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President's Message

Barbara Flynn, RHIA, CCS



It is hard to believe that a year has come and gone since I took office as President of FHIMA. It has been a busy and an exciting year for FHIMA. We had a new Executive Director and new projects to take on such as the Florida Health Information Infrastructure initiative and our second Hill Day. It has been a year to re-write the Florida Statutes that pertain to health records as well as taking a good look at our bylaws and standing rules. We had a very dedicated Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Committee Chairs to accomplish our goals for this year. I am looking forward to being a Past President while being very excited at where we have taken the association this year.

In this, my last President's Message, I want to thank all of the FHIMA Directors, Executive Director, and Committee Chairs and Committee Members that worked so hard this year attend BOD meetings, complete assignments and promote our profession by attending the second annual Hill Day in Tallahassee. I believe, together, we have truly reached new heights and recognition of our profession will take-off as long as we stay in the cockpit manning the controls.

I also want to thank all of the members who responded to important e-mail blasts that were sent out this year. Some of the subjects of these e-mails were outcome data reporting to AHCA, the status of electronic health records in Florida, data submission on the UB-04, and proposed changes to the inpatient coding guidelines. I know that it takes time to respond to these e-mail blasts, but your input is very important and has made a difference. I also want to thank Jacquie Jones for participating in the FHII Privacy and Security subcommittee as a representative of FHIMA and keeping our profession in the forefront of this initiative.

Thank you all for meeting deadlines, attending regional association meetings to inform our members, and being champions of our profession and our professional community. It has truly been a pleasure to serve you all as President this year.

Barbara J. Flynn, RHIA, CCS
President

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FHIMA Annual Convention - 2005

"FHIMA: ON THE WINGS OF CHANGE FOR A STRONGER ASSOCIATION"

Date:
July 25-28, 2005 (Monday - Thursday)

Place:
[Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center](#)
6000 Osceola Parkway
Kissimmee, FL 34746
(407) 586-2000



Monday July 25, 2005	(TENTATIVE SCHEDULE) 18 CEU's OFFERED
Registration Hours	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Hospitality Hours	CLOSED
Exhibit Hours	CLOSED
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Registration
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	House of Delegates <i>All members are encouraged to observe the FHIMA Legislative process</i>
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Leadership Dinner (By Invitation Only)
Tuesday, July 26, 2005	
Registration Hours	7:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Hospitality Hours	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Exhibit Hours	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	"Mutual Value Integration in Healthcare" <i>Dr. Tray Dunaway, Keynote Speaker</i> Success comes to those who understand collaboration and cooperation – "fly in" to hear how VALUES are invaluable! (Management Development – 1 CEU)
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Florida's Health Information Infrastructure Project <i>Michael Heekin, Chairman of Governor Bush's Advisory Board for FHII.</i> Updated information on Florida's "ballooning" advancement towards RHIO's (Technology – 1 CEU)
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Break in the Exhibit Hall
	Confessions from a Medical Record Delinquent!

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p><i>Dr. Tray Dunaway</i></p> <p>Hear a "mad" doctor rave about record completion strategies</p> <p>(Management Development – 1 CEU)</p>
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Membership Luncheon
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	<p>Legislative Update from the Hill <i>Bill Bell, FHA</i></p> <p>A view on the current legislative issues impacting Florida</p> <p>(External Forces – 1 CEU)</p>
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Break in the Exhibit Hall
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	<p>Service Driven Culture <i>Lynn Ehrmantraut, RHIA</i></p> <p>Learn how to fly solo with customer service as the altimeter</p> <p>(Performance Improvement – 1 CEU)</p>
4:15 PM - 5:00 PM	<p>EMR Implementation <i>Tanya Kuehnast, RHIA and Judy Smith, RHIA</i></p> <p>If interested in "solo" lessons on implementing electronic health records, this is a must see!</p> <p>(Technology – 1 CEU)</p>
Wednesday, July 27, 2005	
Registration Hours	7:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Hospitality Hours	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Exhibit Hours	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	<p>Documentation Improvement <i>Dr. Robert Gold</i></p> <p>An "ultra-light" presentation on implementing a documentation improvement program, which captures critical pieces of information for accurate severity, mortality and case mix.</p> <p>(Management Development – 2 CEUs)</p>
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Break in the Exhibit Hall
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>AHIMA Update <i>Angela Kennedy, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ</i></p> <p>Navigate AHIMA's continuing mission with a mission specialist and place yourself in the AHIMA cogs of the future.</p> <p>(Management Development – 1 CEU)</p>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch with Exhibitors
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	<p>Legibility Repair: NO Sutures Required <i>Kate Gladstone</i></p> <p>Learn how to "fly" in the face of the illegible from a nationally recognized handwriting and remediation consultant (includes an illegible authenticator demonstration)</p> <p>(External Forces – 2 CEUs)</p>
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Electronic Death Certificates <i>Michael Grant, AHCA</i></p> <p>The electronic transformation of processing death certificates is ready to "sail" around the</p>

	state! (External Forces - 1 CEU)
Thursday, July 28, 2005	
Registration Hours	7:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Hospitality Hours	CLOSED
Exhibit Hours	CLOSED
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	<p>Assigning Appropriate Inpatient Codes <i>Todd Husty, MD</i></p> <p>To code or not to code is the question with multiple principal diagnoses and secondary conditions. This presentation is coding selection made simple!</p> <p>(Clinical Foundations – 1 CEU)</p>
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	<p>The Nuts and Bolts of APC, CPT, CDM and ER Coding <i>Margi Brown, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P</i></p> <p>A detailed review on navigating the coding grind in an outpatient setting.</p> <p>(Clinical Data Management – 1 CEU)</p>
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	BREAK
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Sepsis - What Every Coder Needs to Know <i>Jeff Slepkin, MD, MBA, FACEP</i></p> <p>The clinical recognition and management of sepsis is one of the most interesting and challenging diseases impacting health care today.</p> <p>(Clinical Data Management – 1 CEU)</p>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p>LUNCH PROVIDED WITH CODING ROUNDTABLE TOPICS</p> <p>Before the convention, please send specific topics you are interested in to fhima@infionline.net !</p> <p>Topics to date include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complication Coding - Postoperative vs. Complication 2. Non-active GI bleeding 3. Respiratory failure vs. Respiratory insufficiency 4. Renal Failure vs. Renal insufficiency
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	<p>Florida's Local Medical Record Review Policies <i>Kathy Reep, FHA</i></p> <p>Learn about the impact of local medical review policies.</p> <p>(External Forces - 1 CEU)</p>
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Dress Comfortably today!	<p>Yoga Exercises for the Sedentary Coder <i>Miheala Dragut, MD, CCS</i></p> <p>Incorporate basic yoga techniques to relieve physical stress caused by long periods of sitting!</p> <p>(Management Development – 1 CEU)</p>

Registration Fee Structure:

		FHIMA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
	FHIMA MEMBER	Late		

Registration Type	Advance (by June 17, 2005)	(postmarked after June 17, 2005)	Advance (by June 17, 2005)	Late (postmarked after June 17, 2005)
FULL (7/26-7/28) includes ALL food functions	\$295	\$320	\$320	\$345
Two Days Only (7/26-7/27) includes Membership Luncheon and Exhibitor Luncheon	\$210	\$235	\$235	\$260
One Day Only (7/26, 7/27 or 7/28) includes food functions for the day specified and admittance to the exhibit hall on 7/26 & 7/27 Please Specify Date: _____	\$145	\$170	\$170	\$195
* Student - includes ALL food functions	\$90	\$110		
* Student - does NOT include food function	\$25	\$50		
Exhibit Hall Only	\$50	\$50		
Additional Tickets for Membership Luncheon	\$35	\$35		

* HIM students - to qualify for the discounts, you **MUST** be an AHIMA member, a member of FHIMA **AND** have your Program Director sign the registration form.

To register on-line with a credit card, [CLICK HERE.](#)

[Click Here For Printer Friendly Registration Information](#)

[Click Here For Exhibitor Information](#)

[Click Here for GEMS Exhibitor Kit](#)

Attire: Business Casual

For exhibit space, contact Carolyn Glavan, MS, RHIA at fhima@infionline.net or (813) 792-9550.

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Dissolution of Tri-County Region

By: Kelly A. Wilson, MBA, RHIA, CHP, LHRM

The Board of Directors of the Tri-County Health Information Management Association have requested to be officially disbanded as a region. Our current budget will be donated for FHIMA scholarships. The association has requested the disbandment due to lack of participation/attendance/interest by members which is due to our region being so spread out over the counties. The FHIMA Board of Directors has approved our request.

FHIMA members who live in the following counties: Citrus, Dixie, Hernando, Levy, Marion and Pasco are invited to join the Gulf Coast Region. The current President of the Gulf Coast Region is Cathy Minan, RHIT, CCS. Her contact number is 813-546-4416 and her email address is cjminan@aol.com. Please contact Cathy regarding the Gulf Coast HIM Association meetings. This dissolution is effective immediately. Please let Kelly Wilson know if you have any questions in regards to this disbandment. Her contact information is: phone: (352) 597-3034; Fax: (352) 597-6387 and her email is Kelly.Wilson@hcahealthcare.com

Regional Update from the Ocean HIM Association by Tasha Cameron, RHIT

The Ocean Region HIM Association has started a new scholarship program with the second year students of the Health Information Management Program at Daytona Beach Community College. We submitted this to the students on 04/20/05 and asked them to fill out a scholarship form and to get a couple of references other than their current professors. The Region is going to have a meeting on July 14 to decide who will receive this scholarship.

The scholarship offered by the Ocean Region HIMA Association will repay the student that was chosen to receive the money after successful completion of the national RHIT exam in October.

The Ocean Region President is Judy Gureckis, RHIT and she can be reached at 386-676-4219. Her email is judy.gureckis@fhmd.org

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Florida Health Information Infrastructure Advisory Board Update by Jacquie Jones, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ

I attended the FHII Advisory Board meeting in Tallahassee on June 1, 2005. We listened to 10 potential pilot project submissions prior to the meeting.

During the last legislative session, \$1.5 M in was appropriated to AHCA for HII including 2 additional staff members. A grant process will be developed for pilot groups meeting the "MUST" criteria to submit an application for funds. The FHII Advisory Board expects that RHIO's and other communities interested in implementing bits and pieces of an electronic health record are already underway and they would eventually prefer that the groups keep them in the loop so that it can be managed legislatively as it grows.

In several instances, the FHII Advisory Board proclaims that Florida is ahead of the game but interoperability, data privacy & security and infrastructure will be left up to the applicants as they create "pockets" for HII to tap.

The Board has been approached by the vendor community – and articulated that vendors who are willing to build the HII through donations (e.g. in-kind) will be funneled back to the grant applicants and other interested parties for consideration in community projects for the development of FHII.

The RHIO's are following a federated peer-to-peer model of information sharing and each group affirms that strenuous consideration in each project includes security, privacy, and patient registry to manage access of the right requestor to the right patient...but the specifics are left to the communities and project teams.

Until Florida expands past the initial projects, I do not see the work groups meeting. This Board also expressed interest in transitioning out of the "advice-giving" role and will push towards consideration of a more permanent arrangement.

1) Interested parties can still email to turnerc@fdhc.state.fl.us and ask to be placed on the notification list. The web site to review minutes and planned meetings is www.fdhc.state.fl.us/dhit/meetings/shtml

2) The Data Privacy & Security workgroup has not met since 2004. Since the State does not have any active projects, none of the work groups are meeting.

3) Michael Heekin, Chairman of FHII is speaking at the FHIMA Annual Convention in July.

Opinion: Florida is moving, but the political game plan calls for another “coach” to make the calls. I would have hoped that they would be more interested in bringing the stakeholders together to discuss development of an infrastructure that makes use of health information effectively and efficiently. However, funding is a critical constraint.



Volunteerism by Karla Philippou, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P, CPC

Editor Note: This article was edited and reprinted from an earlier edition of e-Coastlines but it is relevant at any time!

Everyone leads busy lives. Jobs, families, daily chores, activities, and obligations devour the most precious of commodities: time. It is impossible to create more time. Having said that, it is important to consider the importance of how one's time is spent. When the winter years arrive, what will you say that you have done with your life? It is important to nurture one's family members, but it is also important to nurture the environment, the atmosphere in which all those nurtured will thrive. Without that, there is no purpose for the nurturing. When you decided to become a Health Information Management professional, there were others who mentored and encouraged you to become who you are today. While time is precious, empty time is lost. Look at some of the advantages of volunteering.

The most rewarding aspect of volunteering is the feeling one gets when helping others. There is a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction when an organization reaches its stated goals. The altruistic sensation of giving is also something we can pass on to our children—a sense of civic duty that is always best learned by example. It increases one's self-esteem and confidence.

Working with others who are also volunteering their time allows one to network with other professionals. Forming friendships with peers is beneficial in many ways. One is able to learn new techniques, find out about new career opportunities, and broaden knowledge bases. Those who volunteer also receive recognition for their efforts. Recognition for one's contributions completes the circle. Families recognize volunteers as those who give without the expectation of reward. Peers recognize the volunteer as being a leader in their field, and communities recognize the volunteer as one who gives unselfishly to benefit the welfare of others. The person who gives freely of himself or herself to benefit others has given a gift of time, love, and purposefulness.

Many of us have been present when a peer has been recognized for excellence. That person will always cite the rewards of giving to others. Contributing to the future is our responsibility. There are many forms of volunteering: mentoring a student, serving on committees, participating actively in the professional

organization, and reaching out when asked. As one who has spent many hours volunteering, I can only urge you to give of yourself, and you will have so much more to give. Give in the spirit of contributing to the future of Health Information Management, a career worth pursuing. Excellence is hard to achieve, but with the help of many, it becomes possible. If asked to serve, say yes! Better yet, VOLUNTEER! Don't wait to be asked.

FHIMA Bylaws Proposed Changes

The following is a synopsis of the proposed changes to the FHIMA Bylaws. The proposed changes will be voted on for approval at the 2005 FHIMA House of Delegates meeting. If you have any comments on the following, please communicate these to your region's delegates. Included in the table below is the proposed change and the rationale. For the complete, document which includes the current bylaw, the proposed change and the rationale, please see "Proposed FHIMA Bylaws Changes for 2005 House of Delegates Meeting" in the "What's New" section of www.fhima.org.

Number	Proposed Amendment	Rationale
1	<p><i>Article III Membership</i></p> <p><i>Section 3. Associate Membership</i></p> <p>The associate membership of the Association shall be composed of the associate members of AHIMA, employed and residing in the State of Florida; non-employed members living in the state; members living in the state but employed in another state; and members living out of state but employed in the State of Florida, who select Florida for their state association membership. Associate members shall have all the privileges accorded this class of membership by AHIMA. They shall be eligible to serve as Committee members with voice and vote regarding committee business for the committee on which they are serving. They shall not be entitled to serve as Committee Chairmen, have other voting privileges or to hold office or to serve as delegates.</p>	<p>Adds clarification to the eligibility of Associate members serving as Committee Chairpersons. Reflects current AHIMA Bylaws regarding Associate members.</p>
2	<p><i>Article III Membership</i></p> <p><i>Section 7. Application for Membership</i></p> <p>Application must be in writing on the form provided by AHIMA, and shall be sent by the applicant directly to the Membership Department of AHIMA. Total amount of dues as provided in the AHIMA Bylaws shall accompany the application. Transfer of membership from another state shall be automatic when notice of such transfer is received from the Executive Director of AHIMA.</p>	<p>The applications for membership and transfer do not go to the Executive Director of AHIMA. These would go to the Membership Department of AHIMA.</p> <p>Grammatical change: Add "be" after "Application must" in first sentence of Sect. 7</p>
	<p><i>Article III Membership</i></p> <p><i>Section 8. Transfer of Active, Associate, Student or Inactive AHIMA Membership</i></p>	

3	<p>When an employed member changes his place of employment to another state or a non-employed member changes his residence to another state, or a student transfers to a school in another state, or upon graduation changes his residence to another state, he shall notify the Membership Department of AHIMA and transfer of the membership out of the State of Florida shall be automatic as provided in the Bylaws of AHIMA.</p>	<p>The applications for membership and transfer do not go directly to the Executive Director of AHIMA. These would go to the Membership Department of AHIMA</p>
4	<p><i>Article III Membership</i></p> <p><i>Section 10. Indemnification</i></p> <p>This Association shall indemnify any person to the fullest extent authorized or permitted by the corporation laws of the State of Florida any person made, or threatened to be made, a party to an action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that said person is or was an officer, employee or member acting in good faith in behalf of this Association.</p>	<p>Grammatical change.</p>
5	<p><i>Article IV. Officers and Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 2. Directors</i></p> <p>There shall be seven (7) Directors.</p> <p>a. The retiring President shall automatically become a Director for one year.</p> <p>b. Three Directors shall be elected <i>each year for a two-year term.</i></p>	<p>Grammatical change.</p>
6	<p><i>Article IV Officers and Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 3. Management Steering Committee</i></p> <p>Delete the entire section 3 regarding Management Steering Committee.</p>	<p>AHIMA has this in their standing rules and not their bylaws. This would make us consistent with National Association.</p>
7	<p><i>Article IV. Officers and Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 4. Directors</i></p> <p>The six elected Directors shall be assigned annually as Board Liaison to each of the Committee Chairmen (except the Nominating Committee) and each of the regional associations.</p>	<p>Regions need a board liaison to facilitate communication between FHIMA and local associations.</p>
8	<p><i>Article IV. Officers and Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 7. Elections</i></p> <p>Officers and Directors and AHIMA Delegate shall assume office <i>immediately</i> following the Annual Convention at which their election is declared, with the exception of the President, who shall assume office after the Annual Convention in the following year, having served as President-Elect for the preceding year.</p>	<p>Recommend office is assumed immediately following convention and remove specific date to reflect that convention could possibly be during a different month in the</p>

		future. Also, need to add AHIMA delegate as part of the elections.
9	<p><i>Article IV. Officers and Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 8. Vacancies</i></p> <p>In the event any officer or director leaves during his term of office, the President will propose a replacement and the replacement must be approved by a majority vote of the BOD.</p> <p>Any officer or director may resign at any time by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors, but such resignation shall not become effective until accepted by the Board of Directors.</p>	Provides clarification for filling of a vacancy of a Board member.
10	<p><i>Article V. Duties of Officers</i></p> <p><i>Section 1. Duties</i></p> <p>The Duties of the officers shall be specified in these Bylaws and in such Standing Rules as may from time to time be adopted, or as specified in the Policies and Procedures. Such duties may be also specified in the Bylaws and Standing Rules of AHIMA and the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.</p>	Grammar changes only.
11	<p><i>Article V. Duties of Officers</i></p> <p><i>Section 2. President</i></p> <p>The President shall become familiar with the Procedures for Component State Associations established by AHIMA and be guided by these procedures in directing the activities of the officers and committees. He or she shall preside at all the meetings of the Board of Directors, the Management Steering Committee and the FHIMA House of Delegates. He or she shall appoint, with the approval of the Management Steering Committee, the Committee Chairmen as provided in these Bylaws. He or she shall serve as an ex officio member of all committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. The President shall distribute the annual report of the Board of Directors at the Annual FHIMA House of Delegates.</p>	Add she along with he in order to reflect both sexes that may become president or president elect
12	<p><i>Article V. Duties of Officers</i></p> <p><i>Section 3. President-Elect</i></p> <p>The President-Elect shall serve as an aide to the President and shall assume the duties of the President in his absence or inability to act. He or she shall work with the Immediate Past-President and the Executive Director on the proposed budget for the upcoming year. He or she shall also be the Board Liaison for Regional Relationships.</p>	Add she along with he in order to reflect both sexes that may become president or president elect
	<p><i>Article VIII. Board Of Directors</i></p> <p><i>Section 2. Duties</i></p>	

<p>13</p>	<p>The Board of Directors shall prepare and oversee the implementation of a long-range strategic plan for the FHIMA. The strategic plan is developed by the Board of Directors and Regional Presidents or representatives every two years. The plan is submitted for annual review at the House of Delegates following adoption by the Board of Directors. The plan is reviewed periodically by the Board of Directors and revised as necessary.</p>	<p>The recommended change follows what has actually been occurring the past year.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 2. Nominating Committee</i></p> <p>Delete this paragraph.</p>	<p>AHIMA delegate is voted for on the mail in ballot, not a HOD.</p> <p>Alternate delegate outlined in ARTICLE XI. REPRESENTATION TO AHIMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES - Section 2. Election of Delegates</p>
<p>15</p>	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 3. Board Liaison</i></p> <p>The elected Directors shall be assigned annually to each of the Committee Chairmen as Board Liaison (except the Nominating Committee) and each of the regional associations. The President-Elect shall serve as the coordinator for Board Liaisons for the regional associations.</p>	<p>Responsibility is now shared among Directors and is not the sole responsibility of the President Elect.</p>
<p>16</p>	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 7. Eligibility</i></p> <p>Only active (delete Associate Member) members shall be eligible for appointment as a Committee Chairman, except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws.</p>	<p>Conflicts with ARTICLE III Section 3. Associate Membership which states "They shall be eligible for Committee membership with voice and vote." Follows AHIMA bylaws regarding eligibility for Committee Chair positions.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 8. Vacancies</i></p> <p>A vacancy in a (delete Board member) Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President."</p>	<p>Delete Board member. Addressed in ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS</p>

		<p>Section 8. Vacancies</p> <p>Delete shall be filled by the same procedure as the original appointment made. The President makes the original appointments to the Committee Chair.</p>
18	<p>Article XI. Representation to AHIMA House of Delegates</p> <p>Section 2. Election of Delegates</p> <p>The FHIMA President, AHIMA Delegate, President-Elect and immediate Past President at the time of the AHIMA Annual Convention shall be delegates. Nominations of additional delegates shall be made by the Nominating Committee and election shall be by mail ballot of Active members. The ballot shall indicate the membership classification of each nominee. A plurality vote shall elect. The Executive Director shall be sent as an alternate if a delegate finds it impossible to serve.</p>	<p>Need to add AHIMA Delegate. At the last Board meeting it was recommended the Executive Director serve as alternate since the Executive Director attends the AHIMA Annual Convention.</p>
19	<p>Article XII. FHIMA House of Delegates</p> <p>Section 1. Composition</p> <p>Each member of the Board of Directors and elected FHIMA State Delegates shall constitute the FHIMA House of Delegates and each shall have one vote.”</p>	<p>Change in sentence structure. As it is written, it sounds as if entire group collectively has one vote.</p>
20	<p>Article XIV. Specialty Organization Affiliation</p> <p>Section 1. Composition</p> <p>Delete entire Article.</p>	<p>This has been taken out of the AHIMA bylaws and FHIMA should take them out of theirs. The CoP has replaced this for AHIMA</p>
21	<p>Article XVII. Amendments</p> <p>Section 3. Format and Typing</p> <p>Proposals to be submitted shall be in the format as prescribed by the Board of Directors and each proposal shall be filed with the Board of Directors at least four (4) months prior to the Annual Meeting at which the proposal is to be submitted to the House of Delegates.</p>	<p>Reduce amount of time since a Board meeting is usually held 4 months before the Annual Convention.</p>
	<p>Article III Membership</p> <p>Section 1. Categories</p> <p>The membership of this Association shall be divided into five (5) classes:</p> <p>a. Active</p>	<p>Currently there is no category at the national or state level for physicians who act in</p>

<p>22</p>	<p>b. Associate c. Student d. Honorary e. Corporate f. Physician Advisor</p>	<p>advisory roles in the HIM field of study. Several physicians have earned CCS credentials but are not interested in the coding component of HIM, but the documentation improvement aspects. FHIMA should provide a means to serve or to be recognized as a member (including member rates for attendance.)</p>
<p>23</p>	<p><i>Article III Membership</i></p> <p>Add:</p> <p>Section 13. Physician Advisor Courtesy Membership</p> <p>Any physician who acts in the capacity of physician advisor and is interested in the purpose of FHIMA is eligible for Physician Advisor Courtesy Membership. A person with Physician Advisor Courtesy Membership status with FHIMA shall not be entitled to voting privileges, hold office or serve as a delegate but may serve on FHIMA Committees.</p>	<p>This Section will provide clarification for the additional category specified under Section 1.</p>
<p>24</p>	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 2. Nominating Committee</i></p> <p>The committee shall consist of a chairman and one (1) member appointed by the Management Steering Committee and one member from each region.</p> <p>In alternate years, one-half of the Regional Associations may submit one (1) nomination for the Nominating Committee. The odd-numbered Regional Associations shall be eligible to submit one (1) nomination in odd-numbered years and the even-numbered Regional Associations in even-numbered years. The year of determination corresponds with the year of the election by the House of Delegates. Nominations shall be sent to the Executive Director at least ninety (90) days in advance of the Annual State Convention. Names of nominees and their respective Regional Associations shall be included in the delegate packet mailed in advance. A ballot shall be submitted to the delegates for election of the members of the Nominating Committee in the FHIMA House of Delegates.</p>	<p>Given the declining interest by members to serve, the Nominating Committee should be restructured to consist of the Chairman, one member appointed by the Management Steering Committee and one member from each region.</p>
	<p><i>Article IX. Committees, Committee Chairmen and Board Liaison</i></p> <p><i>Section 4. Committee Chairmen</i></p> <p>Each Committee Chairman shall present a written report to his respective Board Liaison Director (5)</p>	<p>Provides further clarification for</p>

25	weeks prior to the Annual State Convention to include a list of accomplishments, updated Policies and Procedure for the Committee and updated Committee Timelines. The Board Liaison Directors will verify the report submitted by their Committee Chairmen and submit them to the President (3) weeks prior to the Annual State Convention, for presentation.	Committee Chairmen on information to be included in the written report.
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HIM & ONCOLOGY SUPPORT SERVICES

Backlog woes?

FHIMA

Florida Health Information Management Association

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AHIMA Update

July/August 2005

AHIMA Update

AHIMA Election Polls will open soon!

AHIMA's national election polls will open on August 23, 2005 at 12:00 a.m. - September 10, 2005. Eligible voters (as of June 30, 2005), will receive a link to their personal page on the CoP to cast their secured vote. The telephone number posted in the July/August Journal will not be available for voting until the polls open.



1. New Funding Bolsters Certification Commission

The Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT) announced in June that it has received a \$219,000 grant from the California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF) to support the national certification process for electronic health records. The grant will help support the development of a test methodology and testing procedures, selection of test entities, and coordination of a certification pilot. The support from CHCF augments more than \$100,000 in recent unrestricted funding to CCHIT from healthcare industry stakeholders, including physician associations, providers, payers and vendors. That funding will allow CCHIT to continue its work as an independent, private-sector initiative to certify health information technology products. The commission will publish the phase II version of its work products on July 11 for a second 30-day round of public comment. A series of public town calls is planned to introduce the phase II materials and answer questions. To learn more, go to http://www.ahima.org/press/press_releases/05.0615.2.asp.

2. SNOMED, HL7 Announce Agreement

SNOMED International, a division of the College of American Pathologists, has signed an associate charter agreement with Health Level Seven (HL7). The agreement formalizes the organizations' long-standing relationship and enables SNOMED to work with HL7 to help to drive harmonization between SNOMED Clinical Terms and the HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM). SNOMED CT will provide the RIM with a standardized healthcare terminology including comprehensive coverage of diseases, clinical findings, therapies, procedures, and outcomes. It provides the core general terminology for the electronic health record and contains more than 357,000 concepts with unique meanings and formal logic-based definitions organized into hierarchies. To learn more, go to http://www.snomed.org/news/documents/062305_E_HL7_Assoc_Char_FINAL_000.pdf.

3. Commentary Examines Privacy Concerns

The health information technology group of the law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP recently published "The Balance Between Privacy and Technology," a commentary examining privacy considerations related to the use and disclosure of health information in health information exchange collaborations. The paper stresses that organizations participating in such collaborations will need to allocate responsibilities and develop the appropriate policies and procedures to ensure that they continue to meet the privacy expectations of consumers and remain in compliance with applicable laws. To read the article, go to http://www.dwt.com/practc/hit/bulletins/06-05_PrivTechBalance.htm.

4. October 1 ICD-9-CM Procedure Code Updates, Revisions Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently posted the FY 2006 ICD-9-CM procedure code updates and revisions that will become effective on October 1. The ICD-9-CM procedure index additions are marked with bold underlining. The index to procedure revisions and deletions are marked with bold underlining and strikeout. To view the annual ICD-9-CM procedure code changes, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/paymentsystems/icd9/default.asp>.

5. House Passes HHS Appropriations Legislation, Includes HIT Privacy Provision

On June 24, the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 3010, a bill making appropriations for the departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies by a vote of 250-151. This legislation included an amendment from Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) that states "none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement any strategic plan...(regarding interoperable HIT) that lacks a provision that requires the Department of Health and Human Services to give notice to any patient whose information maintained by the Department under the strategic plan is lost, stolen, or used for a purpose other than the purpose for which the information was collected." The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The Senate will begin consideration of the appropriations proposal in mid-July.

6. HHS Appropriations Legislation Contains Funds for HIT Office

The appropriations legislation HR 3010 for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies has met the president's \$75 million request for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. The funds are for expenses of the office including grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for the development and advancement of an interoperable national health information technology infrastructure. Nearly \$17 million of the funds comes from section 241 (research and investigations) of the Public Health Service Act and is designated for health information technology network development.

7. CoP News You Can Use New Document Collaboration Function Rolled Out

Have you noticed the new **document collaboration** function on Communities of Practice? This new section is located right below Community Resources on the right hand side of each community's home page. The document collaboration area allows community members to collaborate on a single file.

The process is based on a check-in/check-out system. Once a file has been checked out for editing, it will be locked to prevent other community members from editing the same version of the file at the same time. While a file is locked, other community members will still have the ability to view the file. Document collaboration uses versioning to ensure that previous versions of edited are always available for community members to view. Log onto the CoP today at <http://www.ahima.org>.

While you're in the CoP, don't forget to check out the new poll feature on your Personal Page. Vote today on the topic, "What is a RHIO?"

8. Come to Chicago for the AHIMA Summer Volunteer Meetings

Join your colleagues for the following summer meetings at the Wyndham Chicago Hotel in Chicago, IL.

July 21

Community Education Coordinator Training

July 22

Summer Team Talks

July 23-24

Leadership Conference

July 24

Coding Roundtable Summit

The registration form and hotel information can be found in the Resources section of the State Leaders and HOD Community of Practice under the category "meeting registration."

Remember to join your coding colleagues **July 25-26** for "Renaissance for the 21st Century: Leading the Change to Coding Innovations." For more information, visit <http://www.ahima.org/products/CodingRenaissanceHome.asp>.

9. Upcoming Audio Seminars

Personal Health Records—What You Need to Know

July 19

Faculty: Clarice Smith, RHIA, CHP, and Julie Wolter, MA, RHIA

Interest in the personal health record (PHR) is being driven by consumer desire for greater involvement in the delivery of healthcare. Find out how healthcare professionals can contribute to the quality of the PHR and what they should know about PHR standards, content, integrity, and legal issues. What you learn will aid in successful implementation of the PHR. For registration and information, visit: <http://imis.ahima.org/orders/productByType.cfm?t=1> or call (800) 335-5535.

10. Clinical Coding Meeting Coming Soon in Orlando

Boost your understanding of clinical code assignments and issues that affect code reporting with, "Achieving Coding Excellence." These two-day meetings will give you insight into diseases and procedures, computer-assisted coding, and ethical coding dilemmas. You will acquire clinical knowledge about covered conditions and procedures and the implications of inappropriate coding, use clinical information to improve accuracy and efficiency in diagnosis and procedure code assignment, and apply proper coding processes and strategies to selected case scenarios. Upcoming meetings will be held in the following cities:

September 1-2

Orlando, FL

For more information and registration, visit http://www.ahima.org/coding/coding_meetings.asp.

Achieving Coding Excellence is sponsored in part by CodeRyte, Inc., MedQuist, Inc., and component state associations (CSAs).