

July, 2011

President's Message



"I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody." ~ Lily Tomlin

Patrice Spath, BA, RHIT
OrHIMA President
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I have cherished the opportunity to serve a second term as your association President. As President in 1983, I remember one of the biggest challenges was to make sure the paper election ballots were mailed out on time to members. This last year has certainly been much more demanding. Just learning the meaning of the many acronyms (HITECH, PCS, HIE, POA, RAC, and so on) was a challenge. Thankfully I had lots of help with a great group of board members and volunteers. We didn't just identify ways to better meet member needs, we did something about it! Many of these improvements came about as a result of the board's decision to contract with new website management services. Attendees at the annual convention received the OrHIMA year-end (2010-11) report as a handout. If you were unable to attend, you can access the report on the OrHIMA Communities of Practice (COP) on the AHIMA website. I invite you to take a look at everything that was accomplished last year. I predict next year will be just as exciting and fruitful. Plans are already underway to create more value-added benefits.

HIM professionals have always been counted on to do something about whatever needs to be done to effectively manage health information. Our help is needed more than ever

to protect the privacy of electronic health records and identifiable health data. Hardly a day goes by that we don't learn of some new privacy breach. The Privacy Rights Clearinghouse organization publishes a chronological data breach list. This comprehensive, regularly updated listing describes how the data were breached, who the organization was, and where it happened. To learn more go to: <http://www.privacyrights.org/data-breach>. It's interesting to note that the majority of the breaches involved loss or theft of unencrypted thumb drives and laptops. In many cases encryption is a simple way of protecting the data.

This year the AHIMA Annual Convention is nearby in Salt Lake City, October 1-6. If you've never been to the national convention I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. I guarantee it is an experience you won't forget! The Utah HIM Association is looking for people to assist with volunteer activities such as: greeting colleagues, presiding at educational sessions, bag stuffing, and ticket takers. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Jayne Glines, UHIMA Volunteer Coordinator, email: jayneglines@msn.com.



Laurie Tanita, BSHA, RHIT, CCS
OrHIMA President-Elect
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Update of OrHIMA Board Activities

Greetings Fellow OrHIMA Members,

I hope that you all had a wonderful 4th of July. The board has been busy the past 2 months wrapping up the year and getting ready for the new year. What follows is a brief update regarding the items that we worked on in May and June.

On the legal and legislative area the board has been attempting to get a status report from Senator Ron Wyden's attempt to delay the implementation of ICD-10. Although we were unable to touch base with Senator Wyden's office we continue to follow this issue and will keep all our members apprised of the current status of his work on this. As your

new President, I am still looking for a member to volunteer to be the advocacy coordinator for OrHIMA. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity please contact me.

The OrHIMA board has also been working on finalizing the final budget for the 2011-2012 year. This is an important function of your board. Our greatest concern is making sure that we are spending your money wisely. The board is also reviewing the corporate sponsorship program and writing up the procedure for that program. We have been very fortunate to have several businesses take part in the sponsorship program.

Hopefully you all took part in the environmental scan that took place in May. This scan helps us determine the issues that are important to you. The board is also working on an update of the procedure manual. This is a very important task because it helps all new board members know what is expected of them. The board members that are on House of Delegates teams for AHIMA have been meeting and conducting business on behalf of all of you. You will also see an article in this issue describing what all of these teams have been up to.

The board had a face-to-face meeting in June in Lake Oswego. This meeting was designed to do succession planning for new board members and to review and update the strategic plan for the new year. The meeting was very helpful in helping all of us begin the new year with a good idea of the expectations of our positions. It also led to lively discussion of the priorities of the coming year in regards to strategies. Be assured that your OrHIMA board is doing a great job of making sure that the association is well positioned to assist our members with all the upcoming changes in healthcare.

Finally, we had the convention in May with the annual business meeting. It was a fun and information rich convention. The annual business meeting reviewed the past year and election results. For those who attended the meeting they saw a new format and presentation for the meeting. Let us know what you think! These are just a few highlights about what your board has been up too. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

HOD Team Report:

House Team: Volunteer and Leadership Development

The last meeting of the Volunteer and Leadership Development House team took place on May 20, 2011. A large part of the agenda was to discuss the revision of the OrHIMA Bylaws. This was part of all the house team discussions in May. Also on the agenda was the CourseShare Volunteer Packet which includes a self assessment of the core competencies for volunteer positions in the CSA's. This house team also discussed ways to increase voter turnout in both the CSA elections and the AHIMA elections. Also discussed were the delegate's terms in the various HOD teams, and the leadership transition for the HOD teams.

Results of OrHIMA Election

The OrHIMA election took place in March. The following is the OrHIMA 2011-12 Board:

President Elect:	Christina Grijalva
Secretary:	Molly Siebert
Director, Legal/Legislative:	Lynne Shoemaker
Director, Public Relations:	William Watkins
AHIMA Nominating Committee:	Bonnie Altus
OrHIMA Nominating Committee:	Teresa Benson, Joan Bradshaw, Deborah Scott

Please consider running for a board position next year. ~ Laurie Tanita, President



2010-11 OrHIMA Board of Directors at the May convention, Lake Oswego, Oregon

Seated (L-R): Christina Grijalva, Laurie Tania, Patrice Spath; Standing (L-R): Debra Harris, Sarah Hall, Bonnie Altus, Joanne Valerius, Yvonne Stiller, Dody Burke, Gwen Jimenez



2011-12 Board of Directors, June Transition meeting, Lake Oswego, Oregon

Seated (L-R): Christina Grijalva, Laurie Tania, Patrice Spath; Standing (L-R): Whit Watkins, Sarah Hall, Lynn Shoemaker, Molly Siebert, Yvonne Stiller, Lynette Rossman. Absent: Debra Harris



Education Committee Activities

Yvonne Stiller, MA, RHIA, Education Director

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The Education Committee has been able to take a brief sigh of relief as a successful spring convention is now behind us. Here are some points to make note of:

- Registrations were up for each day. Approximately 100 more people attended on Thursday than attended last year
- For the first time people were able to register on line. Seventy-two percent were “very satisfied” with this process
- Overall, participants were “very satisfied” with the quality of speakers and the range of topics presented
- Most of us would have liked a little more elbow room

The vendors who participate in the vendor hall are a very important entity in a successful convention. For the first time this year OrHIMA made a sponsorship program available to the vendors. Vendors who signed up to be Gold (\$1,000) sponsors are: Access Information Management, Copiers Northwest, DBS, Iron Mountain, and RMC. IOD is a silver (\$500) sponsor. Other vendors who participated in the vendor hall were: 3M, Data Distributing, Dolbey, FormFast, HealthPort, Maxim Health Information Services, MedQuist, Office Trends, Inc., OHSU, Pacific Imaging, QuadraMed and RightWay Recruiting. When you have the opportunity, please thank these vendors for their support.

Twelve items were donated to the Silent Auction which raised \$1,400. The Education Committee will be discussing how to best utilize this money to provide affordable education to the majority of the membership. Thanks to OrHIMA members who donated items and to all those who participated in the auction. We would also like to thank the following vendors who donated items: Iron Mountain, QuadraMed, RMC, IOD and The Crowne Plaza.

The 2012 convention will be held May 10 – 12 at the Holiday Inn Portland South in Wilsonville.

I know those of you who live in the far reaches of the state would like to see education provided closer to your home. I can sympathize with this as I lived and worked in eastern Oregon (Baker City) for 7 years. When we plan a convention or a workshop we have many issues to take into consideration. Predominately -- the cost of the venue, the location and the agenda. We want to assure that enough people will attend an educational offering to offset the costs involved. Since the majority of the Oregon population resides in the Willamette valley and the Portland metropolitan area, conventions or workshops held in these areas receive the greatest attendance. Access to a major airport is also important. Four of our speakers at the May convention flew in from four different states.

We received many positive comments from those who attended the convention in regards to the quality of speakers and the range of topics. Quality typically does come at a price. Most of our speakers donate their time and we pull most of our speakers from the Portland/Willamette Valley area. If we were to hold the convention in another area of the state, travel time and costs would become prohibitive for the OrHIMA budget. We make every effort to provide quality education at an affordable price. When we create the convention budget we project the expenses which include the venue, food, AV equipment and speakers against the income from registrations and vendors. We did raise the registration fees this year. At this time we are still waiting for all of our revenues and expenses to come in to finalize the budget from convention. Our goal is always to break even and not create a loss for the association.

FALL INSTITUTE: The Fall Institute will be September 16 at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany. We are planning a morning general session that will focus on ICD-10 topics. The afternoon will have a hospital coding track and a Pro Fee coding track.

ICD-10 COMMITTEE: The scope of the ICD-10 Committee is to plan comprehensive education to prepare Oregon coders for ICD-10. This product is to be ready for 4th quarter 2012. The committee is currently trying to determine what that product will look like and in what format it will be made available. We will keep you informed as this progresses.

Many entities are jumping on the ICD-10 bandwagon. There are a variety of educational opportunities available. Check the OrHIMA web site to see what is available from some of our partner CSAs. The Pennsylvania CSA currently has an A&P refresher course that they are offering. Our community colleges are busy planning and developing ICD-10 education. Portland Community College (PCC) is planning to offer a “for credit” ICD-10-CM class winter or spring term. This class will be for experienced coders. In affiliation with PCC, CLIMB will be offering an A&P refresher for ICD-10, fall 2011. They also plan to offer ICD-10-CM education beginning January 2012, continuing with ICD-10-PCS fall 2012 and continuing.

Central Oregon Community College (COCC) is offering this fall a 2 credit ICD-10-CM/PCS course designed for coders in the field. The content will primarily cover differences in coding guidelines as applied to each of the chapters in ICD-10-CM. This summer, COCC, in partnership with St. Charles Medical Center will develop three ICD-10 workshop options for the community. This will include one for physicians that will focus on documentation. There will be one workshop for out-patient coders and one workshop for in-patient coders. The dates of the workshops are still to be determined. This summer, COCC will also present a workshop in southern Oregon for out-patient coders. This workshop will be an introduction to ICD-10-CM. According to Bev Jackson, the Bend community sees the transition to ICD-10-CM/PCS as a process which will continue over the next two years for students, providers, and coders in the field.

We need additional Education Committee members. If anyone is interested in being involved with the Education Committee, please contact me. Our meetings are 1 hour conference calls. The frequency varies depending on the workload. You may contact me at: yvonne@mcmc.net



OrHIMA Convention Photos Courtesy of Angela Keller, COCC HIT student:









In Memory of Rita A. Robedeau, RHIT



OrHIMA lost a valued member on May 10, 2011 when Rita A Robedeau, RHIT, passed away. Rita was 92. Her contributions to the Association began in 1972 after graduation

from the Medical Record Technician Program at Portland Community College. She served several terms as Chairman of the Bylaws committee and was continuously a member of that committee for many years.

Although she also served as a member of the Credentials, Nominating, and Program committees, her most important position was as Parliamentarian for the Association. She held this position from 1973 until 1993. Rita was a Registered Parliamentarian and charter member of the Registered Parliamentarians, Barlow Unit, in Oregon.

At the 46th Annual Meeting in 1988, President Tess Tucker, RHIT, presented Rita with the OMRA (now OrHIMA) Distinguished Member Award. Tess's remarks noted that "Rita provided dedicated service to OMRA largely at her own expense. For many years she did not receive the mileage reimbursement to which Board members were entitled. Though she avoided the limelight and high visibility of elected office, her quiet efforts helped raise the level of professionalism of the OMRA." --submitted by Yvonne Gergen, State Historian

Public Relations

Joanne Valerius, MPH, RHIA

OrHIMA Public Relations concentrates on providing materials for recruitment to the HIM field. In addition, the public relations committee looks at ways to connect with the educational programs that serve Oregonians who are interested in the HIM field. The committee also works in collaboration with other committees on the new corporate sponsorship program. PR also works on projects for the BOD. If you are interested in working with the public relations committee, please join us. We are looking for volunteers.

As the outgoing Director of PR, I would like to thank you for the opportunity of serving on the Board.



Communications Director Report

Debra Harris, MA, RHIA, Communications Director
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Names of winners for Student Drawing for Exam Fee Prizes:

Betsy Ward - Portland Community College

Tina Heinrich -Central Oregon Community College

No Chemeketa students present for drawing

Each time I write this column I include a reminder to update your member profile on AHIMA's website (www.ahima.org). Sorry for the repetition, but if you don't update us on how we can reach you when you have a new email address, you will not receive eBlasts and other important OrHIMA communications. OrHIMA gets member contact information from AHIMA. When the AHIMA database is not current, we lose touch with members. If a fellow OrHIMA member is not receiving these communications, please remind them to update their AHIMA member profile.

OHSU Looking for Advisory Committee Members

The graduate HIM certificate program at the OHSU is looking for advisory committee members who can donate up to ten hours a year. We are particularly interested in subject matter experts in Operational Management, Data Sets, Implementation of an EHR, legal and privacy issues in HIM, and non-acute care settings.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Joanne Valerius, MPH, RHIA, Program Director at valerius@ohsu.edu We need your time and expertise. Please consider this valuable volunteer opportunity.

Calendar of Events

OrHIMA Events:

- **Board of Director Meetings:**
 - First Friday of every month, 3-5 PM

- **Coding Roundtables:**
 - August 18th, Accurate Reporting and Coding of Postoperative Conditions

- **Annual Spring Meeting:**
 - May 10-12, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Portland South, Wilsonville

AHIMA Events:

- **National Conventions:**
 - **2011 National Convention**, October 1-6, 2011, in Salt Lake City, Utah
 - **2012 National Convention**, September 26-Oct 4, 2012, in Chicago, Illinois