

Minnesota Chapter of HIMSS

Quarterly Newsletter | December 2006

If you are having trouble viewing this newsletter, please visit our website at: <http://www.himss-mn.org/newsletters/December2006.htm>



Program Slides on the Web!

Please visit the members only section of our website for access to presentations from our recent program on Public Health Surveillance. To access the slides, point your browser to www.himss-mn.org, hover on the "Members Only" option and select "Program Slides."

President's Corner

Susan Heichert, President, HIMSS-MN

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD!

As we close out 2006, the HIMSS-MN board looks back on a very successful year. We continue to gain members from all parts of the state and we had a very successful November program on Medication Reconciliation. This was also our first program that was available simultaneously via the Web, and we hope to have the podcast available for download from our website by the end of the month.

We are continuing to hold our quarterly CIO Forums, and had a great turnout at our October meeting on the role of the CMIO. Our next CIO Forum will be held on January 24th.

The HIMSS National Meeting is also coming up quickly – Feb 25th to Mar 1st in New Orleans. Minnesota will again hold our extremely popular chapter reception, so please stop by if you are attending the National meeting. Here's the details:

Date: Monday, February 26th

Time: 5:30- 7:30 pm

Location: Marriott Hotel Convention Center, New Orleans

Please register on our web site if you plan to attend so that we can plan appropriately.

I look forward to seeing everyone at National and at our upcoming programs in 2007. Thanks to all of our sponsors, volunteers and members for your support of the Minnesota Chapter!

If you have any questions about HIMSS-MN, please feel free to contact any of the board members via our web site at www.himss-mn.org

Programs Update

Margaret Senn, Program Director
Pete Palmer, Programs Director Elect

On Wednesday, November 15th Dr. Richard Croteau presented a program on “**Medication Reconciliation: What it is; What it isn’t; and How to do it.**” Dr. Croteau is the Executive Director for Patient Safety Initiatives for the Joint Commission International Center for Patient Safety. The program originated from the Allina Commons facility in Minneapolis and was video conferenced to Rochester and Duluth. The audience included many clinical as well as IT staff. The topic was well received as this is a critical standard for all inpatient and outpatient facilities to improve patient care and safe medication practices. One new feature that was available for this program was the ability to participate via web conferencing. The program was also recorded and there is a plan to have this available for members.

Planning for 2007 is in process. For an Advocacy update we will present a panel discussion on how the new congressional make-up will affect HIT. We hope to have speakers from National HIMSS participating. This event will be scheduled for late January or early February. The March program will focus on Project Management and ITIL. We are in the process of identifying presenters and locations.

Be sure to watch for information for the May all day conference. Dates and content will be available after the New Year. A call for presenters will go out at that time also.

Sponsorship Update

Indi Watts, Sponsorship Chair

The Minnesota HIMSS Chapter wishes to thank our 2006-2007 sponsors. Our sponsors not only allow us the capability of providing educational sessions with nationally acclaimed presenters but also to provide scholarships each year for candidates in the industry. Without corporate support, an organization such as ours could not exist. Thank you for your support!

PLATINUM

Healthia Consulting
Sprint
Cisco Systems
Virtelligence
IBM

GOLD

HealthPartners
University of Minnesota CSOM

SILVER

Siemens
FCG (First Consulting Group)

MN-HIMSS now offers a variety of sponsorship levels with exciting benefits - Silver, Gold and Platinum. Depending on the level selected, some of the benefits include things such as a logo and link on the MN-HIMSS web site, complimentary MN-HIMSS memberships and even exclusive sponsorship opportunities for our chapter socials.

For more information, please contact go to our link at http://www.himss-mn.org/links/sponsorship_program.pdf

Advocacy Update

Shawna Schueller, Advocacy Chair

MN-HIMSS Advocacy Needs Your Help!

Even though the elections here in Minnesota changed several House and Senate seats, those changes don't go into effect until January, so there's still an opportunity to make an impact for HIT in the 109th Congress during the "Lame Duck" session.

The 109th Congress reconvened on November 13th to complete work on the remaining FY07 Appropriations bills and any other actions that may need immediate attention.

Remember: any bill that doesn't get passed this session must be re-introduced in the next session, and there's one HIT bill yet on the table this session.

Staff continues to work behind the scenes to reconcile H.R. 4157 and S. 1418.

What can you do to help MN-HIMSS' Advocacy Efforts?

1. Send a letter to your current-session House member reminding him / her of the importance of HIT funding in the appropriation bills and request support for H.R. 4157 if the bill comes to a compromise between the House and Senate.
2. Send a letter to both of the current Senators Mark Dayton and Norm Coleman to also encourage HIT funding in the appropriations bills and request support for S. 1418 if the bill comes to a compromise between the Senate and the House.

There's a very simple way to do this. Visit <http://capwiz.com/himss/home/>, enter your zip code, and it will help you electronically submit your letter.

Scholarship Update

Ken Stensvold, Scholarship Co-Chair

The requirements for the Minnesota chapters \$1000 scholarship have changed. This year you only need four pieces of information; a completed application, a HIMSS membership application (the chapter pays the dues for the first year), personal statement and a resume or curriculum vitae. So, if you are a full or part-time student taking courses toward a degree in healthcare or information services, you could be awarded \$1000 by the MN Chapter of HIMSS scholarship program!

The MN Chapter of HIMSS annually awards a \$1000 scholarship to undergraduates, graduates and PhD students studying in the healthcare information or management systems field. Scholarships are awarded for academic excellence and the potential for future leadership in the healthcare information and management systems industry.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2007. Winners will be notified by May 1, 2007. You can access a copy of the application by visiting <http://www.himss-mn.org/scholarship/scholarship.html>.

For more information, e-mail Joanne Valerius at jdvalerius@stkate.edu or Ken Stensvold at stensvold.kenneth@mayo.edu

Membership Update

Mark Rubin, Member Relations Chair

As of November 2006, the Minnesota Chapter of HIMSS has a **440** members! Below are the total number of members by membership type.

Total Minnesota HIMSS Members: 440
Twin Cities: 71%
Outstate: 29%

Just a reminder to renew your membership, if you haven't already done so. If you know anyone that would be interested in joining the chapter, they can easily join by visiting <http://himss.org/ASP/membershipHome.asp>. They can join at the national level for \$140 or the chapter level for \$30.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please send us an e-mail at membership@himss-mn.org.