

The **LINK** E-Newsletter

Wisconsin Health Information Management Association

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Happy HI&T Week!



Dear WHIMA Members,

I hope all of you had a chance to catch the fall colors. I am still hoping for an Indian summer and a slow change into winter.

All of us in Wisconsin take for granted the sudden changes in weather, but are we ready for the changes that are upon us in the HIM field. I think Leslie Fox gave the perfect picture of change in her presentation at the Fall Conference. Her scenario involved a caterpillar struggling with having to change, but once changed evolved into a magnificently beautiful butterfly.

Speaking of "change", we would like to start a new feature presentation, "Success Stories", for the Link and we need your help. Are you fabulous at what you do or do you know of someone that is? Please share your story with us on your success or drop us a name or two. We will send out one of our reporters to interview and bring back the story for our members. These stories will help all of us to network and build our WHIMA resource dossier.

"Change" is also our focus for this issue. Cheryl Becker updates us on news from the AHIMA Conference in her President's Message, Beth Malchetske talks us through a legislative process and we have an update on the eHealth initiative taking place in Wisconsin.

And, if you have not registered to go to the Leadership Conference in Stevens Point, time is running out.

Happy Metamorphosis!

Vicky Wolf, Link Editor

President's Message

Happy Health Information and Technology Week! Cheryl Becker, WHIMA President, provides an update on the AHIMA House of Delegates (which approved the inclusive membership amendment), "After-Five" events, and invites more members to join the AHIMA mentor program. For the complete message from Cheryl Becker, President, go to [Message from the President](#).



Membership Changes...2006 AHIMA House of Delegates Approves the "Inclusive Membership" Amendment

During its October 2006 meeting in Denver, CO, AHIMA's House of Delegates approved changes to the association membership categories.

The House first approved a motion to modify the bylaws to require that the president-elect, president, and past president of AHIMA be AHIMA-approved credential holders. The motion was approved by two-thirds majority vote.

Next, the House approved an amendment to the AHIMA bylaws which eliminated the associate membership category and defined active members as individuals interested in the AHIMA purpose and willing to abide by the Code of Ethics. The change removed the requirement that active members hold an AHIMA certification in good standing. The bylaw change also required the majority of members of the Board of Directors to be AHIMA-approved credential holders. It also eliminated the associate membership category for component state associations. What does this mean for members? What is the difference between membership and certification? You can obtain answers to both of these questions by going to and reading [Membership Changes in 2006](#).

From the Capitol...51.30 Takes on a New Look

On May 23rd of this year, changes were made to chapter 51.30. You can see the original Acts on the state website that were presented that precede the final writing or publication which occurred in June of this year. Senate Bill 226 is 2005 Wisconsin Act 444. The Assembly version assisted by Representative Hines is entitled: 2005 Wisconsin Act 485. <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/> For an outline of the changes in 51.30 and to read more about Beth Malchetske's, experience in working on this important legislation go to [51.30 Legislative Changes](#).

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Save the Date...March 22, 2007 "Who Moved my Medical Records? Release of Information Beyond Business As Usual" Workshop

On March 22, 2007 at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells, WHIMA will hold a Release of Information Workshop. The workshop will feature general sessions on Privacy, Security & Confidentiality; HIPAA Truths and Myths; and, Managing ROI in Electronic and Paper Worlds. Facilitators will lead three breakout sessions on hot topics in release and access of health information for Acute Care, Long Term Care and Behavior Medicine. A complete brochure with registration information and fees will be available on the WHIMA web site in December.



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