One of the areas the Legislative/Advocacy KFA Chair monitors and oversees in their duties is maintaining a continuous watch on the national and state legislative bills that are being introduced into the legislative process. If needed, the Chair will determine what action, if any, from MHIMA needs to be initiated, compiled, and presented to either Representatives or Senators at the State or National level. During the State of Minnesota’s legislative session many bills were introduced and then subsequently monitored. Please note that many bills were passed and others were not during this session. Governor Dayton is still considering a Special Session this summer and more information will be made available to the MHIMA members if changes occur that affect HIM.

NEW LEGISLATION – STATE OF MINNESOTA – Effective August 1st

1. Modifications made to laws regulating physician assistants, midwives: The primary highlight of this law repeals the limitation on physician supervision of a maximum of five physician assistants at a time, allowing physicians to oversee any number of physician assistants. Laws requiring physician assistants to designate an alternative supervising physician will be repealed. This law will also allow licensed traditional midwives to administer maternal RhoGAM treatments.

2. Patients are allowed to designate a caregiver for recovery: The law will require hospitals to record and provide a patient or an agent for an incapacitated patient, the option within 24 hours of admission, but before discharge or being referred to another facility, to designate a caregiver to provide aftercare assistance at the patient’s residence following their discharge from the hospital. The hospital will also be required to inform the caregiver of the patient’s discharge or transfer.

3. Notification of 72-hour hold early termination required: The law will require treatment facilities to report to the agency that took an individual into custody and transported an individual whenever the individual is discharged early or leaves without consent prior to the end of the 72-hour hold.

4. Healthcare waiting room TVs must provide closed captioning: Licensed health care facilities will be required to have the closed captioning feature activated on any television in a waiting room provided for patients or the general public. The law also states that facility staff are to make “reasonable efforts” to prevent the public or patients from deactivating the captioning feature and to reactivate it as soon as possible.

Also there continues to be legislative work on the National level. Please check out 42 CFR Volume 81, No. 116, which is a proposed rule, in comment phase at this time. Within the proposed rule, please review Section D. Medical Records Services (482.24). There are some noted expectations for charting language and chart completion times.

https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/06/16/2016-13925/medicare-and-medicaid-programs

LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS INTO LAW

1. CONSENT REVISION

This bill was being monitored closely as it had revised language inserted into current legislative language regarding consents. The potential language addressed needing the "Patient’s affirmative consent or non-consent required for each item when requested to release health records." This would have mandated a revision to Release of Information forms which included the addition of signatures to all paragraphs on a consent form.

2. MEDICAL RECORDS ACT

The second bill that did not pass into law included multiple revisions to the Minnesota Medical Records Act. The revisions brought forth were reviewed and felt to be HIM friendly and would have brought Minnesota law into alignment, more so with the national HIPAA legislation.

If you would like additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at sue.nathe@tchc.org or go to: http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/newlaws/#/search/2016, click on the drop down menu and select “2016” and then to the right of that drop down there is another which will allow you to select a specific area to review.

Have a great and safe rest of the summer everyone!!
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President’s Message

As your new MHIMA President I am excited to kick off the 2016-2017 fiscal year! I look forward to another wonderful year filled with exciting opportunities for our members. To kick off the fiscal year the Delegate Directors, Executive Director, and I attended the AHIMA Leadership Symposium in Chicago. During the symposium we talked a lot about the AHIMA 2017 Strategic Plan and were encouraged to “Inspire Big Thinking to Launch Our Future”. We also had a lot of breakout sessions that provided opportunities to network and collaborate with other Component State Associations and AHIMA leaders. In just a few short weeks the MHIMA Board, Regional Presidents, and key volunteers will be joining together for our MHIMA strategic planning session where we will be sharing and incorporating what we learned from the AHIMA Leadership Symposium.

As we move into the month of August please mark your calendars and register for the Information Governance Bootcamp that will be held on August 26th at the Earle Brown Heritage Center. The Bootcamp is led by an AHIMA IGAdvisor and is a wonderful opportunity to learn all about IG and prepare an IG plan for your organization. Also, take time to review the AHIMA ballot and vote during the election. MHIMA is honored to be represented this year by AHIMA Director Candidate, Stephanie Luthi-Terry, and AHIMA CEE Candidate, David Marc. As a reminder, the polls open on Monday, August 1, 2016 thru Monday, August 15, 2016.

Cheers to a great year for MHIMA and our members! Please feel free to contact me at anytime with questions or concerns kmlundgren430@gmail.com

Kristi Lundgren, MS, RHIA
One of the areas the Legislative/Advocacy KFA Chair monitors and oversees in their duties is maintaining a continuous watch on the national and state legislative bills that are being introduced into the legislative process. If needed, the Chair will determine what action, if any, from MHIMA needs to be initiated, compiled, and presented to either Representatives or Senators at the State or National level. During the State of Minnesota’s legislative session many bills were introduced and then subsequently monitored. Please note that many bills were passed and others were not during this session. Governor Dayton is still considering a Special Session this summer and more information will be made available to the MHIMA members if changes occur that affect HIM.

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

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Have a great and safe rest of the summer everyone!!

Volunteer with MHIMA!

MHIMA continually seeks members to fill volunteer roles. Member involvement in volunteer roles is critical in building a strong association that provides optimal educational, networking, resources and leadership opportunities for its members. For MHIMA to continue having the ability to provide outreach to our valued members and expertise in subject areas within the field of health information management, we rely on our valued members (you) who make this happen for our association. Without you, MHIMA would not be the premier association of health information management professionals in Minnesota.

Whether you are a new MHIMA volunteer or a "seasoned" volunteer, let us know how you would like to participate by submitting the Volunteer Form on our website (mnhima.org > Member > Volunteer Here).

We look forward to hearing from you!
The Minnesota Legal Reference Manual Committee meets monthly to address changes in legislative matters that effect health information management or best practice related to legal matters in HIM world. The committee is comprised of volunteer experts in health information management at a variety of healthcare organizations throughout Minnesota. A wide network of subject matter experts are called upon when specific issues are brought forth. MHIMA members are encouraged to ask questions through email to the Executive Director, executivedirector@mhima.org.

We are always recruiting new members of the committee so if you would like to get involved, please contact the incoming 2016-2017 Chairperson, Mollie Niznik at mollie.niznik@allina.com.

For more information about what we do, visit the MHIMA website. MNHIMA.org

2017 New ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Codes Released

A list of new and revised ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS codes were released. They will be effective October 1, 2016 (FY 2017). There are 1,943 new ICD-10-CM codes and 3,651 new ICD-10-PCS codes. Other codes that are still under consideration are not included on these lists, the complete Addenda identifying all modifications will be posted in June.

Visit the MHIMA ICD-10 page (mnhima.org > HIM Trends and Topics > ICD-10) or AHIMA.org for more information.
Marketing and Communications Update

We have had another successful 2015-2016 Marketing and Communications year for MHIMA. Thanks to all the members who helped with all the different avenues of this committee. It has been a joy to have all the support from our great organization and its members. I am also excited to have lots of fresh names getting involved on this next year’s committee.

Marketing and Communications changes and getting renewed ideas and thoughts is a great help to our growing and transforming organization. We had a great out pour of members at the conference express interest in volunteering and we appreciate all the members that are helping out. If we have not contacted you please reach out to us again through the MNHIMA website under the volunteer tab. Someone from the committee will get in touch with you.

I also want to say thank you to all the vendors who helped make our annual meeting a great success! It was fun getting to know some of you better and all of our members enjoyed participating in our games with you.

We will be thinking of new and exciting ways to have interactive communication with our members and our supportive vendors for the next conference at Mystic Lake Casino and Resort in Prior Lake, MN.

Sarah Swoboda will be the incoming KFA for this committee so please reach out and say hi to her as she learns more about this exciting role.

Thank you for making my KFA year so satisfying. It was a delight!

Respectfully,

Lorna Clodfelder

Marketing and Communications KFA 2015-2016

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

Follow us on Facebook (MN Health Information Management) and Twitter (@MNHIMA) to receive information and keep up with current events!
ELECTION RESULTS

MHIMA Board Transition for 2016-2017

Your 2016-2017 incoming officers and board members assumed office July 1, 2016:

- President: Kristin Lundgren, MS, RHIA, CHDA
- President-Elect: Christina Wallner, RHIA
- Secretary: Brandi Bierbauer, RHIA, CPHT
- Treasurer: Suzy Johnson, MS, RHIA
- 1st Year Delegate Director: Jeri Romano, RHIT

They join Laura Blabac, Past-President, Heidi Onsted and Ryan Johns, 2nd Year Delegate Directors in continuing to govern your organization.

MHIMA extends a final official thank you to Jean McDonell as Past-President, and Mary Juenemann as Secretary, whose terms concluded on June 30, 2016. On behalf of everyone in MHIMA, we are very appreciative of your leadership and commitment to the vision and mission of MHIMA and to our HIM profession.

For a complete list of MHIMA’s current Board of Directors visit our website at MNHIMA.org.
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Coding Roundtable**
Wednesday, July 27th, 2016
12:00-1:00 P.M.

MHIMA's Coding & Data Quality Key Focus Area (KFA) will facilitate a discussion about ICD-10 and other coding topics. Please visit our [continuing education page at MNHIMA.org](http://MNHIMA.org) for more information and to register for this free event.

**Information Governance Bootcamp**

August 26th, 2016
Earle Brown Heritage Center
8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Note: Pre-Workshop webinars must be completed prior to the August 26th Boot Camp. Please register early to allow sufficient time to complete the series of webinars.

Visit our website MNHIMA.org for more information, including registration instructions!
2016 Annual Meeting update

Thank you to everyone that participated and joined us at the Civic Center and Kahler Hotel in Rochester, MN for the Annual Meeting. We have received the feedback forms and will be sharing with next year’s chairpersons to make improvements where we are able to. We know not everything can be perfect but we want to make the experience as best as we can so appreciate all the feedback we have received. The Annual Meeting Committee did a fabulous job helping with this conference so we need to give them a very special shout out and accolades for supporting MHIMA the best way possible, by volunteering!

We would also like to thank all the speakers who shared their knowledge with our membership. We had a wide variety of presenters this year and it was nice to see an interesting mix of topics. Thank you for supporting MHIMA!

Lastly, I would like to thank the vendors and those that sponsored our organization either by being a vendor, being a corporate sponsor or by donating to help support our event.

We have pictures of the event on our MN Health Information Management page posted to Facebook. Check them out!

Joy Schmitt and Diane Wolfe will be the co-chairs for the next conference that will be at Mystic Lake Casino and Resort. I am sure they would appreciate help with organizing this massive event. If you are interested go to the MNHIMA web page and sign up under volunteer. Someone will get in touch with you. What they will need help with: finding speakers, sub-committee chairs, and volunteers during the conference, participation in meetings, ideas, ideas and more ideas!!

Thank you again for all of the support during the 2016 Annual Meeting; it was an experience and a joy to serve as a co-chair with Ranelle! Thank you all!!

Lorna Clodfelder
Marketing and Communications KFA 2015-2016

SAVE THE DATE!
ATTEND THE 2017 MHIMA ANNUAL MEETING!
APRIL 26-28, 2017
MYSTIC LAKE CASINO HOTEL
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA
Staying Informed

It’s hard to take time in a busy day to get out to the AHIMA Engage Communities to find out what’s going on in our profession or what our colleagues are asking about. Did you know that you can have this information come to you?? There are many communities out there specific to Coding & Reimbursement, Health Informatics, Consumer Engagement/Personal Health Information, Confidentiality/Privacy & Security, Information Governance, HealthCare Leadership & Innovation, Health Information Technologies, and Consumer Engagement. To join a community, simply log on to www.ahima.org and into MyAHIMA. Click on ‘Engagement Online Communities.’ Select the ‘Communities’ dropdown, and then ‘All Communities’ to start, and finally ‘Join’ the ones that interest you. MHIMA’s members-only community is ‘Minnesota.’ Once you’ve joined some communities, in the upper right-hand corner, select the dropdown on your “profile icon” and select Profile. From your Profile, navigate to “My Account” (last tab). Select the dropdown box, and then select ‘Community Notifications.’ When your list of communities displays, you can select individual communication settings for each community.

While you’re in and setting up the ability to hear from your favorite communities, you might want to take the time to setup your profile. Members who opt out of email communications from MHIMA won’t receive emails from us – and they’re a great way to see what’s going on with upcoming events, job openings, and other AHIMA-related information. To know you’re getting information from your state association, navigate to the “About Me” tab, and set your State Association to “Minnesota.” To set your communication preferences, navigate to the Communication Preferences tab. Communications about MNHIMA activities are at the bottom of page of options.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the MHIMA Board members, as we are happy to assist you!

Ryan Johns, 2nd Year Delegate Director
Heidi Onsted, 2nd Year Delegate Director
Jeri Romano, 1st Year Delegate Director
GOALS

Would you start a road trip without a map? Probably not. With that same thought, are you proposing a career or a life without a plan?

Plans are a way to accomplishing your goals. The road to any goal may contain some bumps and little detours. Often your planning path may not be a straight shot. While you may have laid out your plan to read A to B to C to D. In reality, it might look more like A to C to D to B. Does it really matter as long as the you reach the end result you want?

One of my favorite advising suggestions is to “Keep the train on the track and moving forward.” In other words, don’t be distracted and keep your goals firmly in mind.

One of the keys is not to make your planning so rigid that you cannot weather the setbacks that could be thrown in your path. I think of the huge trees in our local parks. They have been there for years because they are flexible. When strong winds blow they can bend and twist without being uprooted. When the storms pass, they are OK. We should take lessons from them.

Sometimes people short change or skip the planning stage because it takes time, which is true. However, in the long run planning almost always saves time as we can often avoid some of those dead end twists, turns, and bumps in the road that will arise. Don’t forget, planning is a way of reaching your goals.

Goals come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Basically, goals can be grouped in large categories. For example, short term goals could have a possible life span of a day, week or month versus long term goals which could project out for a number of years. It is good to have both. Think about short term goals as stepping stones to your long term goals. For example, if your long term goal is to have a college degree, then first use short term goals to decide on a major and to select a college. Set your short term goals in sequence so they dovetail together and lead you to accomplishing your long term goal, a college degree.

Stop, think about your goals, and then chart a course to reach those goals.

Carolyn Gaarder, MA, RHIA
How I Will Use This Degree to Advance the HIM Profession

By Rebekah Blaschko

My first step after graduation is to get a job in the Health Information Management (HIM) field. I am currently interested in coding, but that may change after I explore a few options during my internship next spring. My next goal is to get my master’s degree in Occupational Therapy as I need degrees in both HIM and Occupational Therapy to work toward my life goals.

In elementary school when asked what I wanted to do for a career, I always chose teaching. My mom is a teacher and I admire the positive impact she has on children. With college approaching, I thought about what direction I wanted to take. While doing a job shadow, I realized there are many ways to “teach” and/or “help” people. That was where I learned about being an occupational therapist. After digging into that career, I found the most common undergraduate major is psychology. I knew that I did not want that as my major. I wanted something that would benefit me in the future and play off of my organizational skills. I also didn’t want to be like most occupational therapists. I wanted to be able to differentiate myself.

During college, freshman year, occupational therapy was my top priority. I was only taking HIM classes to major in something so I could get a step closer to occupational therapy program. That focus changed when a professor asked what I wanted to do in the HIM field. I told her I did not want to be working in HIM; I just wanted the healthcare background. My professor was excited that I was doing both. She told me many different things I could do with HIM and opened up a new way of thinking for me. I realized I did enjoy HIM and wanted it in my life. I felt like I would have an advantage compared to other occupational therapists because not only will I know about occupational therapy, but I will have a “backbone” in healthcare. I will also be familiar with health laws including how procedures are performed throughout the hospital. When I treat patients, I will understand both the treatments and why the process used to document treatments is so important. This marked the start of putting together my sense of a long-term career path. I want to make a difference in people’s lives. One way I can do that is teach through both occupational therapy and HIM. In the long run I hope to run my own therapy clinic. Not only will therapists be needed, but so will HIM professionals. Health records are still involved. Coding and documenting are important because people turn it into their insurance and the clinic will receive reimbursement. I need staff to be documenting and charting efficiently so coders and HIM staff can process the information correctly the first time without complications. I believe that I can make a difference in the HIM profession by expanding HIM into other professions.

I would like to do what a HIM Manager does, but in the Occupational Therapy field. I want to be the person responsible for the actions of my group. I want to guide them and teach them the best ways to treat patients and techniques that may be more beneficial. I hope to analyze data to implement new strategies and techniques based on how they work the best and what type of patients my employees are seeing. I want to be able to plan out their schedules based on who they see making sure to pair the right resources with the right patients. Every individual specializes in something though they may not even realize it. Some therapists are better at seeing certain types of patients. I would like to help my therapists use their knowledge to their best ability to benefit my patients.

I believe I would be a good choice to receive this scholarship because I work very hard, have solid goals to use my HIM degree, but also because I am a good investment and would pay it forward through my teaching.
How I Will Use This Degree to Advance the HIM Profession

By Janna Nelson

I am in my last semester at St. Cloud Technical and Community College in St. Cloud Minnesota. First, I would like to thank the instructors and college for providing me with a great education and preparing me for my career in health information. Since the early 2000’s I have dreamed of returning to college to pursue a career in health information and in 2014 I had the resources to achieve this dream.

My employment background has a variety of career fields and expertise. I have proven that I am a valuable team player that is highly organized and able to detect when a policy or procedure needs to be changed.

Since interning at a long-term care facility last summer I would like to find a career in this type of healthcare setting. I enjoyed the variety of work. I would use my degree to make sure that HIPAA laws are being followed by the employees to protect the individuals living in the long-term care home. Since the elderly are more vulnerable, I would work to ensure that proper documenting of their care is being done. Some of the ways to accomplish this is by following all applicable laws and that the patient’s medical record is updated timely and accurately.

Another way to use my degree is to apply my organizational, accurateness, and customer service skills. I use my organizational skills to do tasks that are required in a timely manner. For example, I keep either a daily list of tasks or a task list in Outlook to remind myself of timelines. Accuracy is critical in the HIM industry. I have held positions such as Paralegal, Operations Associate, and Call Center Scheduler where accuracy is a key factor in day-to-day operations. For example, as a Paralegal with TCF, I handled a major executive distribution from a retirement plan. Accuracy is key when gathering data for this distribution and tax reporting. Finally, I have great people and customer service skills.

continued.....
How I Will Use This Degree to Advance the HIM Profession

My philosophy is the same as the Golden and the Platinum Rules. I do for others as I would do for myself and do for others as they would do for themselves. Working with the elderly has been a wonderful experience. This is a great way to see how your involvement in their lives benefit them and yourself. Your attitude affects their life and makes a positive difference. I do not even feel like I am working at the long-term care facility. I feel like part of the family. A smile, hello, and calling a customer by their name makes a difference in someone’s day.

I do not know where the future will take me. I enjoy the HIM career field and will make the most of the education I have received. I plan to pay-it-forward by educating others with information I have learned. I will continue to learn by attending HIM meetings and by completing continuing education credits. One day I may return to college to seek my RHIA degree.

Visit MNHIMA.org/Education/Scholarships to read the rest of the winning essays.

MHIMA Student Merit Scholarship Fund at AHIMA Foundation

Each year, the MHIMA Board of Directors awards scholarships to HIM students based on Merit. The funds for these scholarships are derived from direct donations to the MHIMA Student Merit Scholarship Fund and also from the proceeds of our Silent Auction held each year at the MHIMA Annual Meeting. The funds are held at the AHIMA Foundation, which makes it possible for donations to be tax deductible.

Are you interested in giving to students by donating to the scholarship fund? Please visit our AHIMA Foundation page for more information and instructions on donating.
ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

We would like to give our great appreciation for everyone who helped with this newsletter. Special thanks to those who submitted content: Diane Wolfe, Carolyn Gaarder, Lorna Clodfelder, Christina Wallner, Sue Nathe and Deb Switzer.

Do you have an article you would like to submit for the next newsletter or have a topic you would like to see featured? Please email us at marketing-communications@mnhima.org!