

Notes From the President
By Renae Spohn

I want to congratulate Carrie Vilhauer and teams who helped with the SDHIMA Spring Meeting. That was so impressive! It really helped us to have the AAPC group attend our sessions and gave us an opportunity to meet them and talk with them.

Technology Day in June provided an opportunity to try out tablet PC's. Thanks Jane and team for your wonderful work! Several topics challenged us to learn something new. Thanks to Dorine and DSU for providing the classroom. Thanks to all who participated.

Kathy Dorale, Deanne Kribell and I attended AHIMA Summer Team Talks and Leadership Conference in July. I was so neat to hear the good ideas from other state associations that were being described. The opportunity to talk with other state representatives motivated us to want to try some new ideas. On behalf of all of us, thanks for allowing us to participate in Summer Team Talks and the Leadership Conference.

During August, SDHIMA will be having a booth at the Sioux Empire Fair. The focus will be on recruiting students and providing the public with information about the myPHR.com website. Check out the website if you have not already.

It has come to the Board of Directors' attention that the record retention law for South Dakota is being interpreted in a couple different ways. Sherri Zimmer, Legal Committee Chair and committee members will be working with SDAHO staff to determine a plan of action to resolve this issue. Look forward to Sherri's report at the Fall SDHIMA meeting. Thanks to the Legal Committee for your time and efforts that are being put into updating the Legal Manual.

Christal Pummel has been working hard to plan the Fall SDHIMA meeting. Thanks for your work!!

Thanks to each of you who volunteered to participate as a member of a committee or to chair one!! The committee chair listing is as follows: Katherine Andersen-McCarthy-Nominating; Jane Klemme-Awards; Sherri Zimmer-Legal and Legislative; Christy Swan and Sherri Zimmer-Co-Chairs Coding Roundtable; Linda Maas-Bylaws; Rose Goeden-Membership; Jamie Husher-Educational Funding; Joyce Havlik-Archives, Wall of Fame; Carrie Vilhauer-Spring Education; Dorine Bennett-Newsletter, Each 1 Reach 1; Jennifer Gholson-Scholarship; Jean Murtha-Marketing & Recruitment; and LeAnne Bouma-Continuing Education Coordinator.

I'm excited for the opportunity to work with SDHIMA members and to lead this wonderful association. Thanks for the opportunity you have given me.

Dear SDHIMA Members:

I wish to express my most heartfelt appreciation for the retirement gift. I shall think of your kindness each time I wear the necklace. My service as a volunteer for the state and national HIM Associations will always be among my most cherished memories of my career.

Best wishes as you carry on in this noble profession.

Always,

Lora DeWald

Summer Team Talks By DeAnne Kribell, RHIT

I had the privilege of representing SDHIMA, along with President Renae Spohn, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ and President-Elect Kathy Dorale, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P, at Summer Team Talks in Chicago, IL on July 16, 2004. What a great experience!

The day began with opening comments from AHIMA President, Melanie Brodnik, PhD, RHIA and AHIMA CEO, Linda Kloss, RHIA, CAE. They reviewed the 2005 AHIMA election results and discussed the 2004 strategic goals and progress made since Winter Team Talks. We spent considerable time discussing recommendations concerning professional identity. Our profession is so diverse in it's applications that it is difficult to determine an "identity" to define all of our roles. My eyes were opened during this session as I met a delegate from Tennessee who is the Director of Health Information at a Veterinary (not a Veteran's) Hospital. Her facility utilizes electronic signatures and bar coding. We discussed how to include members from different professional backgrounds in educational sessions and meetings.



During this morning session we also discussed how AHIMA can help the Component State Associations (CSA's) mobilize toward e-HIM and the electronic medical record. Each table was challenged to determine one "great idea" for the topic they were assigned. Many innovative and exciting ideas were discussed.

In the afternoon we were challenged with some controversial topics for discussion. Controversial topic #1 dealt with the RHIA Proviso. If you remember, the House of Delegates approved this Proviso in 1998. It allowed an RHIT with a Bachelor's Degree to be eligible to sit

for the RHIA exam. There were certain requirements that went along with this change, including: the applicant had to have had his or her RHIT awarded by 12/31/99 and his or her Baccalaureate or higher degree had to have been obtained prior to 12/31/04. A five-year window of opportunity was created for this change. In the first year of this Proviso, 453 people took advantage of this opportunity. The numbers dropped to 227 in 2000 and have dwindled to 59, 58 and 35 in the following years. AHIMA discussed the pro's and con's of continuing this program beyond the five-year span of time. The pro's included: There are still 1,348 member who would benefit, RHIT's with experience do significantly better than new grads on exam (96% pass rate) and research has shown that the declining number of Proviso applicants is not having a serious impact on the number of HIA enrollees. The con's included: Felt that it devalued the RHIA credential, more RHIA programs are available through distance learning, and it conflicted with the original House of Delegates decision. A vote will take place on this in the House of Delegates in Washington, D.C. in October. Be prepared to discuss this issue at our Fall SDAHO meeting!

Controversial issue #2 involved a resolution from California asking for interest in initiating a credential for Release of Information staff. A vote was taken with the majority of the members voting toward not having a ROI credential at this time. This will also be discussed in D.C.

Controversial issue #3 was also a hot topic. We discussed Role and Apportionment for the House of Delegates. Because of the recent increase in AHIMA members, they felt it was time to re-evaluate our system for delegate apportionment. In short, what this means is they were looking at our current bylaws which allows 1-5 Delegates per CSA based on membership. The current bylaws allow for one delegate per 100 members from their CSA. If the bylaw was re-defined, it may change the formula to 200 or 250. Other options to this change were also discussed. This may also come up for a vote in the near future. Please let us know your feelings on this topic as well.

The afternoon session also included an update on the CSA Task Force. Renae Spohn represents SDHIMA on this task force. Their goals are to develop volunteer leadership and to strengthen the AHIMA and Component State Association Federation

Finally, we discussed the 2004 Highlights and What's Ahead for 2005. The main topics of discussion in this portion of the meeting were E-Him and ICD-10. A national plan is being developed at this very moment on how to convert the nation to an electronic medical record. This is being spear-headed by Dr. David Brailer. At this point in time, the first priority in the national plan will be to automate physician's offices. This made most of us in the audience sit up and take notice because, as we all know, we do not have a strong HIM base in clinics. The flip to this is that we now have the opportunity to expand our expertise to these areas. Another interesting point in this plan is that they are planning on utilizing financial incentives to change to an electronic format. We also briefly discussed the change to ICD-10 and how to educate our members and others on the change in classification system and how to publicize the value of HIM professionals.

Throughout the entire session, AHIMA stressed the importance of "Success by Association". They want to improve the value of services provided through the state levels, to encourage CSA leaders to focus on profession-building activities, and to promote diversity in decision-making and in leadership.

2004 Leadership Conference --Success by Association
By Kathy Dorale

Rena Spohn, DeAnne Kribell and Kathy Dorale attended this year's leadership conference. The conference was held in Chicago Illinois and was a full two-day event for presentations and networking advice that will help lead our association with strategic planning into the next several years. Success by Association, the theme of the conference, was fitting to every presentation given at the conference.

William Rowley, MD, a speaker from the Institute for Alternative Futures, discussed how to prepare for the future. He believes that if you have a behavior that is not consistent with your aspirations you will not feel good about your behavior. Sometimes people feel a victim of a circumstance without rationalization that they can do anything about it. In reality, he believes a person can live in both worlds but it would be better to live on the positive side and create your own outcomes. He believes everyone should have a vision to focus on and he suggests a vision that will make a difference. He advises establishing standards that are important to what you want to see in five or ten years. He stated, "Vision is not figuring out what is going to change and adapting to it. Vision is about deciding how we will change the world." He made an example in regard to the e-record. He encourages everyone to look outside the box and make outcomes happen through good leadership. He believes that, "Possibilities are possible if we dream and dare to take a risk."

Designing and Delivering Successful Meetings was the session addressed by Keith Olenik and Kelly M. Fox. Many professional across the states shared ideas that have worked and ideas that have failed. Kelly Fox discussed preparations for the National AHIMA convention and the work that is involved to make a successful convention a reality.

Another speaker, L. Edward Bryant, Jr., Gardner Carton & Douglas, gave a presentation on Nonprofit Governance in the age of Sarbanes-Oxley. He gave many tips to governing finances in a non-profit organization. Mr. Bryant opened the floor to questions and answers, which could have kept him busy an entire day.

Many sessions encouraged networking and roundtable discussion. By the end of the conference everyone had met at least 10 new friends to partner with. After all, the conference was about partnerships with more than your national association. Rather, organizations need to partner with different groups to gain recognition and work toward common goals.

All of the sessions attended during the conference were full of a wealth of knowledge and valuable resources for the SDHIMA board to utilize in the strategic planning processes. As a first-year delegate, the experience was wonderful and well worth the time and money. The title of the conference, Success by Association, touched every presentation in some manner.

During the last day of the conference we were presented with the opportunity to have lunch with the President-elect of AHIMA, Mervat Abdelhak, PhD, RHIA. DeAnne Kribell, SDHIMA second-year Director of Public Relations, would probably describe this as her most memorable event of the entire conference. Mervat had seated herself at a table filled with Midwesterners including North Dakota and South Dakota attendees who discussed the luxuries of living in a climate of cold weather and mosquitoes. Mervat, an educator from Pittsburgh, PA, was forced to hear all about tractor pulls and turtle races while we enjoyed our meal. After all, a conference is

all about meeting new friends to network with and share ideas even when it is about how to get a turtle to win a race. We hope Mervat enjoyed her lunch as much as we did that day.

Best Board Practices

During the Leadership conference we were able to attend a break out session titled “Best Board Practices” presented by Kathy Byrd, RHIA and Sandy Fuller, MA, RHIA.

This session was an opportunity to learn new ideas from across the states and to reinforce that South Dakota is on track. Sandy Fuller, inspirational in her speaking, discussed the need to build “environmental scanning” to keep up with world changes. She stressed that this can be done through membership surveys, news (state legislations, public opinion, technology), AHIMA activities, and affiliations with other associations.

Sandy made suggestions for “building bridges” with other associations to do more with less. Not only can one do more with less, your association and profession may gain recognition and alliances within your state.

Sandy addressed formulating a plan is key to making sure the association moves forward in mission, meeting member needs, positioning the profession and insuring longevity of the association. She suggests reviewing AHIMA’s strategic plan to determine how the state plan aligns. The more specific a strategic plan is the easier it is to measure the successes. She gave an example of legislative involvement of which South Dakota has been active in past years.

I really need to give credit to the AHIMA staff that prepared for this wonderful week. Attending a conference of this magnitude helps one understand the purpose of the AHIMA dues and quality education that we are provided from the AHIMA staff. During the conference Rita Schiclone, Director of Coding Products and Services for AHIMA, praised South Dakota for being a progressive state association.

Success by Association really is key to our everyday lives within our facilities, state association and national associations. As one of your delegates for SDHIMA it was my privilege an honor to attend this year’s leadership conference and prepare myself for the upcoming years as your leader.



This year will mark the 30th Anniversary for the Health Information Management Program at Dakota State University. Because of this, a reunion is going to be held in the spring for all DSU HIM alumni. More information on this big event will be sent in the future. It would be greatly appreciated if all alumni could please e-mail their address to Christi Lamb, DSU HIM Club Vice-President at lambc@pluto.dsu.edu so that information can be sent to each person individually. Also, if anybody knows of alumni who do not receive this newsletter, please spread the word about this and have them e-mail their address as well. Thanks again and hope to see you in the spring.

SDHIMA Sponsors Technology Day on DSU Campus
By Jane Klemme

Six continuing education credits technology were awarded to 11 SDHIMA members on Tuesday, June 22, 2004. Six one-hour presentations of hands-on technologic advances were attempted by the 11 participants in an effort to master or enhance new skills in technology. Tablet computers were used, one for each participant in Room 111, of DSU's Technology Classroom Building in Madison, SD.



SDHIMA programming committee wishes to thank the DSU faculty for their grand hospitality. Special thanks also to the five presenters, all SDHIMA members; LeAnne Bouma (Excel Tips and Tricks), DeAnne Kribell (Power Point), Renae Spohn (AHIMA & SDHIMA Communities of Practice and Project Planning Concepts), Dorine Bennett (Mail Merge) and Joyce Havlik (Front Page - Web site design).

SDHIMA Members,

Thank you for the monies I received from the SDHIMA Educational Funding appropriation. As a self-employed part-time HIM practitioner, the SDHIMA Educational Funding source made it possible for me to attend the convention when I might not otherwise have been able to.

I would encourage all SDHIMA members to apply for this spring meeting scholarship to take advantage of the excellent member benefits provided by SDHIMA to its members.

Thank You!

Jane Klemme, RHIA

News from Sam and Jim Mudder



We had a baby boy January 7th, 2004 at Queen of Peace in Mitchell. His name is Jacob Ray Mudder, and he weighed 8 pounds 7 ounces. He was 21 inches long. He joins two sisters at home: Megan, 4-1/2 years old, and Melanie, 2-1/2 years old.

2004-2005 SDHIMA Calendar

June 21	Old/New Board Meeting--Madison
July 1	New Board Takes Command
July 16-18	AHIMA Summer Team Talks/Leadership Conference/Coding --Chicago
July 27	Articles for Newsletter Due
August 10	Newsletter Published
August 10-15	Sioux Empire Fair Booth
August 31	Call for Reports for Board Meeting
September 21	Pre-convention Board meeting--Sioux Falls
September 22-24	Fall Meeting--Sioux Falls (Pre-conference Coding Roundtable)
October 9-14	AHIMA National Convention, Washington, D.C.
November 7-13	National HI&T Week
November 19	Board Meeting--Sioux Falls
November 26	Articles for Newsletter Due
December 10	Newsletter Published
January 18	Call for Reports for Board Meeting
February 8	Board Meeting --Sioux Falls (conference call if necessary)
February 25	Articles for Newsletter Due
March 11	Newsletter Published
March/April	Winter Team Talks--TBD
April	National Health Information Privacy and Security Week
April	Sioux Valley Health Fair
April 7-8	Spring Meeting Madison
April 9	DSU HIM Reunion
June 3	Call for Board Meeting Reports
June 10	Legal Manual Workshop (will be held shortly after Legal Manual is completed)
June 24	Old/New Board Meeting
July 1	New Board Takes Command



2004-2005 SDHIMA Board Members
 (L-R Back) Karin Morey, DeAnne Kribell,
 Kathy Dorale, Michelle Almquist, Renae Spohn
 (L-R Front) Chris VandenBos, Christal Pummel

Spring Meeting
By Jane Klemme

With beauty abounding in the landscape, as far as the eye could see, the South Dakota Health Information Management Association teamed up with the AAPC Chapter of western South Dakota to deliver scores of educational opportunities to the combined sum of the members in Spearfish, SD on May 5 through 7, 2004.



As surely as there were schools of rainbow and brown trout at the local **DC Booth** Historic National Fish **Hatchery**, there were many schools of thought and presentation relating to all aspects of coding and health information management at the convention, which was held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center.

Speaking of coding, is it an art or a science? Perhaps it is a collision of the two, much like the amazing works of local Spearfish artist Dick Termes and his famous Termespheres, which are the collision of art and mathematics. Many aspects of coding were explored at the spring convention this year, including APG's, E/M,

DRG's, ICD-10, clinical documentation, and even medical necessity rules and other facets of billing.

If the attendees' attention turned to insurmountable projects that are coming down the pike, then those interests were fed at educational sessions relating to the project management of electronic health records, setting up home-based transcriptionists and electronic HIM processes. The Black Hills attraction that typifies thinking big and following through on a plan is the brand new "Tatonka" park by Kevin Costner.

Spearfish's own Lookout Memorial Hospital provided many of the speakers via the medical staff there. Medical Staff meetings are sure to be a lot of fun at Lookout, judging from the presentation styles and quick-witted humor of the medical staff presenters on such topics at women's health issues, orthopedic procedures, gastroplasties and heart valve procedures.

"So Life is a Marathon – Double Tie Your Shoes". One pass through Spearfish Canyon is a grand reminder of that. The way of life seems long but there is so much to enjoy with every passing minute of each day. More minutes in each day to learn new aspects of specific topics like the "Changing World of Long Term Care" and even "Critical Access Hospitals".

With such topics as "HIPAA Security and Privacy Review" it's no secret that convention attendees deserved the time-out from learning they received on the casino night trip to Deadwood and the Soda Pop & Drive-in Movie Networking Social, which was hosted by the SDHIMA Board of Directors and the hundreds of door prizes that were arranged by the program committee.

A huge thank you to the program planning committees from SDHIMA and AAPC. Also sincere appreciation expressed to the great line-up of speakers who shared their expertise at the spring convention. It truly was a celebration of educational opportunities.

Dakota State University's Health Information Management Program

Please feel free to use this information or share it with employees, students, or others looking at HIM career options.

- Dakota State University (DSU) offers the only professionally accredited health information management programs in South Dakota. Our graduates are eligible to take the national certification exams to become credentialed professionals. We feel an obligation to serve the healthcare industry by providing the best possible education to our students.
- DSU offers an AHIMA-approved healthcare coding certificate as well as an associate degree in health information technology and a baccalaureate degree in health information administration. These are designed in a format to facilitate progression and transition from one level to the next.
- DSU's health information management courses are available via distance delivery – students may take classes at the Madison campus, or at USDSU in Sioux Falls, or anywhere via internet access. The variety of choices makes it possible for students to get their education in a way that works best for them.

For more information on the educational opportunities in health information management from Dakota State University visit www.departments.dsu.edu/him or call DSU's E-Education Office at 1-800-641-4309 or DSU's Academic Coordinator at USDSU at 1-605-367-5381

HIM Students Receive Scholarships Related to Profession



A number of Health Information Management (HIM) students at Dakota State University have been selected as recipients of scholarships related to their major field of study. Congratulations should go to Candace Colley, Christi Lamb, Rhonda Moen and Andrea Olson.

Candace Colley has been chosen as a Dakota Corps Scholar for 2004-2005 for the value of \$4600 annually. This award is given to students who have had a 24 ACT and at least a 3.0 high school GPA and who will be majoring in a shortage area designated by the Department of Labor. A Dakota Corps Scholarship is a full tuition and fee award up to 16 credits each academic term, excluding summer. Recipients must maintain at least a 2.8 GPA and the award is renewable for up to 4 years depending upon their grade classification. Candace is majoring in health information technology.

The South Dakota Health Information Management Association annually awards \$1500 in scholarship money to students majoring in health information technology or health information administration at DSU. The recipients for 2004-2005 are Christi Lamb and Rhonda Moen. Both of these students are health information administration majors.

The student selected to receive the HIM Annual Award for 2004-2005 was Andrea Olson. She is a senior majoring in health information administration.

National Certification Exam Results

The American Health Information Management Association recent report on student results from the Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) and Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) exams provided good news regarding the DSU graduates. The list included results from all test takers in the time period from 01/01/04 through 06/30/04. Both the RHIT and RHIA exams had 100% pass rates for the DSU students!

These national certification tests are open only to graduates of health information management programs that have been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Dakota State University offers South Dakota's only CAAHEP-accredited HIM programs. These credentialing exams are given on-line with an open schedule, so there isn't a specified date that the students must take the exam. Test takers have freedom to select the date and time they will test after obtaining their degree.

Supervised Professional Practices

Dakota State University's work in educating the health information management students would not be possible without the supervised professional practices! These internship experiences provide the students with "hands-on" exposure to health information management functions and give the students a better understanding of the classroom theory.

During the Spring and Summer terms, there were students out completing 57 supervised professional practices at 33 places in 4 different states. The students really enjoyed spending time in the facilities and learned a great deal.

The practitioners at each of the facilities and organizations are very busy people and the willingness to welcome students is amazing when considering all of the other demands on their time – it truly demonstrates a wonderful commitment to the profession and an interest in student education! DSU would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to everyone who assists with supervised professional practices!!

AHIMA Fellowship Program

Dorine Bennett, Director of the Health Information Management Program at Dakota State University, has been awarded fellowship status in the American Health Information Management Association. The AHIMA Fellowship Program is a program to recognize significant and sustained contribution to advancement of the Health Information Management (HIM) discipline through meritorious service, excellence in professional practice, excellence in HIM education, and advancement of the profession through innovation and knowledge sharing. Individuals who earn fellowship may use the designation Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association (FAHIMA). The names of these individuals will be maintained in the AHIMA Registry of Fellows.



Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend!

Fall SDHIMA Convention
September 22-24, 2004
Sioux Falls Convention Center

For more information, visit www.sdaho.org

Spreading the Word about HIM...

Sioux Empire Fair...SDHIMA had a booth in the Expo Building during the Sioux Empire Fair in Sioux Falls in August.

Informational brochures on *Understanding Your Health Record* and *myPHR(Personal Health Record)* were available for consumers as

well as literature on the health information management careers and educational opportunities in HIM from Dakota State University. Thank you to everyone who helped with this opportunity.



SD Health Academies...Dorine Bennett participated in Health Academies held in Watertown, Mitchell and Sioux Falls in June. At each of these academies, a number of selected high school students from the areas were invited to attend and learn more about a variety of healthcare careers. Betty Hieb of Avera Queen of Peace in Mitchell and Kristi Osthus of Prairie Lakes in Watertown also shared information with the students and gave tours of their HIM departments.

SDHIMA Wall of Fame



Dakota State University is very proud to host the SDHIMA Wall of Fame. Included are plaques listing all SDHIMA Presidents as well as pictures of current board members. A variety of HIM awards are also recognized on the Wall of Fame and pictures of honorees are included as possible. If you are a HIM award winner or know of HIM award winners who should be included in the Wall of Fame, please contact the SDHIMA Wall of Fame Coordinator, Joyce Havlik, at joyce.havlik@dsu.edu.

National AHIMA Election

South Dakota was the state ranked #8 in percentage of members that voted!!! We had 17.3% of our active members vote, well above the national average of 10.1% -- good job!! (If only 13 more members had voted, we could have been #1 -- let's try for that next time!!) It was interesting to see that of the seven states that had higher percentages than us, six of them had candidates from their states on the ballot (which I'm sure might have increased their participation).

Change of Address Form

In order to maintain an accurate database of the SDHIMA membership, please update the following information as needed. This information can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to: Rose Goeden, Dakota State University, 820 N. Washington Avenue, Madison, SD 57042; fax (605)256-5060; Rose.Goeden@dsu.edu You may also update this information at the SDHIMA website by logging into the SDHIMA on-line directory.

(Please Print)

Name _____ Credential _____

Home Mailing Address _____

Street _____ City, State _____ Zip (+4 if known) _____

Employer _____ Job Title _____

Work Mailing Address _____

Street _____ City, State _____ Zip (+4 if known) _____

Contact Numbers _____

Location	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Home			
Work			

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter!