a Manager in the HIM Department and in 2005 became the Sr. Business Systems Analyst and has served as front-end systems administrator for Horizon Patient Folder, the hospital's electronic and legal medical record. Jennifer was selected to receive the Rising Star Triumph Award.

Rose Dunn, RHIA, CPA has truly impressive literary accomplishments with over 200 articles, textbooks, contributing chapters, and editorial efforts to her credit. She now receives recognition from AHIMA as a Triumph Award winner for being selected as recipient of the Legacy Award.

For more information on FORE:

<http://www.ahima.org/fore/professional>



### *Hot Topics Survey- Proposed New Credential- "Health Data Analytics"*

A new feature to the newsletter will be surveys on Hot Topics. Each month we will present you with a brief survey via the MHIMA web site and will report the results in the following month's newsletter.

This month's survey question is about the proposed new credential, "Health Data Analytics". A Certified Health Data Analyst (working title) would be able to:

- \*Provide expertise to acquire, manage, analyze, interpret and transfer data into accurate, consistent and timely information.
- \*Balance the 'big picture' strategic vision with the details of a project
- \*Communicate with individuals and groups at multiple levels internal and external to the organization
- \*Possess broad knowledge of the processes and outputs of many departments within the organization
- \*Prioritize and manage multiple projects

To learn more about this proposed credential and take the survey, follow the link:



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

## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

### August

8/16/08	MHIMA Board Meeting	Audio Conference	8:30-10:00
8/26/08	KCHIMA: Downs Syndrome 101	Down Syndrome Guild of KC 10200 W 75th St., Suite 281  Shawnee Mission, KS 66204  <i>Park in back and enter from there, signs will be up, construction ongoing in front</i>	5:30 pm

### September

9/9/08	Pony HIMA: Back to School Welcome, All students are welcome	Missouri Western State University-Murphy 310	5:30 pm
9/17/08	EMHIMA: Dr. Myesorkar-Hyperbaric Wound Center/Trauma experience	St. John's Hospital	4:30 pm

### October

10/2/08	EMHIMA: Tom Flanigan-RHIOs	St. John's Hospital	4:30 pm
10/10/08	Mid-MO (TBD)	Lake of the Ozarks Regional Hospital	
10/21/08	Pony HIMA: Natinal Patient Safety Goals	Missouri Western State University-Murphy 310	5:30 pm



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