



## news

233 N. Michigan Ave., 21st Fl.  
Chicago, IL 60601

phone >>(312) 233-1100

fax >>(312) 233-1090

web >>www.ahima.org

### **For more information, please contact:**

Bridget Stratton

Public Relations

312-233-1097

[bridget.stratton@ahima.org](mailto:bridget.stratton@ahima.org)

### **AHIMA Announces Newly Elected Members of Oversight Groups**

*Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management, Council for Excellence in Education Welcome New Members*

**CHICAGO (Jan. 9, 2019)** — The [American Health Information Management Association](http://www.ahima.org) (AHIMA) announces the 2019 members of two entities that oversee the certification and educational preparation of health information management (HIM) professionals, respectively.

“Certification and education are the foundation for a strong HIM profession. We are pleased to welcome newly elected commissioners and council members to help guide our education and certification programs,” said AHIMA CEO Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE.

### **New Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management Members Announced**

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) establishes, implements, and enforces standards and procedures for certification and recertification of HIM professionals. The commission provides strategic oversight of all AHIMA certification programs and is the sole and independent authority in all matters pertaining to both the initial certification and ongoing recertification of HIM professionals.

Newly elected members of the CCHIIM are:

- **Kelly Canter**, BA, RHIT, CCS, coding and HIM development manager for Optum360. A national speaker on coding, compliance, and management, she has served as president of the Lake Huron Michigan Health Information Management Association (HIMA).
- **Lori Nobles**, RHIA, CHTS-IM, PMP, CPHIMS, is a healthcare IT consultant with Cumberland Consulting Group. She is a graduate of the Medical College of Georgia, where she received her bachelor’s degree in HIM. Throughout her 31-year HIM career she has worked in acute care, occupational health, software development and healthcare consulting.
- **Elizabeth Taylor**, MS, RHIT, CHC, is chief compliance officer for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, state of Connecticut. She has over 25 years of

experience in the healthcare industry specializing in health information/informatics, compliance, privacy, security and the revenue cycle. She has also served several terms as president of the Connecticut HIMA.

They join the following returning commissioners:

- 2019 Chair: **Karen Collins Gibson**, MSA, RHIA, FAHIMA, adjunct professor at Delaware County Community College and Immaculata University
- 2020 Chair-elect: **Cathy Flite**, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA, assistant professor in health services administration and policy at Temple University in the College of Public Health
- 2018 Past chair: **Carlyn Doyle**, MSHI, RHIA, CHPS, HCISPP, senior IT data protection coordinator and lead investigator for information security incidents and breaches at Multnomah County in Portland, OR
- **Lisa Baris**, RHIT, CCS, CCDS, director of HIM for Nuance Communications, Inc., Clinical Documentation Improvement
- **Deb Boppre**, MSM, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P, FAHIMA, enterprise health information director at Trinity Health in Minot, ND, and 2017 CCHIIM chair and 2018 past chair
- **Tarrin Degrate**, MBA, RHIA, CDIP, CCS, CCS-P, COC, CPC, CPC-I, CHTS-IM, CHTS-PW, specializes in auditing, billing, chargemaster, coding, compliance, denials management, documentation improvement, education and training and revenue
- **Chet Deshmukh**, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHDA, CDIP, CPHI, principal, VASTACCESS, Inc.
- **Mark Alan Hudson**, MHA, LFACHE, president of HTMH Consulting
- **Charlotte McCuen**, MHA, RHIA, adjunct faculty member at the University of Cincinnati
- **Michelle Millen**, MSCPM, RHIA, director of the HIM program at Collin College in McKinney, TX
- **Rebecca Reynolds**, EdD, RHIA, CHPS, FAHIMA, professor and chair of health informatics and information management at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- **Liz Wilson**, RHIA, CDIP, CCS, CPC, CRC, CEMC, CPMA, CPCO, CHC, corporate compliance and privacy officer at Endeavor Health Services

### **New Council for Excellence in Education Members Announced**

AHIMA's Council for Excellence in Education (CEE) is focused on preparing students for the future of HIM. The CEE was created to enhance the profession, plan for its future through education, and provide HIM professionals with a way to get involved in the process.

Newly elected members of the CEE for 2019 are:

- **Lisa Delhomme**, MHA, RHIA, is program director of the HIM program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She is a former president of the Louisiana HIMA and was co-chair of AHIMA's Virtual Lab Strategic Advisory Committee.
- **Laurie Rinehart-Thompson**, JD, RHIA, CHP, FAHIMA, is director of the health information management and systems program and a professor at The Ohio State University. She has chaired the AHIMA Professional Ethics Committee and is the author of AHIMA's *Introduction to Health Information Privacy and Security* and a co-editor and author of *Fundamentals of Law for Health Informatics and Information Management*.
- **Scott Sittig**, PhD, MHI, RHIA, is an assistant professor in health informatics at the University of South Alabama. He is the former chair of the AHIMA Foundation Research

Network and conducts research in the consumer health informatics area (focus on patient engagement and mHealth).

They join the following returning council members:

- Chair: **Keith Olenik**, MA, RHIA, CHP, owner of Olenik Consulting Group, LLC
- Chair-elect: **Norb Belz**, PhD, MHSA, RHIA, department chair for HIM at the University of Kansas Medical Center
- Past chair: **Neisa Jenkins**, EdD, RHIA, FAHIMA, professor in the College of Health Sciences at DeVry University
- **Sandra Brightwell**, M.Ed, RHIA, FAHIMA, director of the health information program at Central Arizona College
- **Vanessa Duplechain**, MSA, RHIA, CHPS, FAHIMA, co-owner and founder of Health Information Resource Group
- **Susie Harris**, PhD, MBA, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA, professor in the department of health services and information management and director of the HIM program at East Carolina University
- **Mary Beth Haugen**, MS, RHIA, founder and CEO of Haugen Consulting Group and Haugen Academy
- **David Marc**, PhD, CHDA, assistant professor, health informatics and information management department chair, and health informatics graduate program director at the College of St. Scholastica
- **Elaine O'Bleness**, MBA, RHIA, CDIP, CHP, CHCR, RevCycle Client Value Executive at Cerner

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### **About AHIMA**

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 103,000 health information professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)