

News & Views

July 2005



President's Message

This past year the Board has accomplished all of its goals as stated in the Strategic Plan. I thought I'd share some of the good work that has been done with you, the members, because I'm very proud of the progress we've made in the past 12 months.

e-him

A task force was formed to solicit information from the membership regarding where they are in the process of conversion to an electronic medical record. This survey was distributed and results were tabulated prior to the June Board meeting. Our next step, developing action plans using the information learned, is already in progress. Please look for some great educational programs in the next year.

Outreach

The Professional Promotions Committee has been busy this past year promoting the profession to potential students and other healthcare agencies. A recruitment toolkit was developed and is available for use on the Nebraska CoP. Committee members have attended job fairs, formed alliances with the Girl Scouts, guidance counselors, etc. We selected our first Consumer Education Coordinator, Ellen Jacobs, who will lead the initiative for all citizens to maintain their own personal health record.

Education & Certification

The Board has made an effort to bring meaningful information to the members through the use of the CoP, articles in News & Views, and presentations at the Fall and Spring Conferences, which by the way, were held at opposite ends of the state this year! Each quarter we spotlight one HIM college program and recognize one outstanding student in the News & Views. Two scholarships were granted to very worthy HIM students. Our total membership continues to grow and as of June 1 our association is made up of: 339 active members, 65 student members, 40 associate members, 21 new graduates, 10 senior members, and 2 honorary members.

Website Redesign

Anne Skinner, Jennifer Dinslage and Arlene Perry were given the task of redesigning the NHIMA website and came up with a much improved new look! The redesign was completed and published in April.

Success by Association

Articles in the News & Views have been published to keep members informed of AHIMA, NHIMA, and Regional activities. Members of the Board have used the available technology to conduct online chats to facilitate discussion and receive feedback from members. Policy & Procedure revisions are also now printed in each issue of the News & Views. Watch for online voting coming next Spring!

It's time for me to "pass the torch" to Charlene Tilson as she becomes your new President for the coming year, 2005-2006. I want to express my gratitude for being allowed to serve as your President. It has been a very rewarding experience for me personally and professionally. I encourage you to take advantage of all that the NHIMA and AHIMA have to offer you as HIM professionals. If you haven't seen the benefits of membership, then you must not be looking closely enough.

One final note . . . Jeff McGraw has notified the NHIMA Board that he is moving to Missouri and, therefore, had to resign as the newly-elected First Year Director. This position has been filled by Stephanie Taylor, RHIA. Stephanie is currently employed as the HIM Director at Children's Hospital in Omaha. We wish Jeff continued success in his role as HIM Director at Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia, MO.

2004-2005 NHIMA President

Dear NHIMA Members:

The beginning of new NHIMA fiscal year! It is unbelievable how fast the past year went as your President-Elect. I had a great mentor, in Nancy, as we worked through AHIMA issues and developed the NHIMA Strategic Plan. I appreciated her patience and look forward to her continued guidance as Past-President.



First, I would like to report on the House of Delegates Vote on the Three Action Items we had to address in May. The Proposed Dues Increase was approved by 78.5% of the Delegate vote. This means that effective January 1, 2006, the dues for the active and associate members will increase \$20, making the dues \$155 per year. Senior members will see a \$10 increase in their dues and students' and new graduates' dues will have no change.

The second action item voted on addressed the Standards for Program Accreditation. This proposed standard was approved by 98.9% of the delegates. This basically adopted CAHIIM Standards and mirrors the 2003 CAAHEP outcomes-based standards with no new requirements and regrouped the standards under logical categories.

The final action item voted on by the CSA delegates resulted in approval of the Proposed Florida Resolution—Bridging the Gap—Education to Employment. 90% of the delegates voted in the affirmative to approve this resolution with the intent to enhance dialog and actions to facilitate the employment of graduates from CAHIIM-accredited HIM programs at the baccalaureate and associate degree levels, and the AHIMA-approved coding programs at the pre-degree level.

I would also like to report to you on a conversation I recently had with Governor Dave Heineman. In June, Governor Heineman visited my place of employment, Tri-County Hospital in Lexington, and I had the privilege of meeting and visiting with him during his tour of my HIM department. We began to discuss the electronic health record and the importance of our State being part of this National Initiative. I educated him on our State Association and on several of the elements in our NHIMA and AHIMA Strategic Plans addressing this issue. He was very interested in our Association and asked that I keep him updated on a regular basis as to our strategies and initiatives!! I also gave him information on our NHIMA website and encouraged him to have his staff visit it for even more information about NHIMA.

At the end of July, Donna Keller, President-Elect, Kim Hazelton, Secretary, Nancy Kinyoun, Past-President, and I will be attending the Summer Team Talks and Leadership Conference in Chicago. We look forward to networking with fellow AHIMA members, learning about the new AHIMA strategic goals, and participating in the future direction of AHIMA. We also look forward to reporting this information back to you.

In closing, I would like to say that I consider it an honor and a privilege to be given the opportunity to serve you this coming year as your President. This continues to be an important and exciting time for our profession. I am also excited about the energy and support of our members and want to assure you that, as leaders, your NHIMA Board understand and appreciate the important responsibility of advancing our profession and Association. Collectively, we (the Board and NHIMA membership) can shape the future to ensure that we are building a better tomorrow for potential health information management professionals.

Charlene K. Wilson, RHT

2005-2006 NHIMA President

Nebraska Educators to speak at AHIMA Assembly on Education (AOE) Conference

Ellen Jacobs, MEd, RHIA and Alison Harms, RHIA, CTR of College of Saint Mary will be presenting at the AHIMA AOE Summer Symposium at the end of June in St. Louis, Missouri. Ellen will be presenting on the management of adjunct faculty and Alison will be speaking on CSM's method of involving students in promotion of the HIM profession.

NHIMA supports the attendance of Nebraska educators of accredited HIM programs in attending the AHIMA AOE Summer Symposium. It is an opportunity for educators to learn of the latest trends in HIM education, develop innovative teaching strategies, network with others, share frustrations and triumphs, and become re-energized for the year ahead. The experience is invaluable.

Congratulations to Newly Credentialed Health Information Professionals

RHITS –

Jenny Boggs
Denise Grady

RHIA –

Leslie Ziegler

CHP –

Julie Werner

CCA –

Steven Stroup

CCSs –

Jane Armstrong
Tina Olivares
Renee Rowell

CCS-P –

Adriana Valdez

The NHIMA Membership List will not be included in News & Views as in the past. However, the NHIMA membership list can be emailed to NHIMA members. Request your list by emailing the NHIMA Central Office at kim@consulthi.com.

Welcome to New NHIMA Members

Janice Brown, RN, CPHQ
Evelyn Briggs
Vicky Burbach
Cindy Carmody
Kathleen Dailey

Sarah Fuerhoff
Christina Headrick
RaeAnn Jones
Pamela Rudloff

Julie Shonka
Peggy Schnuerle
Judy Stauffer
Stephanie Turen
Daphne West

Tribute to Patricia Fredrickson (1945-2005)

Patricia Ann Fredrickson, RHIA, 59, passed away Sunday, April 17, 2005 in Lincoln, NE having lost her battle with cancer. She was a member of First-Plymouth United Church of Christ in Lincoln. Survivors include her life soul mate, Mary Graham of Lincoln; her brother Thomas, sister Deborah, and nephew, Quentin all of Omaha; aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Pat was born in Houston on July 2, 1945 to Burdette and Doris L. (Gray) Fredrickson. In 1979 Pat received her bachelor's degree, in Medical Record Administration, from the College of St. Mary in Omaha, earned her professional certification, and became a member of AHIMA/NHIMA. Over the years she served in various volunteer roles within the association and remained a friend to health information management education by mentoring students and new graduates, donating materials to programs, teaching Medical Terminology at Southeast Community College in Beatrice, and by consistently demonstrating enthusiasm for the Health Information Management profession.

Pat was the Assistant Director of Medical Records from December 3, 1979 to December 1, 1980 at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in Hastings, NE. She then continued on as Director of Medical Records at that facility until November 30, 1991. She moved on to become an HIM consultant with Nancy Thygesen Consulting in Lincoln. On March 30, 1998 she was hired as a Health Data Coordinator for the Infectious Disease Section of the Internal Medicine Department at UNMC. She served as the Surveillance Coordinator for the Nebraska Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry

within the Health and Human Services Systems in Lincoln at the time of her death.

In February of 2003, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control recognized Pat "for her exemplary service to the Multi-State Traumatic Brain Injury System."

Pat was a special woman – kind, generous, thoughtful, and a gentle soul who did not hesitate to offer her friendship. She will be remembered for her love of animals and the Huskers, and for always being "fun-loving" in the office and having a kind spirit. According to one coworker, "This is the Pat we all want to remember!!!! We can still hear her great laugh...we sure do miss her around here!!!!"

At their meeting on June 3, the NHIMA Board voted to send a memorial of \$50, in Pat's name, to the Foundation on Records Education (FORE). If anyone wishes to make an additional donation in Pat's name, please make your check payable to FORE and send it to Ranae Hug, NHIMA Treasurer, 2022 13th St, Auburn, NE 68305 by August 1, 2005. Memorials may also be given to HoriSun Hospice, 249 Cherry Hill Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68510.



HIM Student Spotlight –Lori Richter Outstanding Alumna for 2005 at Central Community College

Lori L. Richter is a 1999 graduate of Central Community College-Hastings Campus with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Management Services.

Since graduating from the HIMS program, Lori has continued to be a lifelong learner by continuing her education and receiving her Bachelors of Science Degree in Health Care Management from Bellevue University in 2001 and a Master of Arts Degree in Leadership from Bellevue University in 2003.



Currently, Lori is the HIPAA Coordinator for the Saint Elizabeth Health Systems located in Lincoln, Nebraska. At this 200 bed acute care hospital and 22 Clinic Physician Network, it is Lori's job to coordinate

and apply HIPAA Privacy compliance within the health system. As a member of the Physician Mobile Data Team and the Electronic Medical Record Planning Committee, Lori is constantly evaluating the effectiveness of policies, procedures and making recommendations for implementation.

Lori is a very highly motivated and goal oriented professional who brings quality and focus to anything she does.

Lori is an active member of the Nebraska Health Information Management Association (NHIMA) serving as the Vendor Committee Chair, Fall Conference Planning Committee and Fall Conference Co-Chair. Lori is also involved with the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

Lori exemplifies the hallmarks of the Outstanding Alumni Award. She has distinguished herself as an outstanding professional. Central Community College at Hastings is privileged and honored to bestow the Outstanding Alumni Award for 2005 to Lori Richter.

It Is Time to Vote!! ~ AHIMA National Election

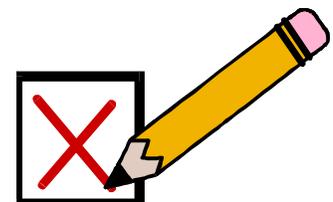
The polls for the AHIMA National Election will open August 23 at 12 a.m. and close September 10 at 11:59 p.m.

In the past the Nebraska member participation for the National Elections has been very low. In 2004 our participation rate was 7.7% (national average was 10.1%). Please take the time to vote in this election.

The July/August Journal of AHIMA will contain the candidates' brief bios, job descriptions, and photos. The Communities of Practice will house a more detailed profile of the candidates and their position statements. Members can visit the Candidate CoP in August to pose questions to the candidates or join in the lively discussions. The Candidate CoP will be open August 1-15.

Looking Ahead to the next NHIMA Election...

Next spring, the NHIMA election will be held electronically just like the AHIMA National Election. To be sure you can vote without problems and to get email reminders, be sure your AHIMA profile is up to date – most importantly, your email address. If you have questions, contact the Central Office at kim@consulthi.com.



***NHIMA Fall Conference – September 15 & 16, 2005
Villager Courtyard & Gardens – Lincoln, NE***

2005 Distinguished Groups

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2005 Distinguished Groups Award:

Web Redesign Task Force

- Jennifer Dinslage
- Arlene Perry
- Anne Skinner

Professional Promotions Committee

- Alison Harms (chair)
- Leslie Ziegler
- Jennifer Mitchell
- Ellen Jacobs



NHIMA EHR Survey

Several months ago, the Nebraska membership was asked to complete a survey regarding how far along facilities were in implementing an electronic medical record system. The survey results have been tabulated and are available to read on the Nebraska Geographic CoP in the Resources section.

The Board and future conference committees will use these results when considering educational opportunities for the membership. After you have read the results, please feel free to contact a member of the Board if you have any suggestions or comments. Better yet, why not start a discussion thread on the CoP?



Spring 2005 Conference

The NHIMA Spring Conference and Annual Meeting was held on April 7 and 8, 2005, at the Country Club in Alliance, NE. Attendance was very good with 76 attendees on April 7 and 65 attendees on April 8. Profit from the conference was \$2,735.96.

The theme of the conference was The Many Hats of Health Information Management. The wide variety of topics presented included information on government regulations, ICD-10, lung cancer screening, electronic health records, and qualities of outstanding leaders. Charlene Tilson, NHIMA President Elect, gave an update on AHIMA/NHIMA issues, and HIM college

representatives from across the state gave updates on their HIM programs. Coding and EHR Roundtables were also held.

The annual business meeting was held during lunch on April 7, 2005, at which time election results for 2005-2006 officers and board members were announced.

The conference was a success as demonstrated by the attendance and the evaluations. Plus the food and hospitality were great! Many thanks to the Conference Planning Committee members.

CoP Tips ~ Community News

Hey did ya know....how easy it is to share news with your whole Nebraska Geographic CoP by writing one electronic message? I didn't either until recently.

One day in April, Carla Becker telephoned me to let me know Pat Fredrickson had passed away. I wanted to spread the word to NHIMA members, so I contacted the CoP facilitator to request she post a message in the Community News section of the Nebraska Geographic CoP. The facilitator said..."Why don't you do it yourself?" Rather taken aback, I said..."You mean I can?" I thought the facilitator, and/or the NHIMA Board, and/or God needed to bless it before it could be submitted. Turns out ALL OF US can submit a Community News article directly on this CoP. The article automatically goes to the facilitator first and, if she approves, it becomes available for the whole CoP to view.

So I put aside my technophobic tendencies and took the plunge! Here's how easy it is to do.

First of all login to the AHIMA website...

1. Go to www.ahima.org
2. Click on the CoP icon at the top of the screen.
3. Enter your AHIMA ID number and password in the appropriate dialogue boxes.

Then go to the Nebraska CoP...

1. Click on the link "Geographic: Nebraska" under My Communities (you may need to scroll down to find it).
2. Scroll down to Community News. It looks like this:

Community News		View All Submit News Help	
Category	Title	Author	Submitted
Member News	Patricia Ann Fredrickson deceased	Patricia Koch, RHIA, CCS-P	April 22, 2005 at 4:29 PM CT
Leadership News	2005-2006 Election Results	Kimbra Johnson, RHIA	April 15, 2004 at 2:23 PM CT
Leadership News	NHIMA News & Views newsletter is available as a PDF document in the Resources section of this CoP and at www.nhima.org	Kimbra Johnson, RHIA	December 3, 2003 at 10:27 AM CT

3. Click on the link called "Submit News."
4. Complete the following dialogue boxes:
 - a. News Title
 - b. Category
 - c. Keyword (can be skipped)
 - d. Content of your news article.
5. Click the Submit Community News button at the bottom of the screen.

News Title

Category: Member News

Keywords

Content

Featured:

Submit Community News

Within a couple of days you should see your news article displayed in the CoP. Cool !!!!

If you look to the Community News section right now, you will notice this is a really underutilized area in the Nebraska CoP. We have only had one message posted each year for the last three years! I have to wonder if it's because there are other folks like me who didn't know I could use this news posting area and just how EASY it is to do. This is a great spot to share professional/personal news of interest with each other. Want to share an educational opportunity with your fellow members? Want to recommend a favorite product you discovered? Want to announce a special award your favorite NHIMA coworker received? How about a wedding announcement or a birth announcement? Click away and spread the news!

Here's a parting thought. Set your CoP preferences so you get an email alert sent to your regular email account each time a Community News article is posted and never miss out on news posted by your NHIMA peers. Good luck and give it a try!

Pam Koch (A former CoP Technophobe)

Get to Know Your New NHIMA Board...



Ranae Hug – Treasurer; Donna Keller – President-Elect; Charlene Tilson – President; Nancy Kinyoun – Past President; Janet Dooley – 2nd Year Director; Stephanie Taylor – 1st Year Director; and Kim Hazelton – Secretary

Just for fun ☺ we asked each board member to share a little bit about themselves...

Charlene Tilson

Family: Chuck and I have been married for 33 years (we dated for seven years before that so actually it is our 40th anniversary this year!) We have two sons--Shane is 25 and Matt is 21.

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? I became the Director of Medical Records at Tri-County Hospital in Lexington in 1992.

What is on your mouse pad? A wrist rest--no pictures.

What book are you currently reading? "Split Second" by Alex Kava.

What is your favorite food? ANYTHING CHOCOLATE!!

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. George W. Bush.

What is your favorite movie? Anything with Julia Roberts.

What was your first car? 1966 Karmann Ghia by Volkswagon..

Storms - scary or cool? Cool.

Chocolate or vanilla? See question above--chocolate, of course!!

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. My old brown SAS sandals.

Donna A. Keller

Family: My husband Frank and I have been married 27 years. We have no children, but we do have lots of nieces and nephews who are around much of the time and often liven things up for us. We also have 5 cats, all with different personalities and minds of their own--they give us lots of chuckles!

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? My first job as an HIM professional was as a coder. Way back when I started, we still coded with SNODO. Now that really dates me!

What is on your mouse pad? A pharmaceutical company advertisement.

What book are you currently reading? Second Chances (Danielle Steele)

What is your favorite food? Fritos and bean dip

What is your favorite movie? Sound of Music

What was your first car? Chevy Vega

Storms - scary or cool? Scary in person; cool and fascinating when watching storm chasers on TV

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. My paternal great grandmother - she

was a pioneer who came west in a covered wagon, settled in the Iowa/Nebraska region, raised a large family, and died at around 90 years of age. (I've always been fascinated by old west and Nebraska history, and especially with pioneer history!)

Chocolate or vanilla? Vanilla

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. Comfortable broken in tennis shoes that mold to my feet

Nancy Kinyoun

Family: My husband and I live in Clay Center, NE. We have been married for 24 years and have two children: Lindsay is 21; Mike is 17. Kyle is self-employed as a farmer.

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? I was hired at the Hastings Regional Center as an Admission Clerk in 1993. I was promoted to Manager after my supervisor resigned in 1995.

Continued...

Nancy Kinyoun (continued)

What is on your mouse pad? Nebraska Cornhusker helmet, of course!

What book are you currently reading? Believe it or not . . . I purchased the book, "Documentation and Reimbursement for Behavioral Healthcare Services" from AHIMA. Love to read, but don't have a favorite novel at this time.

What is your favorite food? Buffalo wings

What is your favorite movie? Gone With The Wind
What was your first car? 1971 Ford LTD - my father gave me his old car before I went off to college

Storms - scary or cool? I like a good thunderstorm!
Chocolate or vanilla? Ice cream? Vanilla - I can live without chocolate.

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. Tennis shoes that are well broken in

Janet Dooley

Family: I have been married to Gary for 16 years and live in an log home on a small lake outside of Valley, NE
What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? My first job was at Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital in Omaha. I worked the 2nd shift and did PAS coding and abstracting.

What is on your mouse pad? My mouse pad is red with nothing written on it!

What book are you currently reading? A romance novel entitled "Summer's Child"--I picked it up at the airport last Friday.

What is your favorite food? My mother's peach pie.

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. Mother Teresa

What is your favorite movie? Out of Africa

What was your first car? Dodge Duster

Storms - scary or cool? Thunderstorms--cool
Tornados--scary

Chocolate or vanilla? Chocolate

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. My Clarks sandals--not glamorous just comfy!

Kim Hazelton

Family: My husband Rod and I have been married almost 12 years. We have two daughters; Alexa is 11 and Hailey is 10. Our dog Ginger is also part of the family.

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? I was Director of Medical Records at Adventist Rehab and Extended Care, a Skilled Nursing Facility in Portland, OR.

What is on your mouse pad? Ripples on water.

What book are you currently reading? Amagansett and The Chronicles of Narnia!

What is your favorite food? Pizza

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. Jesus

What is your favorite movie? Princess Bride

What was your first car? 1969 Mercury Cougar

Storms - scary or cool? Cool!

Chocolate or vanilla? Definitely chocolate

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. Low-heeled black leather fur-lined boots

Stephanie Taylor

Family: I've been married to Shane for 10 years and our son Jackson is 3 1/2.

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? Medical Records Supervisor at Creighton Pediatric Clinic, Omaha

What is on your mouse pad? Corporate mousepad with picture of the mountains.

What book are you currently reading? Your Best Life Now by Joel Osteen

What is your favorite food? Shrimp and Pasta

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. My grandfather

What is your favorite movie? Pretty Woman

What was your first car? Mazda 626

Storms - scary or cool? Scary

Chocolate or vanilla? Chocolate, of course

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. Black, low heel, square toe, fits me perfectly.

Ranae D. Hug

Family: I have an 11 year old son, Chuck.

What and where was your first job as an HIM professional? Nemaha County Hospital, as a transcriptionist/coder.

What is on your mouse pad? My mouse pad says, " Health Information Privacy - It's Good Medicine/National Health Information Privacy and Security Week"

What book are you currently reading? I don't read many books.

What is your favorite food? Spaghetti with Marinara and extra mushrooms.

Name the person you'd most like to meet - living now or in past. Mr. Right.

What is your favorite movie? "Hope Floats".

What was your first car? Do we have to tell??? It was a teal Buick Century.

Storms - scary or cool? Way cool -- I love storms. I usually go out and watch the clouds.

Chocolate or vanilla? Vanilla.

Briefly describe your favorite shoes. Pink strappy sandal heels.

President (Delegate)	President-Elect (Delegate)
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Past President	Secretary (Delegate)
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Treasurer	1st Year Director
Ranae Hug, RHIT Work: (402) 274-6150 Fax: (402) 274-4399 Email: rhug@nchnet.org	Stephanie Taylor, RHIA Work: (402) 955-3803 Fax: (402) 955-7193 Email: sjtaylor@chsomaha.org
2nd Year Director (Delegate)	NHIMA Central Office
Janet Dooley, RHIA Work: (800) 458-4262 Fax: (402) 476-1335 Email: jdooley@neqio.sdps.org	HealthInfo Innovations, LLC 223 East 14th Street, Suite 240 Hastings, NE 68901 Phone: (402) 463-6111 Fax: (402) 463-6111 Email: kim@consulthi.com

2005-2006 Chairpersons:

Legislative CommitteeAnne Skinner
NHIMA Guide for Privacy, Retention & Disclosure of Health InformationPam Koch
Nominating Committee.....Sharon Zach
Archivist.....Retha Hudkins
Spring 2006 Conference Committee.....Diane Sutko
Fall 2005 Conference Committee.....Kari Eskens
Coding Roundtable.....Marcella Bucknam
Professional Promotions.....Alison Harms

2005-2006 Corporate Member

