

May 2015

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## President's Message

Greetings to each of you. Since returning from the NHIMA annual conference this past Friday I've been contemplating writing my President's message. What should I write about? How best should I use my space? After a very short period of time I knew what I wanted to talk about - our **NHIMA Annual Conference**. It was an absolutely great conference! I hope that you all enjoyed the amazing speakers, the great food, the CEU's that you could get, the vendor show, the wonderful accommodations, the cute and crafty decorations, but most of all, the time that you had to network and reconnect with your peers and friends. I hope you met someone new while at the conference. I did, Kelly from Kearney and also a new member that had moved to Nebraska from Indiana.

Wow - my head is still filled with all the information that was presented to us. I always feel energized after seeing all of you again. There is comfort in knowing that we are all dealing with the same issues.

Our conference was well attended and I thank you for that, as I know how hard it is to get away some times. It does take participants to truly make it successful and you did your part.

I would like to thank the Conference Committee again for the great job that they did preparing the conference for us. It is huge team effort, as there are lots of details that have to be figured out in order to have a great conference. Thank you to those that donated door prizes as I know our membership does look forward to them. Thank you to those that participated in the raffle of the tablet and keyboard. Thank you to the educators and others who supplied snacks in the hospitality room on Wednesday evening.

Remember to take the survey and share with the committee and board any ideas you might have for next year's conference. Again, thank you all for making our conference great. Now go out and greet the world with new found ideas, information and energy.

*Shirley Carmichael, RHIT - NHIMA President*

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

Thank you so much to everyone who attended and presented at the annual convention in Kearney. The conference was well attended this year with 160 attendees which included speakers. Many of the speakers this year happen to be our own members. This really helps to cut down on the costs of travel and other expenses for the convention. We also had eight vendors who participated as well. The Lutz organization signed to be a corporate sponsor and help fund the Wednesday afternoon break. This again helped with the overall cost of the convention as well.



The two and ½ day event was well rounded with a good variety of information to be shared. We covered a lot of topics in a very short period of time. We started the convention with a motivational speaker Tami West, PhD who helped us understand the different personalities in our lives in relation to types of coffee. We ended the convention with a speaker who talked to us about Ebola and the Biocontainment Unit at Nebraska Medicine. Dr. Sharon Medcalf presented for two hours on the containment unit process as well as the role that the unit has played in regards to the Ebola outbreak. This was an outstanding presentation and very educational.

Finally, I cannot say enough about the committee who worked on the convention this year. Each one of the committee members stepped up and took on a task or two for the convention. During the convention, the committee was very helpful in making sure that things ran smoothly. With that being said, due to our great efforts and financial conscious practices, we can say that we finished under budget for the year. Thank you so much ladies for making this year successful.

The 2016 Convention committee is gearing up to start making plans for next year. If you are interested in speaking or being on the committee, please let Mindi Husman know. Mindi has graciously accepted the position of Chair for next year's convention. Please join us April 13-15th, 2016 in Kearney for next year's convention and consider volunteering for one of the many committees that need your help.

*Dawn Goodsell, RHIA (Chairman, 2015 NHIMA Convention)*

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## NHIMA Election Results for 2015-2016

President-Elect	~ Dawn Goodsell
Director	~ Jennifer Anderson
Treasurer	~ Marilyn Blunck
Nominating Committee	~ Gretchen Jopp (chair), Tina Mazuch & Jean Scharfenkamp

# congratulations!

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## 2015 Distinguished Members – Charlene Tilson & Charlene Dunbar



Charlene Tilson was selected as a distinguished member because of her dedication and leadership throughout decades of serving in the HIM profession. Charlene has been involved in NHIMA in several roles: Secretary, member of 2003 Conference Committee, President Elect, President, Past-President, member of eHIM Roundtable, member of Professional Promotions Committee and Treasurer.

Charlene's professional experience centers around the hospital in Lexington where she has worked since 1976 and was the Director of HIM for 23 years. Charlene also served as the project manager for the electronic health record implementation and as the Privacy Officer. Throughout Charlene's career at the Lexington hospital, she contributed to many projects and served as a mentor to many. Charlene opened the HIM department and shared her knowledge with others who sought guidance and on-site visits to observe an electronic medical record in a critical access hospital.

We recognized Charlene Tilson as a distinguished member of the NHIMA for her contributions to the HIM profession and long-standing support of NHIMA. We also recognize Charlene for her community spirit and generous donation of her time and talent for the betterment of NHIMA, for the community and for the state-at-large.

This year NHIMA recognized Charlene Dunbar, MBA, RHIA for her dedication and leadership throughout decades of serving. Charlene has been a member of NHIMA for 41 years serving in a variety of different capacities which included Region V officer, task force chair/committee chair and member, as well as many board roles.

Charlene's background includes that she was first at the DHHS from 11/7/88 to 2/29/96. While at DHHS she helped write the first grant for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program in 1991. In 1996 she took a position at Madonna Rehabilitation facility in Lincoln and from there she held a position at the Nebraska Heart Hospital which is now a part of CHI where she is currently employed.

Many colleagues stated that "Charlene's input to NHIMA has always been extremely valuable and professional to the Health Information Management profession and she is most deserving in receiving this year's Distinguished Member Award." President Carmichael noted that she has known and looked up to Charlene since probably the early 90's when they became acquainted in the Region V group in NHIMA. "I just remember, as someone new to the profession, how much knowledge she had and how eager she was to share and mentor others in her profession." Carmichael stated, that "Charlene is a very kind and caring individual with "Get R Done" approach to tasks set before her. She takes a fiscally responsible approach to all elements of her board responsibilities first and foremost. "I have learned so much from her approach to life and leadership...she was a "hard act to follow".

Charlene was recognized at the annual conference as one of our distinguished member of the Nebraska Health Information Management Association for her many contributions to the HIM profession and her long-standing support of NHIMA. We thank Charlene for her tremendous example of volunteerism and for all that she has done over these past 41 years, but most of all we thank her for being our peer as well as our friend.

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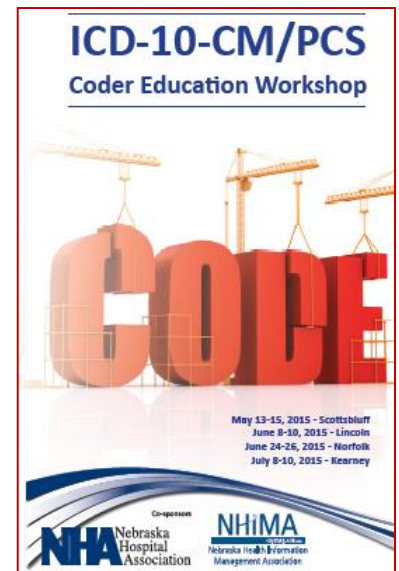
## Coder Education Workshop:

The coding workshops are fast approaching but please remember to keep in contact with our Nebraska representatives to let them know we want ICD-10-CM/PCS to proceed - #ICD10matters - no more delays!

At any time between now and October 1st, legislation could be introduced to once again delay implementation. We need to continually let our representatives know that we are ready to proceed.

Remember to bring your ICD-10-CM/PCS code books with you to the workshops.

This year is you will be invoiced for the registration fee closer to the date of the workshop.



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

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

## NHIMA Contact Information:

Board Members - Committee/TF Chairs

## Dates to Remember:

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

A large graphic with a blue and white background. The main text reads 'Let's try again...' in large, bold, red letters with a drop shadow. Below that, 'ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education' is written in blue. Underneath, a red heading says 'Dates and locations have been set for ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education:'. This is followed by a list of dates and locations: May 13-15, 2015 – Regional West Medical Center Education Center, Scottsbluff; June 8-10, 2015 – Country Inn &amp; Suites, Lincoln; June 24-26, 2015 – Holiday Inn Express, Norfolk; July 8-10, 2015 – Holiday Inn &amp; Convention Center, Kearney. At the bottom, it says 'Stay tuned for further updates from NHA and NHIMA.' The logos for NHA (Nebraska Hospital Association) and NHIMA (Nebraska Health Information Management Association) are at the bottom.