

F.Y.I. about H.I.M.

News from the Health Information Management Programs

May 2005

HIM at DSU Celebrates 30 Years

Students first entered the Health Information Management Program at Dakota State University in the Fall of 1975. At that time DSU offered an associate degree in medical record technology. Over the years, the curriculum has been changed and modified to meet the changing requirements of the healthcare industry. Currently, DSU offers a healthcare coding certificate, an associate degree in health information technology and a baccalaureate degree in health information administration. In addition, DSU approval has been received to begin offering a healthcare information systems specialization within the Master of Science in Information Systems degree.

On April 9, 2005 the HIM Club under the leadership of Christi Lamb hosted a 30-year reunion event on the campus of DSU. Several current and past students and faculty members were able to join in the celebration which included a welcome from DSU President Knowlton and the DSU Alumni Association as well as a motivational speaker. Brenda Hanley presented a fun-filled, active session on living a dynamic life.



Offering Special Topics HIM Elective Course

Rose Goeden will be teaching a special course at USD in Sioux Falls during Fall 2005 on Tuesday afternoons. This class is an elective that may be taken by any student as HIM 292 for 2-credits or HIM 492 for 3-credits. HIM 492 will include research and presentations that are not part of HIM 292.

This course covers health-related practices that may affect privacy and confidentiality, and the risks of breaching each through all means: electronic, via paper records, verbal disclosure, and improper use of information. Case scenarios will illustrate the potential situations where privacy and confidentiality may be breached.

This course is developed for allied healthcare and nonclinical students who need basic knowledge and training on HIPAA and organizational privacy and confidentiality policies.

Distance Education in HIM Featured

The distance delivery of DSU's HIM Program will be featured in two upcoming forums. Dorine Bennett has been invited to be a panel member in a presentation at the American Health Information Management Association's Assembly on Education Summer Symposium in St. Louis in June. She will be speaking on developing classes for distance learning.

Dakota State's HIM Program was also selected to be included in an article regarding distance learning experiences. In the June 2005 issue of the *Journal of the American Health Information Management Association*, DSU's E-Education Office and HIM Program will provide helpful tips for students who are considering distance education courses.

HIM Presentation at International Conference

DSU faculty members, Joyce Havlik and Zehai Zhou, will be presenting a paper at the Spring 2005 Faculty Student Multidisciplinary International Conference on Research and Teaching scheduled for May 26-29. They will be reporting the results of their research regarding the performance of students who took selected HIM courses in various formats.

The 100-200 level HIM courses are offered utilizing three different venues to allow students to select from classes in Madison or in Sioux Falls in synchronous interactive classrooms at regularly scheduled times as well as via the Internet by web-casting videos of the class sessions which students may view asynchronously. The research showed that the delivery methods did not affect success of the students.

Contact the Health Information Management Programs:

Dakota State University
East Hall Room 3
820 N. Washington Ave.
Madison, SD 57042

Phone 605-256-5170

Fax 605-256-5060

www.departments.dsu.edu/him



HIM Club Activities

The HIM Club was awarded the Dakota State University's highest Certificate of Merit honor for their many activities and contributions to student life, the community and the profession. The students have a number of social events, including monthly meetings throughout the year and celebrations of Health Information and Technology Week and Healthcare in Partnership with Education Week. Students also attend state HIM association meetings and assist SDHIMA with projects. In April, students toured healthcare facilities in Sioux Falls, including Children's Care Hospital and School, Specialty Select Hospital, and the Veterans Administration Hospital. The HIM Club sponsors blood drives on the DSU campus and assists with litter pick-up on a portion of Highway 19 outside Madison.

The HIM Club hosted a banquet at the end of the school year to honor their members and recognize graduates. Mary Nelson, Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Manager in the HIM Department of Sioux Valley Hospital was a guest speaker at the event.



Please see www.clubs.dsu.edu/him for more information about the DSU HIM Club.

Supervised Professional Practices

In Summer 2005, HIM students will be completing almost 40 supervised professional practice experiences, gaining skills by working in healthcare facilities for a period of time. Their guided learning activities at the sites will reinforce and enhance their classroom instruction and allow the students to apply their knowledge to "real-life" situations.

SDHIMA Spring Conference held in Madison

The DSU campus was the location of the Spring convention of the SD Health Information Management Association. Participants came from across South Dakota, as well as neighboring states to listen to presentations and visit with HIM-product vendors.

The two-day event included topics such as revenue management, telemedicine for intensive care, integrated practice management and electronic health records, healthcare facility accreditation practices, and time management. Representatives from the American Health Information Management Association also spoke to the group about "Turning Theory into Practice: The Next Steps for e-HIM" to help them understand and master the changes that occur when moving from a paper-based to an electronic health record (EHR) system.

HIM Provides Specialization in MSIS

The Healthcare Information Systems specialization within the Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS) degree at DSU has been planned. Two special courses have been proposed to provide instruction to MSIS students wishing to focus on the healthcare industry. These courses are:

- INFS 742 Healthcare Information Infrastructure: Study of the healthcare information infrastructure in the healthcare delivery system in the United States. Examination of issues related to healthcare information systems, healthcare information policy development, uses and users of healthcare information, healthcare informational privacy, and clinical data standards. Electronic health record systems will be investigated.
- INFS 744 Healthcare Information Analysis: Survey of clinical computing applications and their integration to support health care delivery. The evaluation of such systems in regard to clinical decision making, clinical quality assessment, and healthcare research support. Introduction to biostatistics and epidemiology principles.

Accreditation Change

Beginning in March 2005, the national organization that accredits health information management educational programs became the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). This body sets the standards for educational programs and performs evaluations of the programs in order to ensure quality education. Only graduates from CAHIIM accredited HIM programs will be eligible to take the national certification exams to become credentialed as Registered Health Information Administrators or Registered Health Information Technicians (RHIA/RHITs).

DSU's HIM degrees have been continuously nationally accredited since their beginning in 1975 and DSU's healthcare coding certificate is AHIMA approved.

Dorine Bennett, DSU's HIM Program Director has been an accreditation site reviewer since 1999 and is currently serving on a two-year term as a Commissioner for CAHIIM.

Articulation Agreements

Articulation agreements will facilitate the transfer of college credits from approved schools for students entering the HIM majors. Currently the HIM Program has an articulation agreement with Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon, Iowa to allow courses taken there to meet some of DSU's requirements. During the Spring 2005 semester, program to program agreements between the SD technical institutes and the SD state universities were being formulated.