IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1
Presidents Message

Page 2
AHIMA 2019 Convention Highlights

Page 3
Career Board
2019 House of Delegates Meeting

Page 4
2019 House of Delegates Meeting (continue)

Page 5
IAHIA Joan Ziegermayr Student Scholarship
White Elephant Auction

Page 6
Upcoming Events and Educational Sessions
Schooling Opportunities

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Adriana Preciado, BS, RHIA, IAHIA President 2019-2020

Welcome Everyone!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your IAHIA President for the 2019-2020 term. It is an honor and privilege to be part of an association that believes in mentoring and helping health information professionals develop and grow their HIM career.

My HIM career began several years ago with the fear of the unknown. Where was this career going to take me? Was I going to make it in this field? Was I ever going to feel as a SME (subject matter expert)? There were even times I wondered if I had made the right career choice, because of some of the challenges I encountered along the way. Yet, through the challenges, I learned the importance of staying humble, accepting to learn from others with more experience in the field, being a team player and serving others by teaching/mentoring the new generation of HIM professionals. Through my journey, I found mentors who took the time to pour their wisdom and knowledge into me, which in turn made me realize the significance of mentoring others. Today, I feel blessed to be a part of the HIM profession and being part of such an amazing group of HIM professionals who make you feel right at home and value your worth.

This year I want to encourage you to join us for any of the great opportunities offered at the Component Local Association and California State Association levels, by attending sessions, volunteering or becoming a mentor.

We appreciate your support and membership to IAHIA. I know that together we can be a catalyst to assist CHIA with the new “CHIA Strategic Plan 2020-2022”.

“If you want to go fast, go alone, If you want to far go together.” African Proverb
This year the AHIMA 2019 Convention was held in the beautiful state of Chicago and the theme of the convention was “Health Data and Information”. The yearly convention features: general sessions, educational sessions, exhibit hall times to meet up with vendors and opportunities to network with colleagues.

Convention Highlights:

1. AHIMA CEO Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE shared the importance of supporting the new AHIMA strategic plan; “The strategic plan is the association’s future map to making its new mission and vision statements a reality. To do this, she said, AHIMA members must commit as individuals and unite as a group around a common vision of the future.”

2. Keynote speaker Carey Lohrenz, the first female F-14 Tomcat Fighter Pilot in the US Navy challenged us to face our fears and encouraged us to live life fearlessly.

3. The discussion of the Opioid Epidemic and Empower Patients was informative. Dr. Patrice Harris, MD, MA who chairs the AMA’s Opioid Task Force brought awareness to the opioid epidemic. She shared how opioids are prescribed, the supply and demand and the importance of the increased need of alternatives to opioid treatments.

4. AHIMAs incoming President/Chair Ginna Evans shared how she feels it is her mission and goal to continue AHIMA transformation and “journey toward a strategy reset.”

5. The final keynote speaker John Quiñones, ABC News Veteran, Creator and Host of What Would You Do?, gave an inspiring presentation. He shared the difficulties he encountered growing up as a child of immigrant parents, the impact education had in his life and the importance of human nature and ethical behavior.

The entire week was informative and I came back home inspired. I was also ready to put into practice what I learned and share with others the importance of being in the moment and living life fearlessly.
2019 HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING SUMMARY

By Melanie Merryman, BA, MSL, RHIA, CRCR

The Speaker of the House welcomed the 211 delegates and guests to Illinois and thanked ILHIMA for hosting the House Meeting. Highlights of the meeting included:

- AHIMA Chief Executive Officer described the desire to build AHIMA’s House of Health Information so that the house will change healthcare and change lives. Attendees were asked to help build a three level House of Health Information where each level represents the mission, vision, and strategic plan and is tied to the following desired outcomes:
  - AHIMA’s thought leadership advancement;
  - Health information professional development;
  - AHIMA Transformation and renewed growth as a great partner and place to work.

- The core work is being built in areas like integrity, access, and connection:
  - Integrity: by advancing the knowledgeable, contextual, secure, and appropriate creation and use of health data.
  - Access: by balancing appropriate disclosure of health information with confidentiality, integrity, and security of protected data.
  - Connection: by optimal sharing of data between providers, consumers, health information network, and health plans.
There were four action forums:

- **Action Forum 1**: Thought Leadership, Professional Development, and Environmental Scanning - recommendations included the need to break down barriers between privacy and security, which typically fall within compliance and IT, to arrive at better practices, take leadership roles in your organization, not just the HIM departments, and ensuring one’s leadership skill sets.

- **Action Forum 2**: Health Information Professional Champions - The delegates developed the following “elevator pitch”: “I work in a profession where I impact healthcare.” Health Information Management is the hub that connects business, science and technology. We manage and coordinate your health information. “If you want to know more, you can visit ahima.org”. The pitch should also include stating what the profession does or impacts, explaining what HIM does, provide the name the organization and profession, and one’s own role in the profession.

- **Action Forum 3**: House Action Items - Bylaws Amendment on Article VIII, 8.5. The group consensus was uncontested elections should not be permitted. Most of the group recommended the CEO continue to be included as ex officio (non-voting) and the committee chair be one of the elected members of the Nominating committee.


House action items included the following:

- Tennessee HIMA proposed the creation of a Regional Delegate Liaison structure that did not pass vote.
- Missouri HIMA proposed to refer the proposed amendment to Article VIII.8.5 of the bylaws to the newly created Governance Task Force. The House adopted the motion.
- California HIA proposed to amend the current bylaws as follows: Insert the following sentence: “The Committee shall ensure that no position on the ballot is uncontested.” The House adopted the amendment.
- The Georgia HIMA President invited members to the 2020 House Meeting and AHIMA Health Data and Information Conference in Atlanta, GA October 14-17, 2020. The House meeting will be on October 17, 2020.

“break down barriers between privacy and security.”
The IAHIA Joan Ziegelmayer Scholarship is funded by the proceeds of the White Elephant auction held at each educational session. The number and amount of awards are determined by the IAHIA Board of Directors and available funds. Applicants are evaluated based on GPA, personal essay, and letter of recommendation.

The IAHIA Student Scholarship recognizes IAHIA Student Members and aims to help support them to complete their journey in CAHIM-accredited HIA or HIT programs and career paths.

Eligible applicants must be a student member of CHIA and a member of IAHIA or an active member of IAHIA pursuing an advanced HIM certification (CCS to RHIT, RHIT to RHIA); currently enrolled in a CAHIM accredited HIA or HIT program; as well as a minimum GPA of 3.0 in final quarter/semester of program and submit a personal essay of 500 words, letter of recommendation from supervisor, instructor or HIM professional and an unofficial transcript.

Scholarship application deadlines is February 18, 2020. Award recipients will be announced by mid-April 2020. The award(s) will be presented at the May 2020 IAHIA installation meeting.

By now you may have heard that IAHIA not only has a Scholarship Fund but conducts a “White Elephant Auction” at every meeting to build that fund. So, what exactly IS a white elephant auction?

According to Wikipedia, the term "White Elephant" refers to an extravagant but burdensome gift that cannot be easily disposed of, based on the legend of the King of Siam gifting rare albino elephants to courtiers who had displeased him, that they might be ruined by the animals' upkeep costs.

In modern times, a white elephant sale is a collection of used items being sold much like a yard sale. White elephant sales are typically organized by non-profit organizations such as churches and schools to raise money for a charity cause.

Our White Elephant Auction is similar in that the item can be either new or slightly used and we auction it off to the highest bidder. We typically have a broad range of items donated, and in the past have auctioned off designer bags, jewelry, candles, plants, seasonal items such as Christmas decorations, scarves, art, glassware, YOU NAME IT! We just ask that the articles be in great condition. It is a wonderful way to “re-gift” that item in your closet that is too pretty to throw away.

So, clean out your drawers and bring something cool to donate! Keep in mind that, both, those that donate, and the buyers present are all contributing to a very worthy cause!
UPCOMING EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

**Call for CHIACON20 Presentations**

Become one of CHIA’s content leaders at CHIACON20 in Riverside, CA. Share your knowledge and expertise as a General Session, Track Session, Tutorial, or Industry Innovation presentation. Proposals still being accepted.

**Educational Sessions:**

- **Fall 2019 Student Chat with CHIA President**
  Friday, October 25, 2019 in Webinar

- **Surgical Complication, or Not, That is the Question**
  Tuesday, November 5, 2019 in Webinar

- **Confidentiality: Protecting & Releasing Health Information** in CA - Garden Grove
  Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2019 in Garden Grove, CA
  Presenter: Allan Jergesen, JD

- **Confidentiality: Protecting & Releasing Health Information** in CA - Pleasanton
  Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019 in Pleasanton, CA
  Presenter: Allan Jergesen, JD

**SCHOOLING OPPORTUNITIES**

The possibilities are endless when it comes to education. Take a look at schools that offer on-campus and online classes. You’ll be one step closer to completing your educational career.

The following schools can provide either a certificate or degree within the HIM profession.

- **Loma Linda University, School of Allied Health Professions**
  - Health Information Administration, Certificate & B.S. Degree
    * On-campus or Online Course
    Contact: Pauline Calla, MBA, RHIA studyhiim@llu.edu
  - Health Informatics, MSHI Degree
    * On-campus or Online Course
    Contact: Braden Tabisula, MBA, RHIA, CHDA studyhiim@llu.edu

- **AHIMA Coding Basics**
  - Web courses
    [www.ahima.org/education/onlineed/Programs](http://www.ahima.org/education/onlineed/Programs)

- **Santa Barbara Community College**
  - The Staff HIT CIM Department
    - Health Information Technology, A.S. Degree
    - Cancer Information Mgmt., Certificate & A.S.
    - Medical Coding Specialist Certificate
    - Healthcare Data Analytics Certificate
      *Online Courses
      Contact: info@sbcc.edu

- **Shasta College Health Information Program**
  - Health Information Technology, A.S. Degree
    * Online Course
    Contact: Steve Kim, Full-time Instructor
    skim@shastacollege.edu
  - Health Information Management, B.S. Degree
    Contact: Andrew Dowgiert, Program Dir.
    * Online Course
    adowgiert@shastacollege.edu