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A lot has been happening these last few weeks as the MHIMA election has wrapped up and a few of the board members attended the AHIMA Hill Day in Washington, D.C. I was one of the board members that attended Hill Day and I was so proud to represent MHIMA on the hill. We advocated for our profession and for patient matching and it was an experience that I will remember forever.

It is hard to believe that we are less than a month away from our Annual Meeting at Mystic Lake Casino. Joy, Dianne, and the Annual Meeting Committee have put together a wonderful meeting that will definitely set the stage and showcase new developments within our HIM profession.

I hope everyone will be attending the meeting and I look forward to learning, networking, and celebrating our distinguished member, new award winners, and scholarship recipients.

See you all soon!

Kristi Lundgren

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 $1.35 per page for copy charges and $17.96 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).
2017 AHIMA Advocacy Summit

MHIMA President Kristi Lundgren, President-Elect Christina Wallner, and Advocacy Chair Sue Nathe kicked off Health Information Professionals (HIP) Week by attending the 2017 AHIMA Advocacy Summit in Washington D.C. on March 27th and 28th.

The Advocacy Summit is a two-day conference bringing AHIMA’s leadership together to engage in dialogue that focuses on the strategic direction and advocacy efforts of the HIM profession and the Association, as well as to help ensure that HIM professionals are part of the policy decision making process. MHIMA’s representatives joined forces with leaders from 48 Component State Associations (CSA’s), AHIMA’s Board of Directors, and AHIMA’s Advocacy & Policy Counsel to advocate for the HIM profession and the importance of patient matching.

As part of the 21st Century Cures Act signed into law in 2016, Congress called for the advancement of interoperable electronic health systems to ensure seamless patient care and to help realize the benefits of a learning health system. However, as electronic health systems increasingly become interoperable and external data exchange between stakeholders improves, HIM professionals will be responsible for managing greater volumes of data to ensure that each patient is properly identified and matched to their specific health information.

The 21st Century Cures Act, which included language requiring the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate ways in which the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) could improve patient matching methods, received ‘Yes’ votes from Senator Amy Klobuchar and Senator Al Franken, as well as seven of Minnesota’s U.S. Representatives. Jason Lewis, U.S. Representative for Minnesota’s 2nd congressional district, was elected to office in 2016 after the vote for this legislation took place.

MHIMA representatives had the opportunity to meet with legislative staff for Senator Klobuchar, Senator Franken, and Representative Tom Emmer to thank them for their support of the 21st Century Cures Act and ask for their continued support for HIM in the state of Minnesota by including HIM professionals, from their respective congressional districts, in future discussions on healthcare-related activities and initiatives at the federal level.

Kristi and Sue were even lucky enough to share this message directly with Representative Jason Lewis and Representative Rick Nolan, respectively!

All in all, it was a successful Advocacy Summit for MHIMA! Kristi, Sue, and I are extremely grateful for the support we received during our congressional visits. It was an honor to represent our members and promote the HIM profession!

Christina Wallner, RHIA
MHIMA President-Elect
Greetings from your 2017 Annual Meeting Co-Chairs!
Joy Schmitt and Diane Wolfe

We are excited to bring you more information about this year’s Annual Meeting, April 26-28 at Mystic Lake Hotel and Casino in Prior Lake MN. The planning committee has been working hard at putting together an INFORMATIVE yet FUN 3 day event!

WEDNESDAY APRIL 26TH, 2017

Wednesday kicks off with speakers from a broad spectrum of the healthcare industry. Topics include leadership skills, professional ethics, analytics and alternative medicine.

Our Exhibit Hall opens at 10am on Wednesday so make sure you plan some time visit our fantastic vendors! We will be playing the Walk of Fame Game, an interactive Twitter game to break the ice and allow you quality time to meet and discuss the latest HIM industry trends.

The Silent Auction opens at noon on Wednesday with all proceeds going to the MHIMA Scholarship fund. A wide variety of items will be up for auction including gift baskets of all sorts, jewelry, household items, and back by popular request; our wine and coffee walls!

Our Wednesday night vendor reception event is Celebrity Karaoke! This is a chance for attendees to spend some time with our vendors “off the clock”. Attendees are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite celebrity or play “dress up” with a variety of items available at the event. Then sing your heart out with Twin Cities Karaoke! Prizes will be awarded for best costumes and best singers.

THURSDAY APRIL 27TH, 2017

Thursday morning starts off with more fantastic keynote speakers, followed by our 2017 MHIMA Annual Business Meeting in the fabulous Mystic Showroom.

We’ll be honoring our 2017 Distinguished Member, Marsha Holey for her years of faithful service to the field. Marsha has made countless contributions to our profession during her 40 years of leadership as the Program Director of HIS/Coding Programs at St Catherine University. MHIMA Annual meeting Attendees will recognize her from her Exam Prep Workshops and Educator Roundtables.

The Distinguished Member Luncheon will follow allowing a full 90 minutes to eat, visit our vendors and bid on silent auction items before returning to the afternoon program.

Thursday afternoon breakout sessions allow YOU to choose your path. We’ve lined up speakers from all aspects of our industry to bring you more information about the topics that are trending in today’s HIM world. Technology and analytics, HIE, Population Health, PHR, Consulting, and Information Governance are all topics covered in our Thursday tracks. We’ve tapped some of the best minds in the industry to bring you a program that addresses innovation and current issues teamed with real life examples and experiences.

FRIDAY APRIL 28TH, 2017

Friday’s program offers more intensive look at Information Governance with our IG Track and coding roundtables for Coding Professionals as well as the Annual Educators Meeting.

We hope you enjoy the conference this year as much as we have enjoyed pulling it all together. Be sure to check MNHIMA.org for the latest information up to the conference. We look forward to seeing you April 26-28!

Joy and Diane

Aside from the 4000+ slots machines and table games, Mystic Lake Casino offers a large array of things to do on site. Meet with friends at one of 3 bars on the gaming floor, or venture to the Meadows Café for drinks and appetizers.

The Steakhouse offers a classic steakhouse menu and sizable wine list in a warm atmosphere for dinner conversation. Or take advantage of the Mystic Buffet, MN largest buffet. Mystic also has a food court to accommodate your midday or late evening snack attacks. An Olympic size pool and spa await you after a long day of meetings.

If you choose to go off site, you will find shopping and eateries only 5-10 minutes away in Prior Lake, Chaska, or Shakopee. Contact the hotel concierge desk for more information.
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2017 Annual Meeting Registration

Registration is still available for our 2017 Annual Meeting at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel! The meeting will occur April 26-28, 2017.

Visit our website, www.mnhima.org, for more information and to register! We hope to see you there!
ELECTION RESULTS

The 2017 MHIMA Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the results of our recent electronic ballot:

- President-Elect: Ryan Johns, RHIA, CHPS
- Secretary: Mallory Johnson, RHIA
- Treasurer: Joy Schmitt, RHIT, CHIMA, BS
- Delegate Directors: Brandi Bierbrauer, RHIA, CPhT and Mary Juenemann, MS, RHIA, CCS
- Audit Committee: William Broberg, RHIT, BS

We had a 15.9% 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 27, 2017 and will assume their elected positions on July 1, 2017.

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

Laura Blabac, MS, RHIA, CHDA
Past President, MHIMA
2017 Nominating Committee Chairperson
The 2017 MHIMA Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the 2017 MHIMA Distinguished Member: Marsha Holey, MALS, RHIA.

Deemed “an educator’s Educator,” Marsha has been a dynamic, highly visible member of the Health Information Management profession for more than 40 years. On completion of her Bachelor of Arts degree in Medical Records Administration from the College of St. Scholastica, Marsha spent time working as a Medical Care Evaluation Coordinator in Kalamazoo, MI. Returning to Minnesota, in 1977 Marsha joined the College of St. Catherine’s (now St. Catherine’s University) in St. Paul, MN and began what would become her life’s work: the development of collegiate programming for the Health Information Management (HIM) discipline, and the education of future professionals.

Beginning as an Assistant Professor in the Health Information Management programs, Marsha later became an Associate Professor and the Program Director for the Health Information Specialist, Coding Specialist Programs. During this time, Marsha made significant contributions to the design of traditional and non-traditional HIM programs. Understanding the need for cross-discipline relationships, Marsha has given many inter-professional presentations both within and outside of St. Catherine’s University, and has earned the respect of her peers through the many committees she has served on. Moreover, Marsha is known as a compassionate and nurturing educator, an excellent role model and tireless advocate for her students.

Her devotion to the profession has spanned years of publications, research, education and leadership. She has been an active member and participant nationally as a participant in the Assembly of Education, a delegate to the AHIMA House of Delegates and served as a surveyor for the Council on Accreditation. She is a past President for MHIMA and has served in a variety of elected and volunteer positions with MHIMA. In all things, Marsha has been an ethical leader who consistently exercises stewardship, loyalty and embraces excellence for the HIM profession.

I hope you will join me in celebrating the recognition of this outstanding HIM professional at our 2017 Annual Meeting. Our Distinguished Member will be honored on Thursday, April 27, 2017.

If you haven't already registered for our annual meeting, there is still time. Early registration fees apply until April 7th. The meeting offers up to 15 CEUs for attending all three days, and 2 additional CEUs on Friday afternoon for the Coding Roundtable.

Visit the MHIMA Website at www.mnhima.org to view the Program of Events and to Register for the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Warm regards,

Laura Blabac, MS, RHIA, CHDA
Past President, MHIMA
2017 Nominating Committee Chairperson
MHIMA Announces its Newest Award Recipients

The 2017 MHIMA Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the 2017 MHIMA Rising Star Professional and Outstanding Student Awards!

Introduced this year, these Achievement Awards seek to honor those who have demonstrated excellence, leadership and commitment to the future of the HIM profession as either students or individuals who are new to the profession. Of the outstanding nominations that were received, the following individuals were identified:

Our Rising Star Professional award recipient is Brandi Bierbrauer, RHIA, CPhT. After graduating from the College of St. Scholastica in 2013, Brandi began her career as a Manager of Health Information Management at Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, responsible for managing operational activities and supervision of staff. She transitioned to Allina Health in 2015 to work on the Data Integrity team, and quickly distinguished herself organizationally for technological strength and subject matter expertise in multiple provider-based projects. Brandi has also demonstrated leadership through volunteerism, serving on both the Annual Meeting committee and this year as the MHIMA Secretary.

Our Outstanding Student award recipient is Emily Jansen. A senior at College of St. Scholastica (CSS) who will graduate in May, Emi has demonstrated a full and well-rounded academic life, maintaining a strong grade point average while leading as Captain of the school Volleyball team, serving on many collegiate committees, including the CSS Board of Trustees as a Student Representative, and the Presidential Search Committee. Emi has presented research at the National Council on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in 2015, and most recently demonstrated her leadership skills further through event management of the Northeastern Minnesota Health Information Management Association (NeMHIMA) Annual Fall 2016 Meeting.

Please join us in congratulating our award winners at our Annual Meeting, on Thursday, April 27, 2017.

If you haven’t already registered for our annual meeting, there is still time. Early registration fees apply until April 7th. The meeting offers up to 15 CEUs for attending all three days, and 2 additional CEUs on Friday afternoon for the Coding Roundtable.

Visit the MHIMA Website at www.mnhima.org to view the Program of Events and to Register for the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Warm regards,

Laura Blabac, MS, RHIA, CHDA
Past President, MHIMA
2017 Nominating Committee Chairperson
Consumer Engagement

“The term ‘consumer engagement’ refers to a diverse set of activities that can include interacting with healthcare providers, seeking health information, maintaining a personal health record, and playing an active role in making decisions in regard to personal healthcare.”

–AHIMA Consumer Engagement Toolkit

In today’s ever-changing, fast paced healthcare environment, it is crucial to acknowledge and embrace Consumer Engagement. In this day and age, it is obvious that providers have less time to spend with their patients during face-to-face encounters. Additionally, it is no secret that healthcare costs are rapidly rising. To that end, patients are less engaged in care if they cannot afford the help that they need. Distance can also play a factor. Clinics and hospitals being too far away to be convenient also have been proven to result in less-invested patients. Consumer Engagement is important for the above reasons, as well as the impacts it has on the Healthcare Delivery Cycle. These include consumers selecting the right doctor, preparing for the visit, following through on treatment, and being conscious of self and preventative health.

Finding a compatible provider is the first stage of the Healthcare Delivery Cycle because many of the other components depend on this. Compatibility of a provider and a patient cannot only be personality driven, but may depend on insurance coverage, accessibility, and the providers past performance. After the doctor has been chosen, patients taking the time to prepare for the visit gives the doctor healthy signs that the consumer is engaged in their health and plan of care. Visit preparation could include gathering all prescriptions (with dosages) and vitamins, making a list of questions to ask the doctor, or even listing talking points based on symptoms. Once the appointment is over, the engagement of the consumer becomes even more pertinent. Listening and following through on the doctor’s suggestions and ideas is easier said than done. That being said, preventative and self-care are ongoing activities that may prevent future doctor visits. Preventative health has made great strides in the past years; something as simple as a flu shot is showing advocacy for one’s health throughout the cold and flu season.

How can we (Health Information Professionals- HIPs) support Consumer Engagement?

Patient Portals are key in this endeavor. These allow the patient to embrace different ways to communicate with their care team, view notes and records, and keep their medications and health information current. Another feature of a Patient Portal is to receive lab and test results almost instantaneously; oftentimes having been reviewed by their doctor already. Health literacy continues to be a widespread issue within healthcare, but doctors continue to subdue medical terminology into words that patients understand.

As HIPs, it is also necessary to be aware of the resources available to us and to our patients. HealthIT.gov has information on Personal Health Records and Patient Rights. When it comes to their rights, consumers should not only be aware of them, but understand how to utilize them. Release of Information Authorization forms are invaluable to the patient who seeks information for continuity of care or for various other reasons.
Consumer Engagement

Healthcare can be transformed in a compelling way if our patients exercise their rights and know that the most powerful advocate of their care plan is themselves.

What is MHIMA doing to support Consumer Engagement?

As one of the pillars of the 2017 AHIMA Strategy, MHIMA recognizes Consumer Engagement is vital in today’s fast-paced world in order for healthcare to thrive. Information Governance and Data Analytics, both hot topics and strategies themselves, require a level of engagement from various stakeholders in order to have standardized, meaningful data. Consumers are most commonly understood as patients—but anyone that is using healthcare information could be considered consumers! This could be healthcare professionals, c-suite employees, IT staff, and even MHIMA members. Some of the deliverables for Consumer Engagement for MHIMA this year includes:

• Reviewing our website and suggesting/approving content updates so it is more consumer friendly (for patients, healthcare professionals, and our members)
• Developing a bigger voice within our state through different social media platforms (i.e. YouTube or Facebook Live) as an additional resource for consumers
• Creating “How To” flyers or videos for things such as how to fill out a release form, what an amendment request is and how to submit one, and how to be informed consumer
• Having Consumer Engagement be a track at the Annual Meeting with topics that are relevant today such as population health, patient documentation, patient privacy and access, and health information exchange

As Health Information Professionals, we need to encourage our organizations to directly reach out to consumers. Through our efforts, consumers will become more involved and informed about what they can do with healthcare information. State by state, AHIMA’s hope for our profession is to become the “trusted voice” across the health information environment. MHIMA’s strategies this year were selected to equip our members with the ability to do just that.

-Mollie Niznik, RHIA
Legal Manual Chair

-Brandi Bierbrauer, RHIA, CPhT
2016-2017 MHIMA Secretary
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. These 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. Along with the Silent Auction, there will also be a Wine Wall and Coffee Corner.

We are seeking donations of wine and coffee-related items such as specialty coffees, K-cups, hot chocolate, coffee mugs, etc. in addition to all the other great donations for the regular Silent Auction.

You do not need to bid or purchase if you do not wish to, we also take donations for those wishing to do that as well.

Come visit us and mark your claim on the items you are bidding on at the Silent Auction and your photo may show up on the MHIMA twitter live feed or MHIMA’s Facebook page.

Thank you!

Barb Fleischer, 2017 MHIMA Scholarship Fund Committee
The nation’s health care system is part of the national infrastructure that has increasingly come under attack from cyber threats. One of the keys to combatting these cyber threats is for the government, the private sector, and international network defense communities to collaborate and share information. The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC) within the Department of Homeland Security is responsible for “operat[ing] at the intersection of government, private sector, and international network defense communities, applying unique analytic perspectives, ensuring shared situational awareness, and orchestrating synchronized response, mitigation, and recovery efforts while protecting the Constitutional and privacy rights of Americans in both the cybersecurity and communications domains.” One of the NCCIC’s four branches is the United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) which develops timely and actionable information on threats to the federal and state governments, critical infrastructure owners, international organizations, and private industry. US-CERT also responds to cybersecurity incidents and analyzes data it collects itself and from partners about emerging cyber threats.

US-CERT is in a unique position to inform covered entities and business associates about their cybersecurity efforts as well as benefit from information sharing when a covered entity or business associate experiences a cybersecurity incident. Covered entities should report to US-CERT any suspicious activity, including cybersecurity incidents, cyber threat indicators and defensive measures, phishing incidents, malware, and software vulnerabilities. OCR has provided additional details on appropriate cybersecurity information on its website (https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/2072/covered-entity-disclose-protected-health-information-purposes-cybersecurity-information-sharing/), and the US-CERT provides secure forms for reporting all of these types of activities at https://www.us-cert.gov/report/. This type of information sharing is one of the many opportunities for information sharing to protect the entire health care system from cybersecurity threats.

Covered entities and business associates should also monitor the US-CERT website for reports on vulnerabilities. Alternatively, information can be received directly via email by visiting US-CERT’s Mailing Lists and Feeds webpage at https://www.us-cert.gov/mailing-lists-and-feeds/. Subscriptions are available to all users for Weekly Vulnerability bulletins, Technical Alerts, Current Activity Entries, and Tips. These subscriptions provide up-to-date information on new vulnerabilities and risks as well as patches and mitigations when available. Covered entities and business associates can leverage this information as part of their Security Management Process.
under HIPAA (see 45 CFR § 164.308(a)(1)) to help ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic protected health information.

As a recent example, the NCCIC reported on a cyber-threat relative to the healthcare industry: Enhanced Analysis of the Grizzly Steppe Activity. The report provides specific signatures and recommendations to detect and mitigate threats from Grizzly Steppe actors, defend against webshell attacks, and defend against spear phishing attacks. This is just one example of the timely and actionable information that covered entities and business associates can receive by monitoring US-CERT’s website or signing up for its email lists or feeds.

**Resources:**

Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights (OCR)
https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/index.html
2017 Scholarship Winners Announced

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

**RHIA Program:**

Alison Hooper  
The College of St. Scholastica  
$1500

Mikaela Vadnais  
The College of St. Scholastica  
$800

**RHIT Program**

Linda Weckert  
Rochester Technical and Community College  
$1000

Congratulations to these deserving students who will be recognized at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2017.

Watch the July issue of MHIMA Connection for a link to the essays from these students.
MHIMA CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 from 12-1PM
Lunch & Learn Webinar
PCS Procedure That Take Out Some or All of a Body Part (Part I)

April 26-28th, 2017 Mystic Lake Casino
MHIMA Annual Meeting

Wednesday May 10, 2017 from 12-1PM
Lunch & Learn Webinar
PCS Procedure That Take Out Some or All of a Body Part (Part II)

Wednesday June 14, 2017 from 12-1PM
Lunch & Learn Webinar
PCS Procedure That Take Out Some or All of a Body Part (Part III)

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

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!
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: Kristi Lundgren, Christina Wallner, Laura Blabac, Joy Schmitt, Diane Wolfe, Brandi Bierbrauer, Mollie Niznik, and Barb Fleischer.

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!

Reference: