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In 2017, AHIMA organized its work around four strategic objectives. This report highlights the work done to advance AHIMA and the HIM profession in informatics and analytics, information governance (IG), creating pathways for health information professionals in emerging roles, and connecting consumers to their health information.

To keep members up to date on informatics, AHIMA offered a variety of new resources such as a new definition of informatics, resources including a Journal of AHIMA blog, a toolkit, and an informatics infographic. The Certified Professional in Health Informatics exam launched in March and a series of live webinars on health informatics also took place.

The association made more strides in IG, as indicated by the results of its 2017 IG Survey. In the survey, 53 percent of respondents said they have IG practices in place or recognize the need for IG. Work continued to advance the Information Governance Adoption Model™ and IGHealthRate™, and this work is reflected in collaborations with entities such as the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT.

Work continued on HIM Reimagined, a framework to create future roles for HIM professionals. There were also improvements and updates to our Virtual Lab. And AHIMA Foundation apprenticeships are helping connect prospective HIM professionals with first-time jobs or boost career mobility. In August, the US Department of Labor recognized the AHIMA Foundation as part of the National Apprenticeship System. In addition, AHIMA continues to provide its members with relevant, career-focused resources, including the Career Map.

Connecting consumers with their health information continued to be a focus. AHIMA created a Model Patient Request for Health Information form, which has resulted in more than 10,000 downloads.

We are also pleased to report that in 2017, AHIMA membership growth reached its highest level ever, with more than 74,000 members; this equates to 6.9 percent growth.

These are just a few of the ways AHIMA is moving the profession forward. There’s a lot more, so we hope you’ll take a few minutes to review this annual report. We couldn’t do any of this without the support and expertise of our members and volunteers. Along with our members, we look forward to inspiring, innovating, and leading in the years to come.
AHIMA is the premier association of health information management (HIM) professionals worldwide. Serving 52 affiliated component state associations (CSAs) and more than 103,000 health information professionals, AHIMA is recognized as the leading source of HIM knowledge, and a respected authority for rigorous professional education and training.

Founded in 1928, for the better part of a century, AHIMA has served to improve health record quality by taking a leadership role in the effective management of health data and medical records and delivering quality healthcare to the public.

AHIMA is taking a lead in advancing informatics, data analytics, and information governance for healthcare while continuing to lead and support world-class HIM practices and standards. 

**AHIMA’s Mission:** Transforming healthcare by leading HIM, informatics, and information governance

**AHIMA’s Vision:** Improving health through trusted information

**AHIMA’s Values:** Respect, Excellence, Leadership, Integrity

**Focus:** Providing expertise to ensure trusted information for healthcare
INFORMATICS AND ANALYTICS

To keep members up to date on informatics and analytics, AHIMA Practice Councils developed resources such as an informatics infographic, a new Informatics Toolkit, the *Journal of AHIMA’s* “Data Revolution” blog, and an updated Health Data Analysis toolkit. AHIMA also introduced free monthly 30-minute webinars on coding and data topics (“Coffee & Coding” and “Data Dive”). In addition, a new definition of informatics was published at ahima.org. The Certified Professional in Health Informatics exam launched in March, and a series of live webinars on health informatics took place.

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE (IG)

In October, AHIMA announced results from its 2017 IG Survey. In the survey, 53 percent of respondents said they have IG practices in place or recognize the need for IG. Additionally, 14 percent of respondents said they have initiated an organization-wide IG program, and 18 percent have IG-related projects underway.

The IGAdvisors’ team consulted with organizations specific to moving IG forward and use of the Information Governance Adoption Model™ (IGAM) via IGHealthRate™. In October, AHIMA announced an expanded partnership with Immersive to co-brand and make available IGHealthRate at no cost. AHIMA also announced that SunCoast RHIO had achieved the first IGAM level 4 award. Two IG Supporters, Iron Mountain and Primeau Consulting Group, were announced as well.

AHIMA also discussed the benefits of IG and shared its IGAM basics with representatives from the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT (ONC), the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). AHIMA was then invited to participate in an ONC stakeholders’ event on trusted exchange. Additionally, ONC requested that AHIMA’s input and additions related to IG be added to a white paper being prepared for Strategic Innovation Model (SIM) states. AHIMA’s IGAM and IGHealthRate content on identity management will be referenced in this white paper.

In December, ONC released a new Patient Demographic Data Quality Framework. The framework helps organizations assess their current data management capabilities and develop an implementation roadmap. It doesn’t prescribe how to achieve effective data management for those tasks, but recommends that organizations refer to AHIMA’s IGAM.

To get the word out to AHIMA members, the IG team performed four IGHealthRate on-site assessments and partnered with several component state associations (CSAs) to provide successful information governance and privacy/security customized full-day training sessions in several states. The team did several IG presentations at CSA meetings and provided IG content in a CSA “Box Kit.”

In the *Journal of AHIMA*, the “IG Road to Governance” column focused on real-life case studies of successful IG initiatives in healthcare. AHIMA also unveiled a new video, “Unlock Your Understanding of Information Governance (IG) with Education from AHIMA.”
Standards are an essential piece of IG and both are essential to enabling trust in data. AHIMA’s Standards Task Force developed HIM practice standards in conjunction with groups such as Integrating the Health Enterprise (IHE), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and HL7 International.

Finally, in May the AHIMA Public Health Data Standards Council delivered testimony to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics Subcommittee on Standards on the future of the health plan identifier.

**HIM PATHWAYS**

Work continued on “HIM Reimagined,” a framework to create future roles for HIM professionals. The final white paper is available online and market research was conducted to validate recommendations made in HIMR and assist in planning implementation. An HIMR all-educator webinar was conducted and the “HIM Reimagined Explainer Video” launched.

In addition, the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) approved implementation of a proviso that allows individuals with an RHIT and a baccalaureate or graduate degree in any discipline to sit for the RHIA exam.

In other education efforts, there was good news from our Virtual Lab (VLab):

- New applications: MEDITECH inpatient EHR system, ARGO EMPI system
- New purchase option: Encoder only (includes the 3M, Nuance Clintegrity™, and Find-A-Code encoders in addition to the authentic Patient Case medical records)
- VLab now hosts more than 50 learning activities (lessons) for students and educators and continues to add more
- A record number of 280 schools were actively subscribed to VLab
- Continued VLab faculty training and curriculum integration services; hosted more than 70 trainings to date in 2017

The AHIMA Foundation apprenticeships helped to connect prospective HIM professionals with first-time jobs or boost career mobility. More than 133 trainees participated in the Department of Labor (DOL) grant program. The program expanded its HIM roles to include Medical Coder/Biller and Data Analyst.

In August, the DOL recognized the AHIMA Foundation as part of the National Apprenticeship System. As part of that recognition, the Foundation received a National Program Standard status that can be used to provide a centralized registration process.
2017 HIGHLIGHTS

The Foundation completed the DOL contract, meeting all deliverables, including:

- Supported more than 500 projected apprentices in various healthcare roles
- Expanded or developed 16 healthcare apprenticeship programs
- Contributed to two apprenticeship accelerator meetings attended by 100 employers

In addition, AHIMA continued to provide its members with relevant, career-focused resources, including the Career Map, the Student Open House, and the Virtual Career Fair.

CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT

AHIMA released its Model Patient Request for Health Information form, which has resulted in more than 10,000 downloads. The form was created by members of the Consumer Engagement and Privacy and Security practice councils.

AHIMA created an informational brochure for students on the importance of managing their health information, available in the Consumer Engagement & Personal Health Information community in Engage.

AHIMA presented a series of webinars on the individual right of access under HIPAA.

AHIMA staff and volunteers worked year-round to represent the interests of the profession to policymakers at the national level. Highlights included:

- In March, 170 AHIMA members, representing 49 of 52 CSAs, attended AHIMA's two-day annual Advocacy Summit in Washington, DC. These members made approximately 200 visits to congressional offices during Hill Day.
- The inaugural meeting of the Advocacy and Policy Council (APC), which replaced the State Advocacy Council, occurred in February. AHIMA and the APC developed comprehensive public policy principles for 2018 that are aligned with AHIMA’s strategic objectives.

AHIMA subject matter experts or publications were featured in Healthcare IT News, Medical Economics, Becker’s Hospital Review, Patient Engagement HIT, Fierce Healthcare, mHealthIntelligence, HealthCareBusiness (DOTmed), Healthcare Dive, McKnight’s Long-Term Care, Curve Magazine, Media Planet, Healthcare Business News, Better Homes & Gardens, The Advocate, and Politico.
The Journal of AHIMA received an award in the American Society of Healthcare Publication Editors’ Awards Competition. The Journal “Road to Governance” department won the GOLD Award for Best New Department. In addition, The Journal won a Silver Award in the American Society of Business Publication Editors competition for Best Photo Gallery/Slideshow.

Elsewhere, AHIMA’s External HIPAA Audit Readiness Toolkit was featured as one of the best quality improvement and patient safety toolkits by Becker's Hospital Review. Finally, AHIMA staff were featured as guest speakers at HIMSS and the HIPAA Summit.

In 2017, AHIMA members and certificate holders lived in more than 60 countries. The AHIMA World Congress (AWC) represented AHIMA outside the US with new chapters in the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates. AWC hosted an international track at the AHIMA convention in Los Angeles. In addition, the AWC Middle East Healthcare Information Summit took place in Abu Dhabi in October, with more than 450 participants.

AHIMA membership growth reached its highest level ever, with more than 74,000 members, a 6.9 percent growth.

• Almost 6,000 “New to AHIMA” members joined.
• 14,770 new members (14.1 percent year-over-year growth)
• 2,420 “Premier” level members were in the first-year-of the new membership model

MORE GOOD NEWS

And there was more good news, this time about exams and products. New books published include:

• Clinical Coding Workout 2017
• CCS, CCS-P, and CCA Exam Prep books
• ICD-10-PCS flash cards, Second Edition
• Leadership Development for Healthcare workbook
• Revised new edition of Introduction to Informatics, Second Edition
• Revised new edition of Health Informatics Research Methods, Second Edition
• Revised new edition of Fundamentals of Law for Health Informatics and Information Management, Third Edition

AHIMA produced several new toolkits on topics including HIPAA Audit Readiness, Query Toolkit, Telemedicine, Informatics, and the IG Toolkit 3.0, as well as a new ICD-10 trainer resource guide.
In certification news:

- AHIMA launched new CDIP online Exam Prep Courses.
- The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management approved a proviso that allows individuals with a RHIT and a baccalaureate or graduate degree in any discipline to sit for the RHIA exam.
- AHIMA launched a program offering free digital badges; 5,474 badges were claimed.

AHIMA introduced a new products mobile app, enhanced with a user-friendly navigation page to easily find and purchase products, available at ahima.org/productapp.

Online, members found some significant improvements to the user experience, following replacement of the search engine on the AHIMA Store, which made it easier and faster for people to find products.

AHIMA made improvements to the CEU Center, which provides an organized and centralized view of all the credential information for our customers.

AHIMA also built a new voting system for committees and CSAs. This balloting system integrates with AHIMA’s association management system and with the profile information that candidates can self-manage through MyAHIMA.

AHIMA livestreamed the Clinical Coding and Data Institute meetings to members and provided post-event replays.

AHIMA hosted its 89th Annual Convention in Los Angeles, CA, in October. The event featured distinguished speakers such as Dr. Donald Rucker, Barbara Boxer, and Newt Gingrich, as well as Viola Davis.

AHIMA appreciates the support of the House of Delegates, the Board, the members, and our talented staff. Thank you for your support!
Each year, as a service to members, AHIMA and the AHIMA Foundation publish brief summaries to show how the Association performed financially.

Numbers shown below are consolidated and listed for both AHIMA and the AHIMA Foundation.

**REVENUE (IN THOUSANDS)**

- Dues: $6,563
- Assessments/Exams: $8,244
- Meeting/Online Registration: $5,570
- Advisory/Consulting/Brand Partner: $407
- Publications: $7,586
- Advertising: $923
- Donations/Contributions: $165
- Grants/Contracts: $2,677
- Other Revenue: $2,752

**Total Revenue**: $34,887

**EXPENSES (IN THOUSANDS)**

- Personnel: $15,057
- Professional Fees/Consultants: $3,149
- Outside Services: $6,032
- Travel: $1,182
- Meetings: $2,473
- Cost of Sales: $2,819
- Marketing: $2,508
- General & Administrative: $5,145
- Scholarships: $137

**Total Expense**: $38,502

**Net Ops**: $(3,615)

**Non-Operating Income**: $7,446

**Net Income**: $3,831

**ASSETS (IN THOUSANDS)**

- Cash, Cash Equivalents, Investments, & Accrued Investment Income: $58,545
- Accounts Receivable: $3,965
- Inventory, Prepaid Expenses: $1,545
- Property & Equipment, Net: $7,683

**Total Assets**: $71,738

**LIABILITIES (IN THOUSANDS)**

- Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses: $5,680
- Deferred Revenue & Rent: $9,069
- Other Liabilities: $1,500

**Total Liabilities**: $16,249

**NET ASSETS (IN THOUSANDS)**

- Unrestricted Net Assets: $53,660
- Temporarily Restricted Assets: $962
- Permanently Restricted Assets: $867

**Total Net Assets**: $55,489

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**: $71,738