

NMHIMA Newsletter Vol. 5

Fall 2018

NMHIMA Fall Coding Conference Recap

Last month, NMHIMA hosted its Fall Coding Conference at the UNM Continuing Education Center. With over 100 HIM professionals in attendance, the conference was a true success! As the opening speaker, Dr. Z, MD, CIRCC, COC, CCVTC, CCC, CCS, RCC, Founder and President of Zhealth Publications led an informative four-hour session that reviewed interventional radiology and cardiology procedural coding. Delivering a well-received, detailed visual presentation, Dr. Z was a brilliant and humorous speaker.

The second half of the conference was dedicated to speaker Dr. Campbell, PhD, MHA, MPM, RHIA, CDIP, CCS, CCS-P, CPC, COC, CPC-I. She captivated the audience with a motivational topic titled “The HIM landscape has evolved! Are you going, or will you be left behind?” During this presentation, Dr. Campbell reviewed her personal career path, engaging the audience to deliberate their own future by addressing their strengths and weaknesses with a SWOT analysis. Dr. Campbell finished the conference a review of the 2019 ICD-10-CM/PCS coding changes. Both of her presentations were engaging, funny, and relatable.

The Fall conference also had a vendor participate, the Tumor Registrar Association of New Mexico (TRANM). This association is dedicated to the cancer registrars of NM. Carol Hahn, RHIT, holds a certification for a Certified Tumor Registrar (CTR) and informed attendees at the conference of the future career opportunity for people who have the skill set of a coder or RHIT. TRANM’s mission is to promote the profession of cancer registrars, and to provide continuing education to CTRs. For more information on TRANM, please go to the following website: <https://www.tranm.org/contact>

We appreciate everyone who attended the Fall Coding Conference last month and we thank you for your support! Please note that 10% of our ticket sales are held in a scholarship fund to help support students venturing into the HIM profession. We are proud to offer a scholarship again this upcoming Spring in 2019. Don’t forget to save the date for our Spring conference at the Sandia Golf Club & Resort on April 11 – 12, 2019. See pictures below of our successful and fun Fall Coding Conference!



NMHIMA Board Members during a break at the conference.

From Left to Right:

- Michelle Bean, President Elect
- Patricia Garcia, Member At Large
- Rachel Martin, Secretary
- Kacey Holt, Nominating Committee
- Erica Lopez, President
- Dion Mendoza, Nominating Committee
- Ernest Leslie, Member At Large



NMHIMA's attendees helping themselves to snacks during one of the breaks.



Dr. Z captivating the audience with his clever illustrations during his presentation.



Rachel helping attendees select sandwiches during the lunch hour.



OUR SPEAKERS!

Featured left:

Dr. Z

Featured Right:

Dr. Campbell



2018 AHIMA House of Delegates Review

As a prelude to the AHIMA National Convention & Exhibit, the House of Delegates was hosted on Sunday, September 23rd in Miami, Florida. The AHIMA House of Delegates (HOD) meets annually to review issues that are pertinent to the state associations, the membership, and AHIMA. The AHIMA Board of Directors, Practice Councils, and state Delegates all congregate to address items for resolution or to enhance the current processes. During this informative one-day conference, presentations were given by AHIMA's President & CEO, the eight Practice Councils, AHIMA's task forces, followed by four breakout sessions.

To represent New Mexico, NMHIMA sent two delegates: President Erica Lopez, RHIA, and President Elect, Michelle Bean, PhD, MSHA. With over 200 delegates in attendance at the conference, the highlight was AHIMA's initiative to change. The Speaker of the House, Catherine Porto, MPA, RHIA, CHP, FAHIMA, introduced the new AHIMA Board of Directors for 2019, and the Speaker of the House Elect, Shawn Wells, RHIT, CHDA. The topic of the day was the strategy

reset AHIMA is currently undergoing, which will help to keep our profession relevant. The strategic plan is still being developed and AHIMA plans to identify the following key components to the foundation: Mission, Vision, and Values.

• Answers: "Why does AHIMA exist?"

Mission



• Answers: "Where are we going?" and "What aspirational change will result from our work?"

Vision



• Answers: "What will guide our decisions?" and "What values are most important to achieve our vision?"

Values



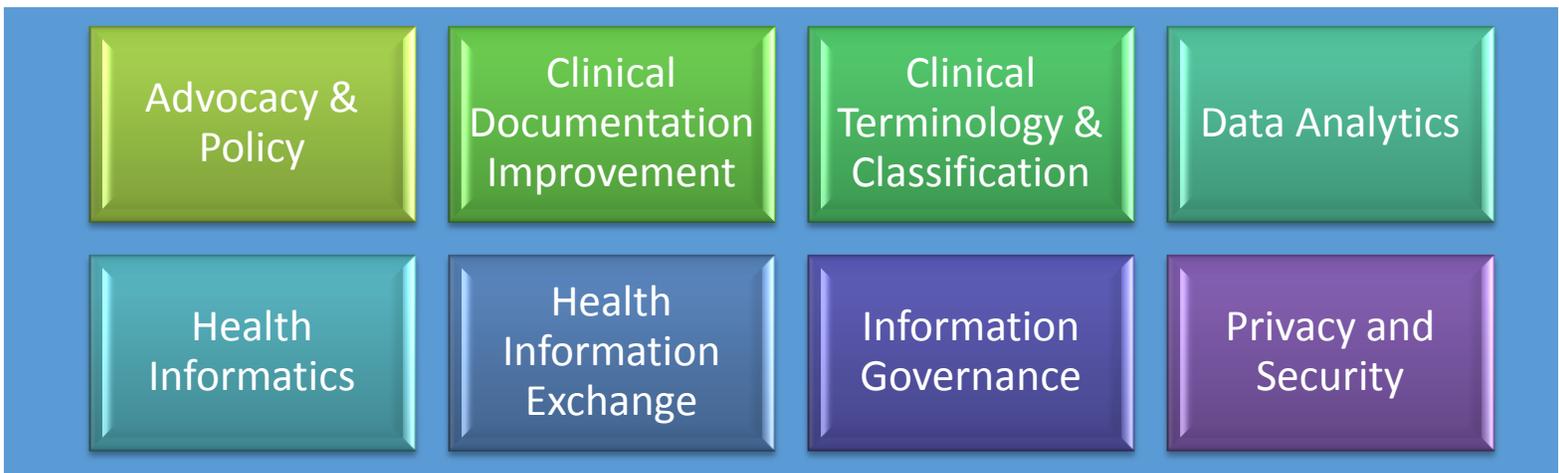
Next, AHIMA President, Diann Smith, RHIA, CHP, FAHIMA, discussed the role of the AHIMA Board of Directors, and the HOD, along with their underlying relationship with one another. The purpose of AHIMA's Board of Director's is to manage the association of AHIMA, whereas the role of the HOD is to manage the profession, and membership of AHIMA. This gives AHIMA members an opportunity to speak to the AHIMA association by electing board members in their state. In this aim, NMHIMA strives to support all members and non-members of AHIMA for the success of the health information management (HIM) profession.

Following the President's enlightening speech, AHIMA's CEO, Dr. Wylecia Wiggs-Harris, PhD, CAE, reviewed AHIMA's financial status from 2013 thru 2018, and forecasted how AHIMA can improve this by initiating change. The first pivot of innovation is to focus on current strengths while exploring opportunities for growth. The second pivot is to have a foundation framework for the HIM profession to be relevant and to foster our skill sets to drive the success of our future. The Board of Directors are currently working closely with the CEO to explore the association's mission, vision, and values. The goal of completion for the new strategic plan is to have a draft by November of 2018, with the official version being released early next year.

The Practice Councils (PC) then discussed their accomplishments on a variety of activities such as; completing a practice brief for physician office query practice, authoring monthly blogs and articles such as CodeWrite, hosting live webinars, and maintaining blogs, such as the Illuminating Informatics Blog. For context, there are eight different practice councils which reside under the House. These are listed below:



(Left) AHIMA CEO Dr. Wylecia Wiggs-Harris, with NMHIMA President Erica Lopez (Right)



All eight practice councils are each composed of 20 or more members who serve a three year staggered term. The PC's meet monthly to complete specific projects pertinent to their domain. They recommend, develop, revise, and maintain AHIMA practice briefs, articles, and toolkits. They also identify needs for the HIM profession and research and advise on key issues. Products and services offered by AHIMA are also assessed and developed by the PC's. It is AHIMA's recommendation to have at least one member from each state to participate in a practice council. In an effort to satisfy this recommendation, NMHIMA's first delegate, President Erica Lopez, participates in teleconferences to offer contributions to specific projects for AHIMA. For more information on Practice Councils please contact us at nmhima@gmail.com.

The remainder of the conference consisted of four breakout sessions with the delegates reconvening afterwards to review the material of all sessions. The four breakout session topics along with a brief overview, are on the chart on the next page.

<p>Environmental Scanning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This session addressed the impacts of change in healthcare and how it directly or indirectly affects healthcare organizations. AHIMA plans to adjust its strategy based on these findings.
<p>Future of the House: Apportionment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHIMA addressed the apportionment of the house, due to larger CSA's having more delegates to represent them than the smaller CSA's. A poll was taken and the states decided to keep apportionment the same, with 1 delegate for every 100 members. NMHIMA currently has 3 delegates, but may expand this to 4 delegates next fiscal year.
<p>Future of the House: Relevancy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This session reviewed the HOD purpose and the relevancy of the House. It was concluded that more engagement needs to come from delegates, AHIMA, members, and PC's. All of these play a pertinent role and together can effectively make AHIMA better.
<p>HIM Reimagined</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This session discussed ways to facilitate AHIMA's HIM Reimagined (HIMR) initiative to help transform the HIM profession for the success of the future. Recommendations were advanced degrees, providing research, HIM having specialties- which curriculum is currently being developed, and to recognize the RHIA as the standard credential.

NMHIMA's two delegates split up, and Erica attended the Future of the House: Relevancy session and Michelle attended the HIM Reimagined session. Below is some more information of those two sessions.

Future of the House: Relevancy

In 2017, a discussion on AHIMA's Engage website sparked attention as it was suggested there should be changes to the House, due to people expressing the House was irrelevant. After being informed of this discussion, Speaker of the House, Catherine Porto, made sure to include this as a hot topic at HOD as a breakout session this year so AHIMA can clearly demonstrate the value of the House. Moreover, a task force called the "Future of the House" was created to ensure the component state associations (CSAs), PC's, and AHIMA Board of Directors are all in communication to align the House with AHIMA's new strategic plan. The current and future activities of the House were assessed at this breakout session and input was given on how the House can improve to facilitate its relevancy. State delegates conveyed that there is a communication barrier, as there is no report out of PC's other than the annual HOD meeting. To achieve strategic initiatives, it was suggested that AHIMA address important items with PC's, who in turn inform the CSA's, who inform the membership. By implementing this strategy, there will be communication across the spectrum, and everyone will be notified and can provide feedback to AHIMA to ensure strategic alignment with all states is being met.

HIM Reimagined

HOD identified that the roles of HIM Professionals needs to be recharged, due to the vastness of technological changes, the rapid changes in the health care industry, and education. Four items were emphasized during the HIM reimaged track: (1) Relating to the industry of HIM Professionals, total membership that hold graduate level degrees, (2) Research focus advancement options in the HIM and HIT area, (3) Specialization on all levels to maintain a broad spectrum in healthcare, and (4) Credentials within the field. The acknowledgement was passionately noted that the HIM Professionals must progress to be able to compete with the industrial market.

Forward thinking opportunities, information, and data to HIM Professionals were also discussed to ensure that our relevance within the profession is not displaced and to ensure that in the coming years, we are still here and marketable for the upcoming technical changes and challenges within the health care industry.

We are excited and look forward to seeing you at our next event, the NMHIMA Spring Conference. Thank you for your support of the HIM profession!

~Cheers,
NMHIMA Board