

My Fellow HIM Professionals,

Thank you for placing your confidence and trust in me to serve as your President. How quickly the year has gone by, it seems like I was just voted in as your President-Elect. It is an honor to be the incoming President of a thriving professional organization and to work with a group of people with such talents and dedication.

This past year was a very busy one filled with many learning experiences. I would like to thank Karen Gallagher-Grant for her guidance in preparing me to serve as President. Thanks to Boston Children's Hospital, my employer, for supporting me. Thank you to Elisa Pelchat, MaHIMA Administrator for all you do in keeping MaHIMA running efficiently, thanks to the outgoing Board Members and Committee Chairs for your hard work in making MaHIMA a success.



I am excited and grateful for the privilege to serve as President of MaHIMA for the upcoming year and looking forward to working with the Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and members. I would like to introduce the 2017-2018 Board and Committee chairs:

Bibiana Von Malder, President-Elect; Karen Gallaher-Grant, Past President; Joy Rose (re-elected), Director of Education; Laura Caravetta, Director of Legislation and Advocacy; Jackie Judd, Director of Communication; Linda Hyde, Finance Chair; Lori McNeil-Tolley, Board Member-at-Large; Ellen Vaitkunas Nominating Committee Chair; Linda Peterson, Parliamentarian and Donna Casey, Historian.

2016-2017 in MaHIMA was very productive, thanks to the leadership and our members. There were several successful educational and training workshops, conferences and webinars throughout the year and we are planning to continue this in the upcoming year.

Our MaHIMA Strategic Planning session was held on April 28, 2017, which approved to be a very interactive and energetic session and I would like to thank all who participated. We decided to continue to align our goals with the AHIMA Strategic Goals/Objectives and we also performed an environmental scan. As a result the following goals/objectives were determined for this coming year:

- IG- Workshops, educational opportunities
- Informatics/Analytics – Identify skills needed and method of delivery, technology
- HIM Pathways –Assess how the field is evolving, skills building, affiliate with others, student engagement and outreach
- Technology – Copy and paste issues, IT knowledge, etc.
- Education –HIM professionals and Consumers
- Including in our goal is to update the MaHIMA Members Only area on the website

MaHiMA

AHIMA Affiliate

Massachusetts Health Information
Management Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many of us have been in the HIM field long enough to realize the impact technology has made and the changes in how we do our jobs and the roles we held and currently hold.

At the base of all the changes, HIM professionals need education and skills development in order to be able to compete and stay relevant in the current and future job roles. We also need to be able to look ahead and project upcoming changes/opportunities and be prepared. Some areas of focus can be IT, analytics and leadership. Considerations for training/education, do we look to align with others in providing education, organizations such as HIMSS/ local colleges?

With the introduction of the EHR the HIM field is evolving. Some HIM departments have been restructured whereby coding staff may no longer report to the HIM Directors. In some organizations the HIM department is no longer the main department to provide healthcare data, release of patient information or manage JCAHO visits. Information that was usually found only in the HIM departments is now created and available in other departments. With mergers and ACOs, the skills needed are more analytical. An HIM Professional needs to evolve to advance and remain relevant.

"...The health industry continues to evolve, and AHIMA is working to advance the accuracy, reliability, and usefulness of health data by leading key industry initiatives and advocating for consistent standards. Needs are evolving from simply translating data to turning data into knowledge that powers better healthcare decision making."

Quote from AHIMA's Mission Vision & Values

This is an exciting time in the healthcare field and I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve in the role as your President. MaHIMA needs all hands on deck and I hope we can all work together and count on each other to make "2017 and Beyond" a success. Once again, thanks to each of you and I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to Past Presidents Board and Committee Members for their service to the association.

We are counting on you and thank you in advance for your support. I am proud to serve as your President and will do my best to serve you well.

I am available by email if you need to reach me: diana.lindo@childrens.harvard.edu

Diana Lindo, MM, RHIT, CCS, President, MaHIMA