

May 2017

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## President's Message

Staying informed is the phrase that keeps popping into my mind these days. We know in health care that policies and procedures change all the time. Coding changes all the time. Patient treatment changes all the time. We need to stay informed and up to date with these changes. The last thing we need to do is have our skills and knowledge be obsolete. The question is - how do we go about staying informed?

Well, first you need to do is research on a continuous basis. This means taking trips out to the [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) website and getting on the Engage Communities to check to see what fellow professionals are discussing. I just went out and saw that they were having trouble with submitting CEU's (I already knew this because the emails have been flying in my inbox forever). There is also conversation about how your certification certificate is updated. If you are actually wondering about this, well they send a sticker to you in the mail that you attach to your certificate to update it.

The HIMR whitepaper is being updated and a new release will be coming out soon. Watch for this and the board will keep you informed once it is published. Right now, the CEE and task force are surveying the workforce for answers to what the future will hold for educational needs for our profession. This is one issue you want to stay informed on with the most current information available.

Here is a thought, how about buying a book on such topics as Information Governance, Data Analytics, Clinical Documentation Integrity and so forth. I know these are all areas of which scare the heck out of you, but you need to keep your skills up. You do not have to read the book in one setting, for we all know, that some of these books are not page turners by any means. They do hold the treasure of knowledge that will keep you current on education and skills needed right now.

Let's all challenge ourselves this summer and read a book of which that will enhance our minds and our professional skills. Let's keep informed of new issues that are going on with our profession and stay in contact on the engaged community as well as continue to network throughout our state. Networking should not stop after convention or be done just once a year. Let's continue this out and keep the communication going through the year. If you have information and knowledge, share it with others as well. Some of these friendships will last forever and will be some of the closest friendships you will have.

Stay safe and have a wonderful month of May. I still have my fingers crossed for sunshine and warmth.

Your President,

*Dawn Goodsell, RHIA* President NHIMA 2016-2017



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## Introducing Samantha Kuhlmann...

Samantha will be serving her first year as the new Central Office Coordinator (COC) for NHIMA. She is blessed and honored to help further our professional efforts in Nebraska through NHIMA! She has volunteered for the Northern Colorado Health Information Management Association, Colorado Health Information Management Association, and Kansas Health Information Management Association in previous years. In addition to COC duties with NHIMA, Samantha is the Revenue Cycle Director/Compliance Officer for Wray Community District Hospital (WCDH), Adjunct Instructor for the Medical Coding/Billing Program at Colorado Mountain College, and consults for various healthcare organizations in Eastern Colorado. Also, she is working towards a Masters in Business Administration - Health Industry Leadership (MBA-HIL) in her free time. Samantha, her husband and four furry kids live in Imperial, Nebraska. She is looking forward to working with all of the wonderful HIM professionals in Nebraska!

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## Taking the Sting Out of Injection and Infusion Coding Webinar

The Coding Roundtable Committee has recorded a presentation- Take the Sting Out of Injection and Infusion Coding. To purchase the webinar, please go to <http://www.associationconnex.com/nhima-taking-sting-out/>. This webinar is less than 1 hour, 0.5 CEU and the cost is \$20.

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## Career Fairs

If anyone is aware of career fairs coming up in their area, please let the Professional Promotions Committee know. It would be a good way for us to promote NHIMA and the HIM profession. Please contact Michelle Shimmel at [Michelle.shimmel@nebraskablue.com](mailto:Michelle.shimmel@nebraskablue.com)



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## Annual Business Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the annual business meeting are now posted in the [Nebraska Engage Community](#) under the topic "Annual Reports & Annual Business Meeting Minutes."

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## Are You a FAHIMA?

What did you just call me? There is one designation that I did not cover in my "Deciphering the Credentials" presentation at convention this month. I did not discuss the "Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association," or FAHIMA designation. The following can be found on the AHIMA website:

The Fellowship program is a program of earned recognition for AHIMA members who made significant and sustained contributions to the profession. Individuals who earn fellowship may use the designation Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association (FAHIMA), and their names will be maintained in the AHIMA Registry of Fellows.

The purpose of the Fellowship program is to:

- Recognize significant and sustained contribution to advancement of the Health Information Management (HIM) discipline through meritorious service, excellence in professional practice, excellence in HIM education, and advancement of the profession through innovation and knowledge sharing.
- Provide an incentive for members to contribute to the advancement of the profession.
- Bring together senior HIM professionals as an organizational resource for continued promotion and development of the profession through a variety of activities.

The Fellowship program has two designations: Fellowship and Candidacy for Fellowship.

See <http://www.ahima.org/about/recognition> for more information on applying to be an AHIMA Fellow. My next professional goal is to become a FAHIMA. We work hard. We should carry the credentials and the designations that we richly deserve. ~ Gretchen Japp

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## Welcome!

### *New Members in April 2017:*

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| • Anna Anderson    | • Andrea Hassenstab    | • Dolorita Rauch        |
| • Sharonna Englund | • Dana Mahood          | • Joanie Reynolds, RHIT |
| • Jennifer Evans   | • Bonnie McConnell CCS |                         |
| • Cindy Gellner    | • Stacey McConnell     |                         |

### *Congratulations to new credential holders:*

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| • Jessie Collins, CCA | • Lisa Nelson, CDIP |
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## NHIMA Contact Information:

## Board Members - Committee/TF Chairs

**Dates to Remember:** April 11-13, 2018 - NHIMA Annual Convention, Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE

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