PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Dear Colleagues:

Farewell to a long and stormy winter. It is springtime!

MaHIMA Winter Meeting and Awards Presentation
The MaHIMA winter meeting was very successful and congratulations to our award winners. I am very proud of our winners and their accomplishments. Congratulations to the following award recipients:

- Walter Houlihan, The Distinguished Member Award
- Mary Beth Brouillard, The Outstanding Mentor Award
- Cheryl Rau and Danielle Roy, The Professional Achievement Award
- Ashlee Purcell, The Outstanding New Professional Award
- Marianne Garfi, The Champion Award

Special thanks to the Radley family for attending the Awards Ceremony at which Mary Beth Brouillard received the Mentor Award. The Mentor Award was created in memory of Mary Radley, former MaHIMA President and former HIM Director at Boston Children’s Hospital.

Also, I would like to extend special recognition to Fisher College for encouraging their students to attend the meeting. Five students attended the meeting; it was

AWARDS
Marianne Garfi, RHIA, CCS-P
2018 MaHIMA Awards Chair

The 2017-18 Awards year has been busy and an exciting one!

MaHIMA celebrated the new HIM department with Norma Chitvanni, RHIT, CHPS at Westborough Behavioral Health with the Team Excellence in Collaboration Award on March 23rd. In summary, the entire organization collaborated to develop and create the HIM department at a brand new inpatient mental health facility, and pass their first accreditation survey in approximately 6 months. We all have to applaud such a “back to basics” venture!

MaHIMA also celebrated Fisher College’s student of the year Danielle Roy on March 24th at the College’s Meet and Greet celebration. Danielle is completing her Bachelor’s degree and very motivating and assistive to her peers.

Coincidentally, Ms. Roy was also selected as one of MaHIMA’s 2018 Professional Achievement Award recipients by her working peers. What a year for Danielle!

READ MORE
2018 AHIMA ADVOCACY SUMMIT
INSPIRING LEADERSHIP, INFLUENCING CHANGE
MARCH 19-20, 2018
Diana Lindo, President
Bibi Von Malder, President-Elect
Laura Caravetta, Director of Legislative Affairs and Advocacy


AHIMA's two asks to Congress:

Patient Matching

Omit the 1999 language in fiscal year 2019 appropriations legislation to enable HHS to work with industry to advance a nationwide patient matching strategy.

In 1996, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) mandated a Unique Patient Identifier for healthcare purposes.

Modernize Privacy Laws to Combat Opioid Epidemic

Support and co-sponsor bills of “Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety Act” (H.R. 3545) and “Protecting Jessica Grubb’s Legacy Act” (S. 1850) to align Part 2 with HIPAA for purposes of healthcare treatment, payment, and operations and strengthen protections around the use of substance use disorder records in criminal proceedings.

Iliana Peters spoke on insights from HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) touched on cybersecurity, HIPAA audits, and the latest OCR enforcement activities. She provided a few excellent links:

https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/mental-health/index.html
https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/cybersecurity/index.html
https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/audit/protocol/index.html