2016 Annual Meeting Registration
Registration is still available for our 2016 Annual Meeting at the Mayo Civic Center and Kahler Grand Hotel in Rochester, MN! The meeting will occur April 27-29, 2016. This year, our Wednesday and Thursday sessions will be held at the Mayo Civic Center. Friday sessions will be held at the Kahler Grand Hotel.

Visit our website, www.mnhima.org, for more information and to register! We hope to see you there!
We’re all aware of it: election season is again upon us. While I’m sure many of us are a bit weary of the glitz and grandstanding associated with the presidential election, it’s also worth noting that there are also 34 Senate and 435 House of Representative seats to fill, and it’s in these areas that much work occurs that impact the many laws, programs and services that affect our day-to-day lives.

MHIMA has long been involved in advocacy about issues that affect patient care and management of the health information that is the lifeblood of that care. Advocacy is one of those activities that sounds like it should be done by experienced and knowledgeable professionals, and many of us shy away from it as though it involves hours on a telephone making phone calls from a campaign office. (I know this, because I was one of those people!) Today I’m here to tell you, however, that nothing could be further from the truth - and it is incredibly easy to do!

This month, AHIMA is working to petition US administration about removing a ban from federal budget language that would allow the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to find a patient identification solution – and we need 100,000 signatures on the petition to even start the conversation! For anyone who has worked in managing an MPI/EMPI, has spent weeks separating co-mingled charts or who are watching electronic interoperability outstrip the ability to make sure we’re sending information about the right patient – you know how important this is. “Advocacy” is as simple as taking the time to sign the petition, sharing the petition on Facebook or with your family and friends, or participating in a twitter rally encouraging folks to think about it. As part of our advocacy work, MHIMA will have representation at this year’s Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC.

In other MHIMA news – our volunteers are hard at work finalizing the MHIMA Annual Meeting in Rochester, which looks like it will be a learning-filled and fabulous time! Silent auction donations are currently being requested, along with wine and coffee donations for our wine and coffee walls – all proceeds of which go to our Scholarship fund. There will be more coding roundtables coming up as well as another few coding webinars, and an Information Governance Bootcamp is in the works for later this year, so check back later this spring for more detail.
President’s Message (continued)

Finally – MHIMA exists for one mission: professional development of its members through education, networking, and life-long learning. Toward the end of April and during the Annual Meeting we will be publishing a survey that seeks your input on how it can best help you with this. Survey participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of THREE gift card prizes!! We hope you’ll stop to complete this short survey (about 5 to 7 minutes is all it takes!).

In the meantime, I hope everyone is enjoying spring and more daylight! As always, if you have any questions or comments, or would like to get involved in some volunteer committees or tasks, feel free to email me!

Best,
Laura

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!
Join us for the Annual Meeting!
April 27-29, 2016
Mayo Civic Center and Kahler Grand Hotel
Rochester, MN

Join us as we “Remember the Past: Embrace the Future” at the MHIMA Annual Meeting at the Mayo Civic Center and Kahler Grand Hotel in Rochester, MN. The event will take place from Wednesday, April 27th-Friday, April 29th.

We are approaching our wonderful Annual Meeting really fast! I can’t believe it is a month away. I hope you all have registered or are going to register soon! Lorna, Gina and I have a fantastic event planned for you. We have some really great keynote speakers and awesome tracks planned. Our vendor reception should be a lot of fun too! Bring on the games from the 80’s. We also have a great evening planned for Thursday night, too! “Ladies of the 80’s” will be performing. Wear your best 80’s gear! And Rock On!!!

-Ranelle Brown, Annual Meeting co-chair

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. All items for silent auction are welcome and very much appreciated.

We not only have a Silent Auction but also a Wine Wall and Coffee Corner. You do not need to bid or purchase if you do not wish to, we also take donations for the those wishing to do that as well.

Come visit the Silent Auction room and see what awesome items we will have this year, try your luck to win a coffee or wine item and network with your awesome state colleagues. This year we will be featuring a totally awesome mystery prize so stop in during the annual meeting to take a chance on rocking out as the winner.

-Thank you! Joy Schmitt, 2016 MHIMA Scholarship Fund Committee
The Marketing and Communication Committee has been busy with many events this year. We have updated our volunteer page, connected with volunteers who want to be involved in MHIMA, kept up to date information on our web page, informed members of upcoming events via Facebook and Twitter, contacted vendors for the Annual Meeting, completed the quarterly newsletter, created/organized the Annual Meeting booklet, booth preparation for the Annual Meeting and decided on marketing materials to sell during the Annual Meeting. As you can see it takes a wide variety of interests to serve on this committee and we are interested in extending the offer to other members within our organization for the 2016-2017 year. We do continue to have great volunteers within our organization and we always receive lots of support so if you are not sure but have questions or would like to try one of the above please let Kelsey Donatelle (Kelsey.donatelle@allina.com) or I know and we would be happy to answer questions or get you into a position that will fit your needs and look great on your resume! We will have a computer set up at our booth so please stop by and register to volunteer.

We are currently gearing up for the Annual Meeting that will be held in Rochester, MN this year. We will be at the Civic Center Wednesday and Thursday and the Kahler Hotel on Friday. The MHIMA Marketing booth will be selling stainless steel water bottles and wine bottle openers for those people who take advantage of the Wine Wall at the Silent Auction! We will again have a drawing for RHIA or RHIT students (recent or graduating within the year) whose school does not pay for the AHIMA testing to receive a test for free! The M&C Committee will also have a spin the wheel game to win additional prizes or discounts off of products. We will be located directly next to the Registration Table at the Civic Center Wednesday and Thursday.

We are very excited to have many activities this year, one of them being a live band on Thursday night, The Ladies of the 80’s!! I am sure you can figure out what their song selections will include. This will be at the Kahler Hotel starting at 7PM and ending at 11PM. Come and get your 80’s dancing in plus sing along to all the 80’s classics that we all know and love. All are encouraged to dress up in your favorite 80’s style!

See you all at the conference and thank you for considering to volunteer within our organization!

Lorna Clodfelder, RHIT
Marketing and Communication KFA
Lorna.clodfelder@allina.com
2016 Election Results

The 2016 MHIMA Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the results of our recent electronic ballot:

President-Elect: Christina Wallner, RHIA
Secretary: Brandi Bierbrauer, RHIA, CPhT
Delegate Director: Jeri Romano, RHIT
Audit Committee: Linnea Hansen, RHIT and Sue Nathe, RHIT

We had a 17.29% voter response this year. Thank you to everyone who voted! The newly elected officers, board members and audit committee members will be recognized at our annual business meeting on April 28, 2016 and will assume their elected positions on July 1, 2016.

The Nominating Committee joins all MHIMA members in congratulating those elected, and we thank those who placed their names on the ballot and were not elected this year.

Jean MacDonell, MBA, RHIA  
Past President, MHIMA  
2016 Nominating Committee Chairperson

Updated Maximum Charges for Patient Records

The Minnesota Department of Health has published the Maximum Charges for Patient Records, confirming the annual determination of maximum charges for patient records. The maximum charges are $1.33 per page for copy charges and $17.68 for retrieval fees. Pursuant to statute, these limits do not apply to x-rays. The provider may charge a patient no more than the actual cost of reproducing x-rays, plus no more than $10 for the time spent retrieving and copying the x-rays. You can obtain a copy of the document on our legislative updates page (mnhima.org > HIM Trends and Topics > Legislative Updates).
2016 Distinguished Member Announced

The 2016 MHIMA Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the 2016 MHIMA Distinguished Member: Vicki Zeman, MA, RHIA. Vicki currently holds a position as Faculty Emeritus at The College of St. Scholastica. Vicki was an extremely dedicated role model for The College of St. Scholastica Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM) students throughout her 30 year teaching career. Starting with the College in 1985, she spent the majority of her professional career educating, advising, and promoting success. She has provided her time, effort, and dedication to producing quality students and assuring their success in the Health Information Management field. Vicki has been the kind of advisor that leaves a lasting impression upon each and every HIM student. Prior to joining the faculty at CSS, Vicki worked in a variety of HIM leadership roles at several hospitals in Duluth, Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin. She also served in various officer and board positions for the Northeastern Minnesota Health Information Management Association and the Minnesota Health Information Management Association, as well as serving at AHIMA in a variety of roles. Vicki earned her bachelor’s degree in HIM from The College of St. Scholastica and her master’s in Management from The College of St. Scholastica.

I hope you will join me in celebrating this recognition of a very deserving HIM professional at our 2016 annual meeting. The Distinguished Member Reception will be held after the luncheon on Thursday, April 28, 2016. Guests who wish to attend should contact the Executive Director of MHIMA at executivedirector@mnhima.org. There is no extra charge for those registered to attend the meeting on Thursday.

Warm regards,

Jean MacDonell, RHIA
Chair, MHIMA Nominating Committee
Past President of MHIMA

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.
Credential Spotlight: CDIP

Each quarter we will be featuring a different credential offered by AHIMA. This quarter we will take a look at becoming a Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner (CDIP). According to AHIMA, “Individuals who earn the CDIP designation will be distinguished as knowledgeable and competent in clinical documentation in patient health records, be positioned as leaders and role models in the health informatics and information management community, demonstrate competency in capturing documentation necessary to fully communicate patients’ health status and conditions, and elp provide a strong base of expertise in the industry.”

Jenny Most, MBA, RHIA, CDIP, CCS received her CDIP in 2012 and we recently asked her questions about taking the exam.

1. **What materials did you use to prepare and how long did you study prior to taking the exam?** When I took the test in Feb. 2012, it was in the beta period as the exam was very new. I reviewed the recommended resources listed on the AHIMA website. At the time, the AHIMA Practice Brief regarding compliant queries was the most helpful. I think the test has changed quite a bit once it moved out of beta. Because of my experience in coding and CDI work on the job, I didn’t prepare too much for the exam outside of reviewing the AHIMA Practice Briefs related to the exam. I was assuming that my experience in CDI and coding would allow me to do well on the exam and it did. I was also in the process of studying for my CCS exam at the time which helped. I thought the CCS exam was a little more difficult than the CDIP exam.

2. **How did your current or previous positions help you prepare for the exam?** My career has been in inpatient coding and I had been doing CDI related activities for over seven years prior to taking the test. I had experience in working to improve the DRG, write non-leading queries, clarify PSI’s/HACs, working with physicians, working with the quality department, etc. This along with the inpatient coding experience was helpful.

3. **How do you feel obtaining this credential has helped you in your current position or will help you in the future?** I am a fan of holding certifications to show my expertise. Since I am well versed in coding and CDI, I wanted the CCS and CDIP credentials. This also makes you marketable to employers especially if you’re interested in a CDI position.

4. **What would you say to MHIMA members who are considering obtaining their CDIP?** If you have the required experience to sit for the exam and you are currently involved with CDI......go for it!

5. **Any other comments about preparing for or taking this exam?** Review the Exam Prep information to understand the domains and tasks that will be on the exam. The Recommended Resources is also helpful. If you need extra help, there are prep workshops available.
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!

Christina Wallner, 2nd Year Delegate Director
Ryan Johns, 1st Year Delegate Director
Heidi Onsted, 1st Year Delegate Director

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How to Ace Out the New Job  
by: Carolyn Gaarder, MA, RHIA  

Set the Stage:  
Get your personal life organized before starting a new job. That could mean arranging for daycare and backup daycare, transportation and backup transportation for yourself and family, etc. The first days at a new job can be stressful enough. This is time that you need to devote to learning the ropes. These days will be much less stressful if your support system is in place and functioning. You can concentrate on matters at hand, namely, your new position.

Invest in a Calendar/Notebook:  
Information from supervisors and fellow workers. Each evening, review and organize your notes. You will be snowed with new information in the first few days. Don’t trust yourself to remember everything. Take notes of importance.

Ask the Right Questions:  
While asking questions is good, ask the right questions. Taking notes will avoid asking the same questions repeatedly. Remember, there is a right and wrong time to ask questions. Never interrupt a person who is obviously concentrating on getting a job done or is communicating with another person.

Read the Employee Material:  
You will be given lots of orientation material. Some will be specific to the organization and some will pertain only to the department. Be sure to read it carefully as it may answer many questions that you might have.

Adhere to the Dress Code:  
Take note of what your new co-workers are wearing. Every facility will have a dress code defining apparel that is appropriate to the position/department. Zero in on any directives in regard to tattoos, body jewelry and fragrances.

Be careful not to flaunt your previous experience or education:  
You may have more education than many of your new co-workers, but they probably have much more experience. Don’t try to impress anyone. If you do have work experience in a similar job, things may have been done in a different way. Let your new co-workers explain how things are done in this facility. Avoid saying, “Well, we used to . . . .” This is a new ballgame.

Make Friends:  
This is an important step that is more than just being friendly as you will be developing relationships. It could be a mistake to bond immediately with one or two new colleagues and remain more distant to the others. Remember, you need to have a “working relationship” with all your colleagues. That does not mean that you must have a close personal relationship with everyone.

A new job is exciting and it is important to start out on the right foot. In other words, set a firm foundation for success!
2016 Scholarship Winners Announced

The MHIMA Scholarship Committee has selected the following students to receive Minnesota Merit Scholarships:

**RHIT Program:**

- Janna Nelson  
  St. Cloud Technical & Community College  
  $1500

- Kraig Eddy  
  Rochester Community & Technical College  
  $700

- Jonathan Olson  
  Anoka Technical College  
  $700

- Alissa Jacobson  
  Rochester Community & Technical College  
  $700

- Katie Guida  
  Rasmussen College  
  $300

- Angela Burrichter  
  Rochester Community & Technical College  
  $300

**RHIA**

- Rebekah Blaschko  
  The College of St. Scholastica  
  $1000

- Mary Lehet  
  The College of St. Scholastica  
  $800

Congratulations to these deserving students who will be recognized at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2016! Watch the July issue of MHIMA Connection for a link to the essays from these students.
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A new job is exciting and it is important to start out on the right foot. In other words, set a firm foundation for success!

Thank you for your article submissions!
We would like to give our great appreciation for everyone who helped with this newsletter. Special thanks to those who submitted content: Laura Blabac, Carolyn Gaarder, Ranelle Brown, Lorna Clodfelder, Jean MacDonell, Christina Wallner, Ryan Johns, Heidi Onsted, Jenny Most, Joy Schmitt, 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!

Upcoming Events

MHIMA Annual Meeting
April 27th-29th, 2016
Rochester, MN

Coding Roundtable
May 25th, 2016
12:00PM -1:00PM
Online Webinar

Coding Roundtable
June 22nd, 2016
12:00PM-1:00PM
Online Webinar

Information Governance Bootcamp
August 26th, 2016
Location TBD

Be sure to visit our website for more information, including registration instructions!