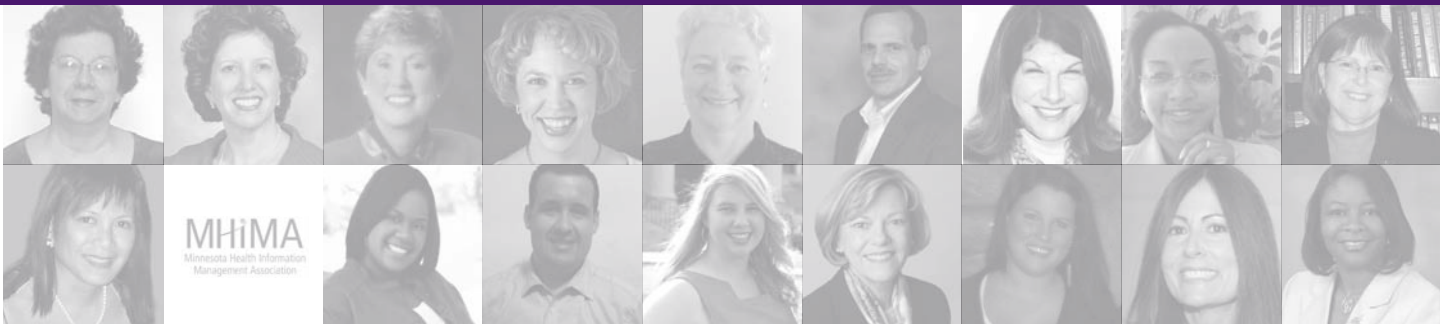




2011

Triumph Award

HONORING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



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AHIMA has a long and cherished tradition of honoring the excellence, dedication, and service of professionals whose steadfast efforts have advanced the health information management (HIM) field. This time-honored celebration of outstanding accomplishment continues with the 2011 AHIMA Triumph Awards, designed to recognize special individuals who have made a difference in the HIM profession.

The AHIMA Triumph Awards honor leadership in the HIM field, reward contributions that build our knowledge base, recognize excellence in preparing future HIM professionals, and encourage fresh talent and new leadership.

Congratulations to the 2011 AHIMA Triumph Awards recipients and nominees!



Triumph Award

Distinguished Member



LINDA KLOSS
MA, RHIA, FAHIMA

The Distinguished Member Award is AHIMA's highest honor, and celebrates an individual with a long and exceptional history of HIM contributions. It is awarded to an outstanding individual whose record of contributions is truly distinct and noteworthy.

It is with great privilege that AHIMA recognizes Linda Kloss with our highest honor: the 2011 Distinguished Member Award. Linda's extraordinary contributions to the HIM profession and to AHIMA span more than 30 years.

Jean Clark writes, "Linda Kloss has been a leader, role model, and consummate HIM professional throughout her career. Articulate, unassuming, and strategic in her thinking, she has lead AHIMA at the local and national levels for over 30 years."

As the leader of our association, Linda shaped and led strategies that grew membership, revenues, and performance of our CSA affiliates. Her leadership and insights helped shape our association and profession over the last 15 years. Under her leadership, AHIMA established a global presence, co-sponsored the creation of the Certification Commission for Health Information Technology (CCHIT), established both The Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) and The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM), and pioneered AHIMA's Communities of Practice. All this and so much more!

Linda's influence has been remarkable. Her work as a member of the CCHIT Board of Trustees and the Markle Foundation steering committee, and her recent appointment to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, clearly articulates her well garnered respect in the industry, elevating the image of AHIMA and the HIM profession.

Linda also figured prominently with the original Office of the National Coordinator (ONC). To quote Leslie Fox, a long time friend and colleague, "I will never forget the day that Dr. David Brailer, the first Director of ONC, spoke at the AHIMA Convention and stated with admiration that Linda Kloss was his 'go-to' person as he worked to create ONC and lay the ground work that would lead healthcare providers in the United States to achieve electronic health records (EHRs)."

It was through all these efforts and more that Linda was named to Modern Healthcare's list of Top 100 People in Healthcare each year from 2002–2007, and in 2007 was named one of the Top 25 Women in Healthcare.

She has published on multiple topics, including HIM practice, association governance, and the future of healthcare and HIM. She is highly respected in many healthcare industry circles, and is often sought for key speaking opportunities, having spoken across the US and internationally to diverse audiences.

Now an entrepreneur, Linda is founder and principal of Kloss Strategic Advisers, Ltd., and continues to influence and advocate for the HIM profession. Mervat Abdelhak writes, "I have witnessed Linda's leadership, vision, commitment, and dedication to the HIM profession. She is a trail-blazer; a woman who was able to break through the glass ceiling and become recognized as one of the top in the healthcare industry. Linda has been an outstanding ambassador for our profession, mentor to many, and a role model for the next generation of AHIMA leaders."



Triumph Award
*Champion Advocacy &
Public Policy*



LINDA A. HYDE RHIA

The Champion Advocacy & Public Policy Award honors those whose long-term and enthusiastic support of AHIMA and the HIM profession has advanced AHIMA's capacity to achieve its mission and/or advanced HIM practice through involvement in AHIMA advocacy and public policy efforts. AHIMA is honored to recognize Linda A. Hyde, RHIA, as this year's winner.

A quick review of Linda's curriculum vitae attests to the fact that she is indeed a champion for the HIM profession. Volunteering and leading go hand in hand, and these two elements are obviously in her repertoire of skills and abilities. A sure sign of commitment is when someone serves not only once, but twice, as the President of their state HIM association. Massachusetts benefited from Linda's leadership as President of MaHIMA in 1991 and again in 2004. She has also served AHIMA as a member of numerous task forces and committees focused on quality and data management.

Linda's nominators cited a quote from Muhammad Ali as having said it best, "Champions are made from something they have deep inside them—a desire, a dream, a vision." They went on to say, "Linda followed her desire of being an effective member of the HIM profession by choosing an alternate career path for HIM practice and becoming a founding member of a company that provides risk adjustment and performance measurement."

It is this pioneering spirit and love for what she does that make Linda Hyde an HIM Champion. Many healthcare quality data initiatives have benefited by Linda and her efforts. The alternative career path that she chose years ago has assisted her in showing other HIM professionals different career paths that are available. But, it takes more than commitment to achieve this goal. It takes someone with not only the desire, but also the ability to influence others and to positively influence opinions about HIM professionals through actions. Linda has proven time and again that she can do just that.

Congratulations to Linda Hyde for receiving the Champion Advocacy & Public Policy Award. And thank you, Linda, for all you have done to advance the HIM profession.



MHIMA LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY TEAM

The Champion Advocacy & Public Policy Award honors those whose long-term and enthusiastic support of AHIMA and the HIM profession has advanced AHIMA's capacity to achieve its mission and/or advanced HIM practice through involvement in AHIMA advocacy and public policy efforts.

AHIMA is proud to recognize the Minnesota Health Information Management Association (MHIMA) Legislative & Advocacy Team for the 2011 Champion Advocacy & Public Policy Award. This award is given to individuals or groups who have worked tirelessly to support the HIM profession by advancing AHIMA's leadership position and/or who have developed or refined practice theory, demonstrated leadership, or introduced innovation and creativity to current practice.

MHIMA took information learned from AHIMA's Capitol Hill Day and information received from StateNet and leveraged it into two successful advocacy opportunities for healthcare in Minnesota.

The first opportunity was to lobby for amendments to the Medical Record Retention Law, allowing for the transfer of paper documents to electronic storage.

The second opportunity was to lobby against a bill introduced in the Senate to significantly reduce payment for medical record copies. MHIMA engaged its members, gathered quantifiable information to support its position, prepared testimony to be presented in writing and verbally, and ultimately achieved success through cost savings for all Minnesota healthcare facilities. Their successful advocacy efforts saved Minnesota healthcare facilities tens of millions of dollars. The successes in Minnesota, the tools used, and the knowledge learned were openly shared with other state HIM associations as well as in academic settings.

Congratulations to MHIMA's Legislative and Advocacy Team for their Champion Advocacy and Public Policy contributions!



Triumph Award

Educator



**LAURINDA BEEBE
HARMAN**

PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA

The Educator Award honors those who demonstrate excellence in preparing the next generation of professionals for their HIM careers. These individuals teach in a formal health information administration or health information technology program that grants associate's, baccalaureate, or master's degrees, and are involved in AHIMA activities at the state or national level.

For over 40 years, Dr. Harman has been a member of AHIMA and an educator, and has served countless students at four academic institutions. In 2010, as Chair of the HIM Department at Temple University, she successfully opened a Master of Health Informatics program, which she designed to collaborate with other disciplines at the university.

Dr. Harman has a heritage of encouraging students, faculty, and colleagues to understand the ethical issues surrounding the health record and the HIM profession. She has distinguished herself as an educator, researcher, and HIM professional by leading and promoting HIM education. Most importantly, she published the first textbook on ethics in HIM, *Ethical Challenges in the Management of Health Information*, now in the second edition. Although accomplishments in her long career are many, Dr. Harman's greatest contribution is her passion for education, always focusing on students as the center of her academic universe.

Her career has made a significant mark on the profession and the students and AHIMA members she touched. Dr. Harman's presentations and interest in ethics have helped many individuals who have incorporated her teachings into everyday challenges faced by HIM professionals. She served on the AHIMA Professional Practice Committee (now Ethics Committee), which was charged with revising the AHIMA Code of Ethics. The group used her book as a framework for the language of the Code and for the guidelines section that provides real-life examples in Code application.

The evidence of Dr. Harman's impact as an educator at Ohio State University, Northern Virginia Community College, George Washington University, and Temple University is palpable as she attends national meetings. Many members stop to thank her for being a great professor and mentor, and she is respected by practicing professionals as well as those who have retired. Dr. Harman continues to be a strong advocate of volunteerism, and her example has propelled many to be involved on local, state, and national levels. Her new endeavor of developing an ethics certificate program will be a lasting legacy at Temple University and a model for other universities.

Dr. Harman's example of continuous learning throughout her career is evidenced by educational endeavors and by being one of the first HIM PhDs. She has mentored several HIM professionals to earn doctoral degrees and has worked to bring health informatics into the profession. In addition, she has developed baccalaureate and Master's programs that continue to bring well-rounded and knowledgeable students into the profession. She also advocates with students and others to be Master's-prepared as a basic foundation for the profession, which is becoming more important in the world of Affordable Care, Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Health Information Exchanges (HIEs), Values Based Purchasing (VBP) and other initiatives that require the knowledge, skills, and ethical framework HIM education provides. With great honor, we award Laurinda Beebe Harman, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA, with the 2011 Triumph Award for "Educator."



**KIMBERLY
BALDWIN-STRIED REICH**
MBA, MJ, RHIA, CPHQ

The e-HIM[®] Award honors those individuals, groups, or organizations who have made important advances in areas related to e-HIM[®]—supporting the vision of health information as electronic, patient-centered, comprehensive, longitudinal, accessible, and credible.

It is an honor to award the final e-HIM Triumph Award to Kimberly “Kim” Baldwin-Stried Reich, a committed, exemplary, and persistent leader, and fitting recipient of AHIMA’s acknowledgement of her commitment to advancing the electronic health record (EHR).

Kim’s dedication was grounded years before we broadly considered e-HIM, laying the foundation for changes to come with e-discovery, process improvements, data integrity, and commitment to information excellence. The changes and implementations she made many years ago still remain in existence today, with reorganization and design of critical HIM functions. Kim’s advanced and forward thinking approach has steadfastly pushed for adoption and preservation of the EHR for e-discovery. She shares her knowledge and contributes thoughtful advice and suggestions. Kim’s dedication is also demonstrated by her acceptance into Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Division

of Health Sciences Informatics, one of only nine universities awarded by the Office of the National Coordinator to advance healthcare IT training. Kim has obtained her Master’s of Jurisprudence in Health Law, steadfastly demonstrating her commitment to advancing e-discovery in healthcare.

It is noted that Kim’s commitment goes along with her volunteerism with ILHIMA and AHIMA. It is fitting that her colleagues state, “Kimberly Baldwin-Stried Reich is a dedicated, caring, and compassionate health information management professional.”

It is with this long standing, demonstrated dedication to e-HIM and HIM principles and practice that we recognize Kim with the 2011 e-HIM Triumph Award.



TRACY A. ELMER RHIA

The e-HIM® Award honors those individuals, groups, or organizations who have made important advances in areas related to e-HIM®—supporting the vision of health information as electronic, patient-centered, comprehensive, longitudinal, accessible, and credible.

Tracy A. Elmer, RHIA, is a leader with Rady Children’s Hospital – San Diego, the largest children’s hospital in California, and is the designated Project Director for their enterprise-wide EMR initiative. As a champion of change, Tracy has successfully led the Rady Children’s Health Network through their EMR implementation since 2008. The implementation encompasses two large primary and specialty care medical groups, in addition to their main campus hospital and satellite hospital units dispersed across San Diego County.

Tracy also provided superior leadership for Sharp HealthCare during implementation of their county-wide outpatient medical group EHR system. She has a philosophy of “people first,” which she deems most critical to the success of any project. Through her patient-centric work and results-oriented leadership style, Tracy has earned respect from her colleagues, project team members, and all hospital staff.

The results of Rady Children’s e-HIM project supports a “one child, one record” quality care process across a diverse care continuum.

Ultimately, their EMR is enabling optimal safety for the patient as their information is now available anywhere in the Rady Children’s Health Network and accessible by other organizations that participate in the local HIE. Through real-time advanced decision support, clinicians are able to effectively care for their patients knowing they have comprehensive information available at their fingertips. Ultimately, this e-HIM project is improving the quality of healthcare for the majority of children in San Diego.

Tracy has been an enthusiastic leader for this critical project from the very beginning, all through their various wave “go-lives,” and looks forward to continuing to advance the initiative into the future.

Tracy’s innovative leadership makes her a worthy recipient of AHIMA’s 2011 e-HIM Triumph Award.

Congratulations, Tracy!



Triumph Award

Leadership



DWAN THOMAS-FLOWERS
MBA, RHIA, CCS

The Leadership Award is given to an individual who has outstanding accomplishments of a valued and trusted leader; demonstrates on-going leadership competency with the association and the HIM profession; adheres and advocates for the AHIMA Code of Ethics and any other appropriate codes of conduct, values, honesty, integrity and transparency; and respects diversity and fosters inclusion. The winner is considered a qualified authority in the HIM profession who presents a positive professional image as the leader for the association and the profession.

“With hard work and discipline there is nothing you cannot achieve.” –Dwan Thomas-Flowers

AHIMA is proud to select Dwan Thomas-Flowers as the recipient of the 2011 Leadership Award. Leadership can be defined many ways, but for the HIM profession, ethical integrity tops the list.

Dwan has served on the Professional Ethics Committee where she was instrumental in providing new ethical case scenarios as resource material. Ernani B. Morgan, MAc, RHIA, CCS, reflects that she has “engaged other healthcare associations such as HIMSS, NFAHQ, and NAHSE, advocating and emphasizing the importance of HIM professionals in nearly every aspect of healthcare.”

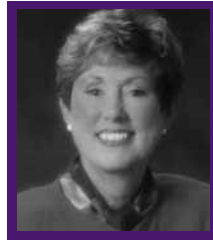
Dwan is often called upon by students and professionals for her expert opinion. Monica Hardy, EdD, RHIA, writes, “Dwan not only has excellent communication skills, but also has an ability to articulate her views and concerns regarding the HIM profession in writing and verbally, in ways that make other professionals take notice and take action.” Dwan is not only an educator, but also mentors multiple HIM students as well as new and seasoned professionals, and encourages everyone to pursue higher education. She was recognized for her work as mentor when she became the recipient of the Mentor AHIMA Triumph Award in 2009.

With a diverse background and an unfaltering respect for the HIM profession, Dwan has experience as an educator, director of HIM, project manager, and unit manager in Patient Financial Services. This diversity has served her well. Her literary contributions are multiple and on diverse subjects. This diversity is also reflected in her achievement of an MBA, as well as CCS and RHIA certifications. Dwan is also a notary public and an AHIMA-approved ICD-10-CM/PCS Trainer. Her diversity, education, and experience allowed her to make a difference in her workplace. For example, while Unit Manager of Charge Capture and Coding at May Clinic & St. Luke’s Hospital, she was successful in increasing the number of certified coders from 39% to over 91% through education and training. Now, Dwan is leading the charge for ICD-10 education for her facility, and also leads several teams toward ICD-10 compliance across multiple sites.

Ernani also writes, “With grace and poise, Dwan displays outstanding leadership, communication, and presentation skills; superior analytical abilities, and physician rapport. In addition, she demonstrates an ingenious ability to adapt to the ever-changing healthcare environment.” AHIMA congratulates Dwan as the first recipient of AHIMA’s 2011 Leadership Award!



Triumph Award
Literary Legacy



JEAN CLARK RHIA, CSHA

The Literary Legacy Award honors a significant contribution to the knowledge base of the HIM field through an insightful recent publication, building on the enduring tradition of the Edna K. Huffman Literary Award.

Health information is changing at a pace that represents a rainbow of specialties and skill sets, often shadowed by the challenges of keeping pace with change. Our profession is fortunate to have Jean Clark, RHIA, CSHA, as a gifted author in both provider-level professional practice and academia. Having created invaluable text and professional references that are cornerstones to our practice, Jean daily serves as “*mentor on the shelf*.”

In the tradition of Edna K. Huffman, Jean has shared her professional insight and guidance through pertinent publications since 1998. Jean encourages all health information professionals to be leaders and excel as a key resource, providing practical application for the workplace—reliable resources in real work scenarios. Several of her publications include: *Ongoing Record Review, Fifth Edition*, and *Joint Commission Information Management, Seventh Edition*. She compiled the first *HIM Director’s Handbook*, now in the second edition, and most recently authored and co-authored two additional HIM Director’s Guides related to ICD-10 and Revenue Audit Contractors (RAC).

Jean has continued to update, educate, and inspire us through her wealth of knowledge and expertise. Her willingness to share solutions through presentations and explanations continues to enrich

health information professionals. Jean has gathered much of her knowledge from continuous advocacy for health information and leadership in AHIMA, International Federation of Health Information Management Associations (IFHIMA, formerly IFHRO); Association for Healthcare Accreditation Professionals (AHAP); Joint Commission Hospital Advisory Council; Association for Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialists (ACDIS) Quality Assurance; Risk Management Society; and with regional peers in the South Carolina Health Information Management Association (SCHIMA) and South Carolina Hospital Association (SCHA).

Jean, your willingness to master emerging concepts and knowledge sets in health information and share your expertise encourages all health professionals to pursue and share excellence.

Congratulations, Jean, and many thanks for your dedication and selfless promotion of HIM through presentations and publications that benefit consumers and professionals.



Triumph Award
Mentor



MARIE T. CONDE
MPA, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA

The Mentor Award honors individuals or “teams” with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best.

Marie Conde, MPA, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA, has mentored thousands of students for over 20 years as Program Director and full-time faculty member at City College of San Francisco. Marie is a dedicated and highly respected educator. The needs of students and new HIM professionals are a constant priority and of great importance to her. From the start, she lets students know they have to make a commitment not only to their education but also to the HIM profession. While some would say this is a teacher’s job, a recent graduate states, “Marie always credits her AHIMA involvement with providing opportunities for networking and advancement, and hearing these stories got me excited and motivated about my new HIM field of study.”

Marie is constantly looking at new ways to promote the profession and involve new members and students within the HIM community. She generously gives her time to students and AHIMA members who seek her input on a myriad of subjects. A consummate “networker,” Marie also regularly volunteers to conduct interactive CCA exam reviews

and now educates members with ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS seminars. Each year at the CHIA Convention, Marie conducts an orientation session for first time attendees, students, and newbies to the HIM profession to inform them how to get the most out of the educational and networking opportunities.

Without doubt, as a mentor, educator, author, or presenter, Marie is educating the next generation of HIM professionals on a daily basis and mentoring along the way!

We congratulate Marie Conde as she receives AHIMA’s 2011 Mentor Award.



GINNA EVANS
MBA, RHIA, FAHIMA

The Mentor Award honors individuals or “teams” with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best.

HIM educational programs and students will not find a stronger advocate than Ginna Evans. One of her peers commented about a day that Ginna stood up in the Georgia Health Information Management Association (GHIMA) annual business meeting and challenged every HIM professional in attendance to be a clinical preceptor for HIM students. She asked them to remember that someone took the time to mentor them when they were students and couldn't they now do the same for a student and the HIM profession.

Since 2004, Ginna has provided 55 students the opportunities for their clinical affiliation and hands-on experience. In addition to HIM/HIT program students, she mentors prospective students by allowing them to shadow HIM professionals. She also serves on the Advisory Committees for several HIM/HIT programs, and coaches new graduates and other HIM professionals as they navigate their chosen career path. Ginna walks the talk and is a distinguished HIM model to students, which is clearly demonstrated in the number of students and HIM professionals she encourages and mentors. As an enthusiastic, dedicated HIM professional, she gives much of her time serving the profession as a member of the GHIMA Board of Directors, chair of the AHIMA Nominating Committee, a member of the AHIMA House of Delegates Operations Team, and provider of a clinical site for students.

Ginna became a member of AHIMA and GHIMA in 1983 and has served on the GHIMA Board, including

the office of President twice, for all but three of these 28 years. Her passion for HIM and volunteerism has resulted in her serving as a mentor to many GHIMA members and students. She is always reminding fellow association members and students that volunteering and networking is one of their best resources—whether at the local, state, or national level.

Regardless of the role or demands of work or personal life, Ginna always sets the example of meeting deadlines ahead of schedule. She leads by example, by earning a graduate degree to better serve her employer and profession as well as by being a model for HIM professionals, encouraging them to continually seek additional learning opportunities. Most importantly, Ginna has shown willingness to research topics and issues from all angles and embraces change for self and for her professional association to meet new challenges.

The GHIMA has formally recognized Ginna's “above and beyond” efforts on several occasions, bestowing the Distinguished Member Award in 1996 and 2008, the Mentor Award in 2009, the Clinical Site Award in 2006 and the Distinguished Service Award in 1998. In addition, she is a Fellow of AHIMA. One supporter stated, “*Ginna Evans is a complete HIM professional, a champion for HIM, and a role model for students and new professionals.*”

It is our pleasure to recognize Ginna Evans as one of the 2011 Triumph Award winners of the Mentor Award.



Triumph Award

Mentor



PATRICIA PIERSON RHIA

The Mentor Award honors individuals or “teams” with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best.

Remember that old poem that goes something like “Monday’s child is fair of face, Tuesday’s child is full of grace?” Well, surely Wednesday’s child grew up to be a mentor (since Wednesday’s child is loving and giving!). It would be safe to bet that Patricia Pierson was born on Wednesday. Honored with receiving the mentorship award this year, Pat has demonstrated her giving spirit through mentorship of her colleagues and students.

Educators know how hard it can be to make adjunct faculty and distance education students feel “connected” to the program in which they are participating. This detachment can be compounded when the majority of the course delivery is online. Pat has worked tirelessly and used innovative methods to achieve a true sense of community with her remote adjunct faculty and distance education students.

The nomination materials for this award included testimonials from students, colleagues, and administrators within Pat’s organization. One of the nominators said, “As an associate faculty member under Pat’s different Internet delivery environment and through discussions with my fellow associate faculty members, it is obvious that the way she interacted with us individually and collectively via internet-delivered faculty meetings and live classrooms, the positive and effective manner of teaching her new faculty created successful instructors. She always took the call and answered the emails to help us learn the significant number of

details necessary to deliver classes professionally and timely. I liken it to being a brand new HIM Director and being told JCAHO will be at the facility in two weeks! And HIM passed the survey!”

The Mentor Award honors individuals or teams with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best. Pat clearly has touched the lives of many throughout her expansive career in HIM. While a relatively new addition to the formal world of education, she has had the opportunity to mentor others in her previous role as an HIM director and consultant. A former student speaking in support of the nomination for the mentor award stated, “Pat is always supportive, cheerful, and kind. She is a great motivator. With her history in the HIM profession, she also served as a wonderful mentor to students in every way imaginable. The patience and encouragement she exhibited when I was a student were extraordinary. As a result of her mentoring, I continue to mentor students in the program who are seeking the RHIT credential.”

Life goes full circle, and we often give what we receive. Through the actions of a mentor, and specifically through Pat’s actions, we can rest assured that a new generation of HIM professionals will have a strong role model to thank for their own mentoring spirit. Congratulations to Pat Pierson for earning this well deserved award!



KRISTI STANTON RHIT, CCS

The Mentor Award honors individuals or “teams” with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best.

Kristi Stanton is recognized with the 2011 Mentor Award for her demonstrated efforts of leading by example, easily engaging others with her presentation style, and her upbeat attitude. She is an active speaker in critical areas affecting our future with coding and revenue cycle topics.

Kristi is the creator and facilitator of “The Coder Coach,” a guide to professional mentoring and networking groups, which also offers a companion blog. This is a forward thinking concept that clearly has touched and inspired many. Her support extends beyond encouragement, and Kristi makes herself available for advice, career guidance, and informational resources. All the cornerstones of a mentor that inspires, supports, and coaches are what Kristi represents. Clearly, she has inspired many, and has provided the extra support that individuals entering the profession need.

A frequent speaker, her presentations are inspiring, upbeat, and provide information and tools upon which listeners can build. It is noted that Kristi is always available to lend an ear, advise, point someone in the right direction, and follow-up! As one writer described, “I thank Kristi for providing the support and encouragement as new graduates like me navigate our way in the health information landscape.” Kristi, we thank you as well, and congratulations for receiving the honor of the Mentor Award.



Triumph Award
Pioneer



WILLIAM LEE FORD
MHA, RHIT, CPC, CPC-H, CHC

The Pioneer Award honors those individuals, groups or organizations who are focused on moving HI/HIM into the future of the healthcare and wellness industry. The Pioneer Award honors persons or groups who have promoted important advances in areas related to quality data, standards development, patient safety, systems development, and any domain where visionary thinking has made a difference.

William Lee Ford, MHA, RHIT, CPC, CPC-H, CHC, is the well deserving recipient of AHIMA's 2011 Pioneer Triumph Award. The award honors those individuals, groups, or organizations who are focused on moving HI and HIM into the future of the healthcare and wellness industry.

Lee has utilized breakthrough thinking, actions of HIM and visionary leadership for data quality, and the future application of ICD-10-CM/PCS. As a result, he has pioneered new relationships for the successful implementation of ICD-10.

Lee saw the vital need to begin ICD-10 education in every part of North Carolina. He jumped at the chance to serve the North Carolina Health Information & Communications Alliance (NCHICA) ICD-10 Task Force to advocate for HIM professionals and their expertise of ICD-10. Lee has implemented a system that impacts the quality and safety of healthcare delivery across multiple organizations within the state.

He did not wait to see how others would do it. Instead, he coordinated North Carolina's first ICD-10 Summit in June 2010. Alliances were built and support was demonstrated for a second ICD-10 Summit in August, 2011, demonstrating that NCHICA's initiative to collaborate with other healthcare organizations throughout the state was vital. And he did not stop there. Lee worked with Area Health Education Centers to plan for ICD-10 training, and successfully planned four educational sessions scheduled for the remainder of 2011.

The ICD-10 education led by Lee has resulted in North Carolina being one of the top CSAs relative to ICD-10 education. Because of his dedication, passion, and forward thinking, Lee is well deserving of AHIMA's 2011 Pioneer Triumph Award.



AHIMA STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Student Award recognizes AHIMA student members with high academic standards who demonstrate leadership and commitment to the future of the HIM profession. AHIMA's student members are a growing contingent of the overall membership and represent the expanding roles and responsibilities of an evolving HIM industry. Engagement and leadership at this foundational stage of career growth is important not only for individual students, but also for providing an example for the student community.



SEBRINA CAMPBELL



ELIZABETH HORN



DELICIA JOHNSON



ROMAN MINYALYUK



ALEXANDRA RICHARDS

The 2011 Student Award is presented to those serving as the very first AHIMA Student Advisory Council. This diverse group was selected from among 70 candidates who applied to serve on the council, and are:

- **Sebrina Campbell**, pursuing B.S. in HIM and M.A. in Health Administration, St. Louis University
- **Elizabeth Horn**, double major in Biology, with Pre-Medical Concentration, and Health Services Administration, with concentration on Health Informatics, Eastern Kentucky University
- **Delicia Johnson**, HIT Program, Arapahoe Community College, Englewood, CO
- **Roman Minyalyuk**, HIA Program, University of Illinois-Chicago
- **Alexandra Richards**, pursuing B.S. in HIM, Temple University

The council created a LinkedIn group and began using the CoP to network and share ideas between regularly scheduled meetings. Major accomplishments include preparation of the agenda for the student academy at the 2011 AHIMA Convention, shaping a student role as part of the MyPHR campaign, contributing video and written content for various resources, and helping to develop regional student groups as a way for student members to have more local volunteer opportunities for networking.

While any one of these students would be deserving of this award on their own merits, it is their united strength that is significant to the success of the Student Advisory Council. This group of intelligent, talented, and motivated future leaders needed no invitation to begin tackling their charges. They came with strong ideas, enthusiasm, and dedication to enhancing the student member experience, and offered their time and talents to create new support services for AHIMA's student members. Congratulations to the AHIMA Student Advisory Council as the winners of the 2011 Student Award!

2011 AHIMA TRIUMPH AWARD NOMINEES

Iris B. Alcantara RHIA

Kimberly Baldwin-Stried Reich MBA, MJ, RHIA, CPHQ

Carmen Bellos RHIT

Jean S. Clark RHIA, CSHA

Marie T. Conde MPA, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA

Tracy A. Elmer RHIA

William Lee Ford MHA, RHIT, CPC, CPC-H, CHC

Ginna Evans MBA, RHIA, FAHIMA

Laurinda Beebe Harman PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA

Linda A. Hyde RHIA

Linda Kloss MA, RHIA, FAHIMA

Karl J. Koob MMIS, RHIA, CPEHR, FAHIMA

MHIMA Legislative and Advocacy Team

Debbie Mackaman RHIA, CHCO

Anne M. Mahalik MPA, RHIA, FAHIMA

Eve-Ellen Mandler MS, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA

Carol Z. Murphy MBA, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA

Kristin Osthus RHIA

Patricia Pierson RHIA

Natalie Sartori MEd, RHIA

Kristi Stanton RHIT, CCS, CPC

Elizabeth M. Stewart RHIA, CCS, CRCA, CPMB

Student Advisory Council:

- Sebrina Campbell Saint Louis University
- Elizabeth Horn Eastern Kentucky University
- Delicia Johnson PAHM Arapahoe Community College
- Roman Minyaylyuk University of Illinois at Chicago
- Alexandra Richards Temple University

Anne Tegan MHA, RHIA, HRM

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