

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Karen G. Grant, RHIA, CHP

As I write this, the summer is winding down and by the time you read this we will be well into the fall. The 2016 Summer Olympics are over and the accomplishments and medal count for team America was amazing. We are now heading into the election of the President of the United States! Many changes are in the air.

What we see in our industry is change, change and more change. We are seeing great work in areas such as the structure of Health Information departments as we engage our Subject Matter Experts. The themes we continue to see with the implementation of electronic records is data integrity under the umbrella of Information Governance and Leadership. I quote Winston Churchill in this time of change .... "I am an optimist-it does not seem to be much use to be anything else."

In our field we have cultivated such great leaders with many of the following traits. These words are adapted by the college President of Elon University Leo Lambert. They resonate with me as I see leaders in our field paving the way for something great.

### **AHIMA CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT**

**KAREN GRANT** MaHIMA President to receive **Triumph Award for Leadership** 

Please join us in congratulating Karen on achieving this important professional distinction during the General Session of the AHIMA Annual Convention

Monday, October 17, 2016 8:45am to 8:55am The Baltimore Convention Center One West Pratt Street Baltimore, Maryland General Session, 4th Floor Ballroom

Don't miss the photo session!! 10:30am to 10:45am Join your friends and colleagues from Massachusetts in front of the award display

New for 2016! **Up-to-Date Reference Guide** MASSACHUSETTS **State Laws, Regulations** and Statutes

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VOLUNTEER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

AHIMA Convention October 15 - October 19

Dot Wagg **Legislative Seminar** November 4

7:30 am - 1:00 pm Randolph, MA

#### Winter Meeting

February 3 7:30 am - 2:00 pm Marlboro, MA

AHIMA Leadership & Advocacy **Symposium** March 27 - 28 Capitol Hill, Washington DC

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## HAVE YOU EVER NOMINATED SOMEONE FOR A MAHIMA AWARD? IF NOT, WHAT ARE YOU WAIT-ING FOR?!!!

Marianne Garfi, RHIA, CCS-P

The New Year is upon us! Our volunteers at MaHIMA have been working hard planning many opportunities and events for all of us in the coming months. We have the Fall Meeting, the exciting educational sessions and the new college semester for new member students to look forward to. This is also a great time to recognize our members for their outstanding contributions to our association and to our profession. The MaHIMA Awards Committee invites you to think about nominating someone for a MaHIMA Award. Take a moment to think about a person or team that has done something above and beyond....it could also be your own team!

We all work hard every day, but there is always someone who steps up and takes the reins to accomplish something extra. Let's take the time to recognize them!

Here are the award categories:

- Member Recognition
- HIM Advocacy Award

Individual Achievement Awards:

- Outstanding New Professional Award
- Champion Award
- Outstanding Mentor Award
- Professional Achievement Award
- Distinguished Member Award
- HIM Team Excellence Award
- Student Achievement Award

Let's not be intimidated to nominate someone for a MAHIMA award – it could even be you!

It is an easy process and a great way to lift someone's spirits.

The link to make a nomination is attached below. Although there are reminders regarding deadlines, you may nominate someone anytime!

http://www.mahima.org/professional-development/ awards/

## BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENTS

Norma A. Chitvanni RHIT, CHPS

The HHS Office for Civil Rights recently identified 167 entities for their 2016 Desk Audit. A desk audit is a request for information electronically; they will not come to your location in person. One of the areas of focus is Business Associate Agreements.

The first part of the BAA audit request is to send OCR a list of the entities Business Associates. The request from OCR includes a list of 27 elements.

HHS posts a sample template on their website.

Here's what they ask for in the listing:

BA Name, Service (s) provided

First point of contact name, title, address, city, state, zip, phone, fax, email.

Second Point of contact name, title, address, city, state, zip, phone, fax, email and website URL.

It's a long list of information that may not typically be on your agreement. Ensuring you capture this information and then enter it into a data base, or excel file is important. You may want to prepare yourself for an audit in the future as the OCR is looking closely at institutions, and how they are managing their Business Associate Agreements.

For more information on the OCR required elements go to: http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/ compliance-enforcement/audit/batemplate/index.html

### **PRIVACY WORKSHOP**

Bibi Von Malder, RHIT

I attended the Privacy Workshop on August 5, 2016 presented by Norma Chitvanni, Privacy Officer and Martha Hamel, Privacy Specialist, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC). It was very informative and well received. Norma and Martha presented many different ideas on how to run a successful privacy program. Their theme at BIDMC is "Keep Information Private" "KIP" which is their motto/brand for their privacy program. They emphasized the importance of creating a brand in order to have a theme that staff will recognize as part of your ongoing privacy education efforts. Martha showed and shared examples of the BIDMC branding products, such as pens, phone screen wipes, posters, signs and stickers that all had the KIP