

## UPCOMING EVENTS

AWARDS

JOB BANK

FORUMS

NEWLY  
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STAY CONNECTED

VOLUNTEER

JOIN MAHIMA

CALL FOR  
SPEAKERS

CONTACT US



## JANUARY 2019- PRESIDENT LETTER

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Dear Colleagues and Friends:

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Happy New Year and warmest greetings as we begin 2019!

Wow ....how this year has flown by! As we get older, the years seem to pass by even faster. We think we have time to accomplish our goals, tasks, aspirations, etc. and before we know it, time has slipped through our fingers. The following quote from Benjamin Franklin seems to sum it up well: "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today."

MaHIMA has had a busy year in 2018. Much has been accomplished in education through many webinars and workshops, with many more scheduled for 2019. HIM awareness has been in the forefront this year. MaHIMA board members have visited many high schools and middle schools in Massachusetts, educating students about the HIM profession. There are more visits to come in the next couple of months. It's important to speak to our next generation of students and explain the many opportunities our profession has to offer. If you are interested in this initiative and would like to speak to students at your local school, please reach out to [Cheryl Rau](#), Member at Large. As the chairperson of the HIM Awareness Committee, Cheryl will provide all the materials to assist you with the process. What a great reward to be a part of our next generation of HIM professionals!

This year MaHIMA was awarded the 2018 Great Race Award in recognition of our generous support for AHIMA and the AHIMA Foundation. Every year MaHIMA generously donates to the AHIMA Foundation. If you want to learn more, please [view the website](#).

It is also time again to start recruiting for the following three MaHIMA board positions: President-elect, Director of Education, and Director of Legislation and Advocacy. If you are interested in any of these positions or know of anyone who might be a great contributor to the association in this capacity, please contact [Norma Chitvanni](#), RHIT, CHPS, Chair of the Nominating Committee. Serving as part of the board of MaHIMA allows you to use your experiences, talents, and knowledge to support our members. We invite you to continue to be a part of the solution and please remember to vote during election time.



Save the Date! MaHIMA Annual  
Conference 2019 – Registration will open  
in February! - [Book your room today!](#)



I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Winter Meeting on Friday, February 1, 2019, from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm, at the Courtyard by Marriott Boston, in Marlboro, MA. This year's meeting offers six continuing education units (CEU's) to health information management professionals. A state business meeting and awards ceremony will also be held during lunch.

My heartfelt congratulations to the newly credentialed MaHIMA members of 2018! It's not an easy journey, but you did it and should be very proud of yourselves. Wishing all of you the best of luck in reaching your professional goals and in your new endeavors! Why not include MaHIMA committee membership as one of those new endeavors? Committee membership is a great experience and a great way to network with other colleagues. Simply go to the [MaHIMA board page](#) and connect with the director of the committee that interests you.

## Contact Us

### MaHIMA

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MaHIMA is always looking for volunteers. We are all busy and have many obligations within our own families, and often don't have time for ourselves; however, [volunteering for MaHIMA](#) is something you can do for yourself. Most committees only need one hour of your time per month, or just a few hours to work on a task force. Reach out and learn more about the committees. Volunteering provides such an opportunity for growth, both personally and professionally, and it is something to consider as we start this new year.

For all the latest news and updates, please visit [our website](#). I look forward to seeing you at future meetings. Best Wishes for a great year to come!

[Bibi Von Malder, RHIT, President MaHIMA](#)

## FINANCE REPORT – FISCAL YEAR (AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2018)

Submitted by Linda A. Hyde, RHIA Finance Committee Chair

At the Fall Meeting, the FY 2019 budget was approved by the membership. The projected budget for the year is \$183,465. The first quarter income was \$17,927 with expenses of \$36,180. Seventy five (75 %) of our income for the first quarter was from educational meetings including the Fall Meeting and webinars. Remaining income (25%) came from AHIMA member rebates.

Expenses for the quarter include the AHIMA Leadership meeting, educational meetings, the initial deposit for the 2019 Annual Meeting hotel and administrative costs. Our first quarter generally has expenses exceeding income due to the bulk of our income being generated later in the association year from the remaining educational programs, including the annual meeting as well as our AHIMA rebates. As of the end of September MaHIMA has \$102,316 in assets with \$86,138 set aside for reserves.

## DOT WAGG MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR – NOVEMBER 9, 2018

The Dot Waggs Memorial Legislative Seminar was held in November. The session started off with Attorney Colin Zick who spoke to the group about new developments in health information law. Attorney Angela Carr followed up with a discussion on privacy and security, verbal disclosures, and speaking with family members about health information.

MaHIMA's own Heather Hedlund spoke on appropriate access to medical records, while Leigh Simmons Youmans gave updates on new laws and regulations for treating patients with substance abuse disorders. The session concluded with

MaHIMA's Legislative Committee consisting of Laura Caravetta, Heather Hedlund, Ann Dooley and Bibi Von Malder providing updates on AHIMA and other topics. Overall, the day was filled with great speakers, interesting topics and so much information!

As always, if you want to participate in any of the exciting projects the Massachusetts CSA is working on, please reach out to [Elisa Pelchat](#) or any of the [Directors](#).

May your New Year be a great one!

## **JANUARY ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN – PLEASE RESPOND BY JANUARY 24, 2019**

Environmental scanning is one of the first steps conducted when setting strategy. It is used to learn about priorities influencing the health information management (HIM) profession. The results are used to inform strategy and develop responses. By participating in this environmental scan, you have the opportunity to inform and influence AHIMA's future strategy. Please take a few minutes to complete the [environmental scan here](#). Results will be discussed at the upcoming Winter Meeting on February 1, 2019.