

# News & Views

March 2015

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## President's Message

Happy Spring to each of you! No, it isn't really Spring, however if you've been shopping lately you have probably noticed that the winter boots, sweaters and heavy coats are all on sale and they are replaced with brightly colored, sleeveless tops, shorts, dresses and yes, even swim suits.

Now, for me this phenomenon happens every year when I'm suddenly thrust into the reality that it has been a "long winter". Suddenly those five, or more, extra pounds that you carry around all winter under those jeans and sweaters seem to bare their ugly heads at every corner. Then comes the realization of "paleness". Suddenly your arms, legs and even hands seem paler than ever before. In fact, you can't remember a time when you were that pale.

Yes, spring is a time for renewal and rebirth. A time when we make adjustments to how we are living and what we are doing in our daily lives because we want to be better. As I pondered this thought I asked myself why I go into such a panic, after all I'm an HIM professional. I work in an environment that is constantly changing, has been for a long time and will continue to change. My profession has equipped me well to adapt to change. I'm part of a great professional organization that works very hard to keep me abreast of upcoming changes. I work on a daily basis to increase my knowledge base so that I can make the necessary adaptations and assist others. I suddenly just realize how proud I am to be a part of NHIMA and healthcare in general. We are tremendously important!

So embrace the changing from the long, cold, drab winter to the bursting forth of spring, brilliant colors and all the changes that come with this because we as HIM professionals are ready for the change, we do it all the time.

*Shirley Carmichael, RHIT - NHIMA President*

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## HIM: A World of Opportunities NHIMA Annual Convention – April 22-24, 2015, Holiday Inn, Kearney

A postcard regarding the convention was mailed 2/27/15 and the brochure is now available at [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org).

The link to register is  
<http://knowledgeconnex.com/nhima/annualmeeting/home.html>.

If you are interested in donating any items for door prizes for the conference, please contact Heather Simonsen at [Heather.Simonsen@va.gov](mailto:Heather.Simonsen@va.gov).

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## NHIMA Election

The NHIMA Election will be held electronically March 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to vote! *Another reminder will be sent at election time.* Instructions for you to cast your vote are as follows: login to MyAHIMA member login at [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) and click on "Voting Ballot" link. The link will be available only during the election period for active members.

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## NHIMA 2014-2015 Annual Report

The 2014-2015 NHIMA Annual Report is now available on the Nebraska Engage Community. Click on "Libraries" and then "Annual Reports." The Annual Report was also distributed with the March News & Views via email to members.

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### AHIMA Triumph Awards

There are leaders in our industry that are worthy of an award nomination. These professionals deserve to be acknowledged for their contributions in education, leadership and advocacy to name a few. You are the key to helping us seek out these worthy individuals who are waiting to be recognized. Please consider nominating an outstanding individual for the award categories of Distinguished Member or Rising Star Awards, but did you know you can also nominate individuals, groups, or "teams," for the Advocacy and Public Policy, Community Outreach, Educator, Innovation, Leadership, Literary Legacy, Mentor, Research, and Student awards?



It all starts with a nomination. It's easy to show your appreciation for the outstanding contributions of a remarkable individual or group. Simply review details of the award categories by visiting <http://www.ahima.org/about/recognition?tabid=triumph>. Next, complete the online [nomination form](#). **Nominations for 2015 are due by June 1, 2015.** Make sure your nominee(s) has a chance at the recognition they deserve. If you have any questions, please contact [Marilyn.Render@ahima.org](mailto:Marilyn.Render@ahima.org) or (312) 233-1161.

The 2015 AHIMA Triumph Awards will be presented at AHIMA's Annual Convention and Exhibit in New Orleans, LA on Monday, September 28, 2015. The AHIMA Triumph Awards are sponsored by **3M**.

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### CCS Prep Workshop

AHIMA states that "Coding accuracy is highly important to healthcare organizations, and has an impact on revenues and describing health outcomes. In fact, certification has become an implicit industry standard. Accordingly, the CCS credential demonstrates a practitioner's tested data quality and integrity skills, and mastery of coding proficiency. Professionals experienced in coding inpatient and outpatient records should consider obtaining this certification."

NHIMA sponsored a CCS prep course in January 2014 and has received several requests to offer the CCS prep course again. To help meet the demand for another CCS prep course, NHIMA is sponsoring a CCS prep course in conjunction with the annual state convention in Kearney on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. Sally Roland, MS, RHIA, CCS, CPC, will be the instructor for the course once again. Given the time constraints, the workshop will only be a one day workshop. Because of the time limits, the course content will be condensed and group coding practice will be limited.

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### NHIMA Contact Information:

[Board Members - Committee/TF Chairs](#)

### Dates to Remember:

April 22-24, 2015 – NHIMA Annual Convention, Kearney, NE

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# Let's try again...

## ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education

Dates and locations have been set for ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education:

**May 13-15, 2015** – Regional West Medical Center Education Center, Scottsbluff

**June 8-10, 2015** – Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

**June 24-26, 2015** – Holiday Inn Express, Norfolk

**July 8-10, 2015** – Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Kearney

Stay tuned for further updates from NHA and NHIMA.

