

# News & Views

April 2015

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## President's Message: To Grow or Not to Grow

Spring is here which means new growth for all! Just as flowers and crops begin to grow in the spring, so too shall we grow as NHIMA members and friends.

Have you asked yourself what area of your job would you like to grow in?  
Are you comfortable with your position and the day to day duties?  
Are you running short of energy and getting bogged down with all the hats you wear?  
Or, are you looking for that breakout growth opportunity?

For the last 20 years, I have had the pleasure of watching the NHIMA organization grow and develop into a truly awesome professional organization that is extremely supportive of one another. When was the last time you emailed or called another NHIMA member to get their opinion or ask them to share a policy? I couldn't function without all of you.

So, what growth do you want for 2015?  
What can NHIMA do to help with your professional and/or personal growth?  
Would you like to present or speak at an event?  
Would you like to attend a workshop or seminar for more education?  
We want to hear from you!

We want to expand our reach and include all who have the same passion and determination to further improve the HIM profession in the state of Nebraska and the healthcare industry in general.

The growth we experience together by lifting each other up will immensely benefit us, and all those around us (work and home). **So, to grow or not to grow, that is the question.** Will you choose to go to the NHIMA Annual Conference in Kearney in April and be re-energized and grow your wisdom and diligence for our HIM mission? Will you vote for your new board members?

The talent each of you brings to the table is what will grow NHIMA for the future. I look forward to seeing each of you in Kearney and would love to get one new idea for growth from each of you.

See you in Kearney!

*Shirley Carmichael, RHIT - NHIMA President*

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## HIM: A World of Opportunities NHIMA Annual Convention – April 22-24, 2015, Holiday Inn, Kearney

The brochure is now available at [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org).  
Early registration deadline is April 7<sup>th</sup> – Register now!  
The link to register is  
<http://knowledgeconnex.com/nhima/annualmeeting/home.html>.

If you are interested in donating any items for door prizes for the conference, please contact Heather Simonsen at [Heather.Simonsen@va.gov](mailto:Heather.Simonsen@va.gov).





## NHIMA Election – Polls are OPEN

The NHIMA Election will be open through April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to vote! Instructions for you to cast your vote are as follows: login to MyAHIMA member login at [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) and click on “Voting Ballot” link. The link will be available only during the election period for active members.



Monica Seeland, RHIA, NHIMA Advocacy Team Leader, and Heather Simonsen, RHIA, NHIMA Advocacy Team Member, had the opportunity to attend AHIMA’s Hill Day on behalf of the Nebraska Health Information Management Association. Thank you for making this great opportunity available to us. (And, a shameless plug for volunteering for a committee for the NHIMA – in our case, it resulted in a trip to Washington DC!)

As usual, AHIMA did a great job of preparing us for our Hill Day visits with Nebraska’s congressional representatives. We were asked to focus on two issues this year – implementation of ICD 10-CM/PCS on October 1, 2015 and ensuring the proper matching of healthcare information in the electronic health record and in the health information exchange (HIE) process.

For each issue, we had an “ask” of our Nebraska reps. Our “ask” for ICD 10 was to “move forward with the October 1, 2015 implementation date for ICD-10-CM/PCS” (oppose any delay in ICD 10 implementation). The “ask” for the second

issue was to “support nationally recognized standard data elements to be used for patient identification management.” As we in HIM know, there can be frequent mismatches between patients and their clinical data. This can cause serious patient safety issues.

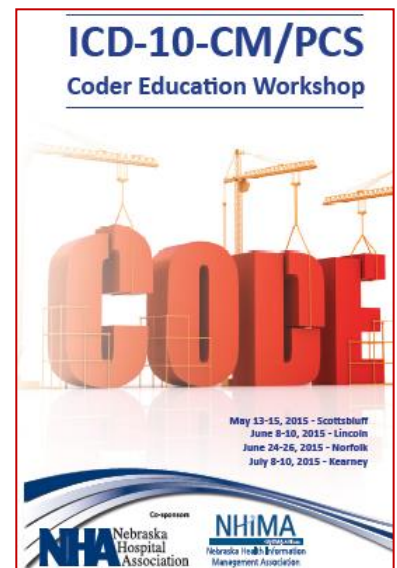
Heather and I were able to meet with Senator Deb Fischer’s Legislative Assistant, Joshua Lynch; Senator Ben Sasse’s Legislative Correspondent, Joel Wellum; and Congressman Jeff Fortenberry and his Health Legislative Aide, Patty Sheetz.

## Registration Open Now:

Don’t forget to register for the upcoming ICD-10 training workshops which will be held at four different locations around the state in May, June and July.

A change this year is that you will be invoiced for the registration fee, **after** the workshop. Registration form is available at [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org).

Come be trained by AHIMA certified ICD-10 trainers Pam Koch and Gretchen Jopp.



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## NHIMA Scholarship Application deadline July 31<sup>st</sup>

Policy, instructions and application can be found at [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org).

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### CCS Prep Workshop

AHIMA states that “Coding accuracy is highly important to healthcare organizations, and has an impact on revenues and describing health outcomes. In fact, certification has become an implicit industry standard. Accordingly, the CCS credential demonstrates a practitioner’s tested data quality and integrity skills, and mastery of coding proficiency. Professionals experienced in coding inpatient and outpatient records should consider obtaining this certification.”

NHIMA sponsored a CCS prep course in January 2014 and has received several requests to offer the CCS prep course again. To help meet the demand for another CCS prep course, NHIMA is sponsoring a CCS prep course in conjunction with the annual state convention in Kearney on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. Sally Roland, MS, RHIA, CCS, CPC, will be the instructor for the course once again. Given the time constraints, the workshop will only be a one day workshop. Because of the time limits, the course content will be condensed and group coding practice will be limited.

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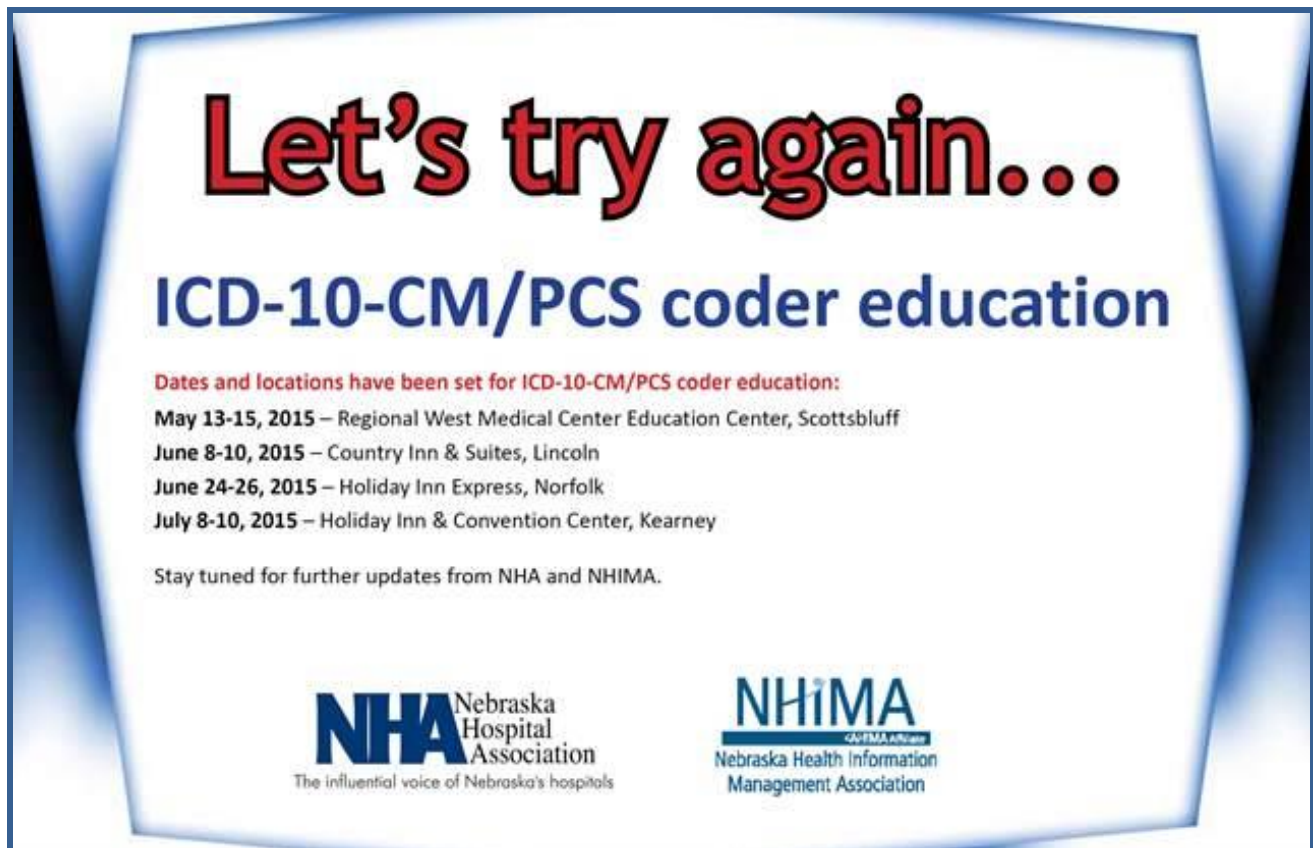
### NHIMA Contact Information:

Board Members - Committee/TF Chairs

### Dates to Remember:

April 22-24, 2015 – NHIMA Annual Convention, Kearney, NE

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**Let's try again...**

## ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education

**Dates and locations have been set for ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education:**

- May 13-15, 2015** – Regional West Medical Center Education Center, Scottsbluff
- June 8-10, 2015** – Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln
- June 24-26, 2015** – Holiday Inn Express, Norfolk
- July 8-10, 2015** – Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Kearney

Stay tuned for further updates from NHA and NHIMA.

**NHA** Nebraska Hospital Association  
The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

**NHIMA** Nebraska Health Information Management Association

Brochure/Registration link can be found at [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org)