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JANUARY 2021- PRESIDENT LETTER

To My Fellow Health Information Professionals,

Happy New Year! What a crazy ride 2020 turned out to be!

With the obvious negative hits everyone took in 2020 from the pandemic, let's look at some positive work that MaHIMA has been working on in 2020 continuing through 2021:

1. Successful weekly virtual educational offerings – I can't give enough kudos to the Education Committee led by Melissa Roberts on their continued focus on quality education. I'm very proud of the expansion of topics from not only the traditional CDI/Coding tracks but those of health informatics, compliance, privacy, etc.

[Read more...](#)

Scott Eischen, MPH, RHIA, CHC, CCS, CPC
MaHIMA President 2020-2021

MAHIMA LAUNCHING NEW AMS/LMS (Association management System/Learning Management System)

MaHIMA has been working over the last few months to move to an association management system that includes a learning management system. The new platform will allow members to more effectively interact with one another in organized communities and "circles" and also include personal profiles to store and access all of your MaHIMA CEUs. This platform will also include an LMS that will include all of our past webinars and Fall 2020 conferences for purchase along with future sessions.

[Read more...](#)

Submitted by: Elisa Pelchat
Administrative Director, MaHIMA

FINANCE REPORT – FISCAL YEAR 2020 (JULY – SEPTEMBER 2020)

At the Western Massachusetts Meeting, the FY 2021 budget was approved by the membership. The projected budget for the year is \$98,285. This budget reflects the change to all virtual meetings, and

the selection of MemberClicks as a platform to support our virtual environment and a management system to



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offer prior recorded meetings and webinars for purchase. This budget does not include income or expense for our annual meeting. Once the meeting direction and details have been determined, the budget will be updated.

[Read more...](#)

Submitted by Linda A. Hyde, RHIA
Finance Committee Chair

MAHIMA NOMINATIONS DUE JANUARY 31, 2021

The MaHIMA Nominating Committee is searching for qualified MAHIMA members to fill the roles of:

- MAHIMA President Elect
- Director of Education
- Director of Legislative

The President Elect position is a three-year term and the Director positions are two-year terms. All terms begin on July 1, 2021. Descriptions, duties, and qualifications for each of these elected positions are available. Nominations are due January 31, 2021. For more information contact [Maryellen Osborne](#), MaHIMA Nominating Chair.

MAHIMA SUMMARY: HOD BREAKOUT SESSION

HOD Summary Breakout Session: The role of the HI Professional in Shaping Health Equity

The following hypothesis was presented: *If the Final ONC 2020-2025 Health IT Strategic Plan does not include language to support a bidirectional infrastructure, the promise of whole person healthcare will not be achieved.*

We discussed the primary HIPAA barriers at length as the families of Pandemic patients are not getting the information for their loved ones as easily due to the HIPAA guidelines. Utah and So Dakota have Programs where the Community Health Centers are more active in getting authorizations for significant partners for information sharing, and suggested this active participation become a priority industry-wide, and addressing the community needs by working with the food banks and beneficiary programs in unity versus silo activities.

[Read more...](#)

Submitted by Marianne Garfi, HIM, RHIA, CCS-P
Director of Communications

MAHIMA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Legislative Affairs Committee hosted our annual Dot Wagg Memorial Seminar Virtually this year! This two series event was sponsored generously by MRO, on November 6th and 13th. We had several engaging and informative speakers including Rita Bowen and Angela Rose from MRO; Dena Castricone, Esq.; Renee Broadbent; Karen Griffin and Linda Mancini, Esq.

[Read more...](#)

Submitted by Ann Dooley, RHIA
Director of Legislative