

# MaHIMA - President's Message



## APRIL 2025 - President's Message



Dear Members,

AHIMA is undergoing a significant and transformative transition, and this change is steering us in a positive direction. Under the leadership of the interim CEO, alongside the AHIMA President and the Board of Directors, there is a genuine commitment to enhancing our organization. They actively seek our input, demonstrating a keen interest in hearing our thoughts and suggestions as we aim to foster meaningful improvements within AHIMA. During the upcoming annual meeting, we will have a unique opportunity to engage directly with a Board member, who will be available to address any questions or concerns about the transition and the path forward. This open dialogue is essential to navigate this pivotal moment in our organization's history.

In March, the spirit of advocacy was highlighted during the 2025 AHIMA Advocacy Summit and Hill Day, which took place on March 17-18 in Washington, D.C. This event united healthcare professionals from across the nation, including representatives from Massachusetts: Amy Merson from PAM Health, Maxwell Agyei from Tempus Unlimited Inc., Marianne Garfi from the U.S. Department of Labor, and Melissa Young from CommonSpirit Health. During this summit, Massachusetts advocates engaged in discussions with the offices of key legislators, including Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Ed Markey, Representative Katherine Clark, and Representative Seth Moulton. Their primary goal was to promote essential legislative initiatives, focusing on H.R. 2002, the Patient Matching and Transparency in Certified Health IT (MATCH IT) Act of 2025. This pivotal piece of legislation aims to enhance patient matching processes and improve transparency in health information technology, ultimately leading to better patient care and safety. In addition to their work on MATCH IT, attendees also laid the groundwork for future advocacy efforts concerning the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) within the healthcare informatics workforce. Emphasizing the importance of this emerging technology, the advocates called for a comprehensive national report to investigate the application of non-clinical AI tools in various healthcare settings. This proactive approach highlights the need for informed policy-making that addresses the challenges and opportunities that AI presents in healthcare environments, ensuring that these advancements support professionals and enhance patient outcomes.

We are excited to invite you to the MaHIMA Annual Conference, which will take place on June 16, 2025, at the Hogan Center, located on the campus of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. This year's conference is particularly special as we will celebrate the milestone of MaHIMA's 95th birthday. Join us for a day filled with insightful sessions, networking opportunities, and engaging discussions that honor our shared commitment to health information management. Following the annual meeting, we will host a reception to celebrate, offering a chance to reconnect with colleagues and reminisce about MaHIMA's journey. We encourage all past and retired MaHIMA Presidents to participate in this celebration. Your

contributions have played an essential role in shaping our organization, and we want to acknowledge your dedication. To show our appreciation, we will offer a special discount code for all Past Presidents and a complimentary registration code for our Retired Presidents. Please mark your calendars and join us in honoring our past, embracing the present, and looking forward to a vibrant future for MaHIMA.

As we look ahead, MaHIMA remains committed to empowering members to lead. We are currently seeking volunteers for several committees, as well as candidates for the role of Director of Education. These opportunities offer a unique chance to expand your professional network, enhance your knowledge, and make a tangible impact within our community. Committee members play a vital role—supporting the Director, helping to secure speakers and sponsors, and sparking innovative ideas for webinars and events like our annual conference. If you're considering taking on a more significant role within MaHIMA, we encourage you to contact a Board member. You won't be alone in your leadership journey; mentorship and support from fellow Board members will accompany you every step of the way. This is the perfect time to step forward. Whether you join a committee or pursue a Board position, your involvement can help shape a stronger and more dynamic MaHIMA. Let's move forward together.

Melissa Young, MHA, RHIT

President MaHIMA