

# 2017 Capstone Projects

Claudia Aguimatang - Sustaining Imaging Service through Intensive Company Merger  
 Benjamin Akimana - Clinical Data Quality Impact on Healthcare Services Reimbursement and Healthcare Delivery  
 Philip Attipoe - The Cloud: What's in it for Healthcare  
 Hamed Barahimi - Demystifying the Proverbial IT Black Hole - Stanford Health Care  
 Jay Chen - Code Impact on Reimbursement Analysis University of Washington Medical Center  
 Manila Mercurio and Michelle Wiggs - Radiology Price Master Database Improvement - Seattle Children's Hospital  
 Sheila Namale - Referral Management Process Improvement Kaiser Permanente Washington  
 Anu Singh - Assessment of early user traffic through the Healthier Washington Practice Transformation Support Hub Resource Portal  
 Lauren Summers and Juan Valera - Cancer Clinical Trials Matching Tool  
 Preeti Tiwari - EHR Continuity of Care Document Integration Plan - Evergreen Health  
 Valorie Wilkins - Electronic Shared Decision Making in Patient Care  
 Michael Woolley - Record Retention Management Process Improvement - Evergreen Healthcare

## MHIHIM Advisory Board Health Care Community Members

Sally Beahan, MHA, RHIA	Director, Health Information Management Strategic Planning and Projects (Systems)	University of Washington Medical Center Harborview Medical Center
Amy Bolin-Deon, MHIS, RHIA, CHP Teresa Dean, MHIHIM	Administrative Director, Health Information Management Senior Revenue Cycle Program Manager, Director, Health Information	Virginia Mason Medical Center Providence Health
Sheila Green-Shook, MHA, RHIA, CHP Mary Alice Hanken, PhD, RHIA, CHPS	Management and Privacy Officer Senior Lecturer, Department of Health Services; Quality Manager, Sound Mental Health	Evergreen Healthcare, Medical Records HIHIM Program, University of Washington
Jeff Harris, MD, MPH, MBA Seth Hennessey, MHA Ernie Hood Bryant Karras, MD Julie King Don Lewis Tom Martin Larry McNutt	Professor and Chair, Department of Health Services Director of Business Development Senior Director, Research and Insights Chief Informatics Officer Director, Clinical Information Systems Vice President, Chief Technology Officer Senior VP Chief Strategy and Information Officer Senior Vice President, Corporate Pension Administration, Board Chair Washington Health Alliance	School of Public Health, University of Washington Northwest Hospital The Advisory Board Company Washington State Department of Health Seattle Children's Hospital Group Health Cooperative Evergreen Healthcare Carpenters Trusts of Western Washington
Gretchen Murphy, MEd, RHIA, FAHIMA Joe Nichols, MD Bob Perna, MBA, FACMPE Tom Payne, MD	Program Director, Senior Lecturer Principal Director, Health Care Economics and Practice Support Medical Director, UWAMC IT Services Clinical Associate Professor, Medicine/GIM	MHIHIM Program, University of Washington Health Data Consulting WSMA UW Medicine
Kathleen Peterson, MS, RHIA, CCS Terry Rogers, MD	Senior Lecturer and Program Director Chief Executive Officer	HIHIM Program, University of Washington Foundation for Healthcare Quality
Dennis Stillman	Associate Professor, Health Services and Director, Graduate Programs in Health Administration	Health Services, University of Washington
Tim Travaille, MHIHIM Dian Wells	SVP Integration Director of Health Information Technology	Frontier Communications Sound Mental Health

# Master of Health Informatics & Health Information Management Newsletter

June 2017

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Graduates, Faculty, Students, and Friends of the program,

We are celebrating the 3rd graduating class from the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management Program and the milestones and accomplishments of the past year.

As the 2017 graduating class, you join fellow MHIHIM alumni in accepting diverse challenges and opportunities; and begin work with health informatics and information management colleagues in contributing to the health care community. Your talent, motivation, and personal growth are hallmarks of your experience throughout the last two years. Your capstone projects and future plans illustrate your cohort's variety of interests and opportunities. We are proud of your accomplishments and look forward to your future successes.



### Program Milestones

This year, the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Health Information Management (CAHIIM) granted accreditation to the MHIHIM program, affirming our vision to, "develop leaders who collaborate, advocate and innovate to transform health information systems." Graduates of CAHIIM accredited HI master's programs are eligible to seek the new AHIMA credential, Certified Professional in Health Informatics. This is a great advantage for our graduates.

We continue to collaborate with our partners and colleagues to strengthen the quality of our program. This fall, we updated our course titles and streamlined our curriculum from seven to six quarters, as well as added a new course in Healthcare Business

Intelligence that highlights new program features. The new course builds on existing courses on health care data and analytics, one of the key pillars of the curriculum.

### Network Opportunities

We hosted new events in October and May, bringing together our Advisory Board members, alumni, and students to network and explore contemporary topics. In May, we featured an evening reception with round table discussions on leadership, healthcare analytics, professional certification opportunities, and mentoring. Nearly 30 people attended this event.

We value our industry colleagues who share their knowledge in our classrooms, serve as key informants for student teams, and sponsor capstone projects. Their contributions enrich the curriculum and are highly valued by faculty and students.

### Leadership Transition

It is with great appreciation, and a few regrets, I announce June 30 will be my last day as Director of the MHIHIM program. I will retire on July 1. I celebrate the wonderful experience of teaching each of the cohorts of this still-new master's program. Getting to know students, working with HIHIM faculty, our faculty colleagues in the MHA program, and our Advisory Board members, has been an inspiration. Thank you to everyone, particularly students, graduates, and the families and friends who have supported them. I have immensely enjoyed this MHIHIM adventure.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Murphy, M.Ed., RHIA, FAHIMA  
Director

Please follow us on



## Program Updates

### **Kathleen Peterson, MS, RHIA, CPHI, CCS**

Kathleen Peterson is the incoming Director, Health Informatics and Health Information Management Graduate, and current director of the Undergraduate, and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Programs. Kathleen was appointed as a Senior Lecturer in July 2008, and became the undergraduate program director in 2013.

Kathleen has practiced health informatics and information management for more than 30 years. Her experience includes serving as the health information manager during the implementation of the electronic health record at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She also developed and implemented a revenue and coding compliance program for outpatient facility and professional services in a healthcare consulting firm.

Kathleen is currently a member of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Practice Council on Clinical Terminologies. She has collaborated on articles and thought leadership papers focused on terminologies, and she speaks locally and nationally on classifications. She recently completed a 3-year term on the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM), which oversees the competency of HIIM professionals.

Kathleen holds a master's degree in health care administration from Central Michigan University and multiple AHIMA credentials.

### **Mary Alice Hanken, PhD, RHIA, CHPS**

Mary Alice is a long term faculty member who teaches four courses in the program, and serves as the Quality Manager at Sound Mental Health. Mary Alice also writes and publishes textbooks in the field. Nationally recognized as a leader in education, she is currently an invited member of AHIMA's Council on Educational Excellence (CEE) Curriculum Workgroup. The CEE Curriculum workgroup contributes to the annual AHIMA Assembly on Education in July, where it will host discussions on Professional Experience options available for students enrolled in educational programs. The workgroup is also reviewing education modules prepared for the Office of the National Coordinator ONC on Information Technology to identify specific modules that can be used in educational programs. Mary Alice's work focuses on the modules for the master's programs and on readiness for the Commission on Health Informatics and Health Information Management accreditation survey.

### **Carolyn Spice, RHIA, CICPT**

Carolyn is an experienced healthcare quality and analytics professional whose career spans the domains of public health research, inpatient care, integrated delivery systems, and ambulatory safety net Community Health Centers. She has guided multiple healthcare organizations in transforming their care delivery and analytics capabilities, in order to achieve the triple aim of healthcare: improving the experience of care, improving the health of populations, and reducing per capita costs of health care. In addition, she collaborates nationally with stakeholders to encourage alignment of quality measures with clinical workflow. She enjoys sharing her passion for healthcare analytics and healthcare quality. Carolyn joins the MHIIM faculty in July.

## Graduating Class Placements

This spring we celebrate graduation with the third cohort of students in this young program. The faculty and I have enjoyed their dedication, their energy, and their talent. Several accepted new opportunities to work in health information, systems, informatics, analytics, and patient support. We continue to learn and grow with our students as we work to build a program designed to prepare graduates ready to transform the healthcare industry systems as we work to design a program that prepares graduates who are ready to transform the healthcare industry systems.

**Claudia Aguimatang - Patient Administration Division Representative - Madigan Army Medical Center**

**Benjamin Akimana - Patient Care Associate - Pierce County Project Access**

**Philip Attipoe - Senior Programmer Writer - Amazon Web Services**

**Hamed Barahimi - Manager, IT Clinical Applications - Stanford University**

**Jay Chen - Senior Financial Analyst - University of Washington**

**Manila Mercurio - Project Coordinator - Greenriver College**

**Sheila Namale - Registered Nurse - Kaiser Permanente**

**Anu Singh - Not working currently**

**Lauren Summers - Senior Oncology Clinical Research Coordinator - Swedish Health**

**Preeti Tiwari - Health Informatics Analyst - Evergreen Hospital & Medical Center**

**Juan Valera - Founder at Coastal, LLC.**

**Michelle Wiggs - Manager Revenue Integrity & Coding - Seattle Children's**

**Valorie Wilkins - Clinical Pharmacist - Cascade Valley Hospital**

**Michael Woolley - Health Informatics Analyst - Evergreen**

## Alumni Updates

Kathleen Nguyen: Title: Director, Health Information Management  
Seattle Children's Hospital

