



Progress Note

The Newsletter of the Student Health Information Association



Spring Semester 2012

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2012 Year-End Celebration by Phronda Buckley



Back row (l-r) Travarus Holloway, Lina Baker, Nikisha Weaver, LaQuetta Richburg, Kierra Leavell, Tyshae Phillips, Destine Lacen, Phronda Buckley
Front row (l-r) Tesha Wallace, Brittany Cabil, Nardos Negussie, Lauren Taylor, Ali Baker

The theme for the 2012 Year-End Celebration was Celebrating a New Beginning to honor the graduates as they pursue careers in the HIM profession. The guest speaker, Mrs. Elaine Bonner, is a 1980 HIM graduate and works in the Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic as the Medical Records Director at Vanderbilt. She emphasized the importance of networking, working diligently, and exploring employment opportunities in behavioral health arena.

Mr. Horner, a phenomenal Healthcare Statistics professor and VP of HCA, returned to share some words of wisdom about the keys to success. He explained that success is a journey and not a destination while encouraging the graduates to network, read professional literature, take the RHIA exam within 30 days of graduation and give back to the university and community. We will always fondly remember those late Thursday evenings studying length of stay, census, graphs, charts and other statistical concepts.



Kierra Leavell and Mr. Horner

Other attendees included Dr. Elizabeth Brown, HCAP professor, Lynn Bailey-Butler, HIM Advisory Board Member (Vanderbilt), Alisha Davis, 2010 HIM graduate, Anne Dixon, HIM Advisory Board Member (Vanderbilt), Michael Gregory, 2011 HIM graduate, Dr. Kwame Mull, adjunct HIM professor, Ms. Debbie Pillow, Certified Patient Account Representative (CPAR) advisor, Dr. Rosemary Theriot, HCAP Department Head and HIM Juniors. The event was held at the airport Marriott where the service was exceptional and the food was fantastic.

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*AHIMA Conference in
Chicago, IL*

Newsletter Credits

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Recruitment

Undecided Major by *Yoshunnah Woods*



Mrs. Buckley and I presented a power point presentation to a freshmen class of undecided majors about the career opportunities within Health Information Management. Some of the positions are consultants, health insurance specialists, coding and reimbursement specialists and risk managers. Several HIPAA rules were covered along with the Emergency Medical Treatment and Accountability Act (EMTALA) which requires providers to stabilize patients in the ER before transferring them to another facility (anti-dumping law).

The HIM courses were discussed as well as the RHIA exam. Once the potential salary figures were shared, some of the students became really interested in the program. They began to ask a litany of questions that included the following:

- “How many science classes do I need to take?”
- “Tell me, what is the starting salary again?”
- “If I decide to pursue HIM as a career, can I become the boss?”
- “Do I have to take the RHIA exam?”
- “How much does the exam cost?”
- “When can I take the exam?”
- “What is the pass/fail rate for the exam?”
- “Do I have to touch patients?”

Later I shared why HIM became my major. I wanted to work in the healthcare field but did not want hands-on contact with the patients. Two career tests confirmed my decision to pursue HIM. As a result I moved from Chattanooga to Nashville because Tennessee State University was the closest school that offered a bachelor's degree.

The students were respectful, polite, and very interested in the program. Several of them shared their contact information in order to learn more about HIM and potentially pursue an HIM career. It is a great profession.



Spring Semester Student Activities

Research Symposium
by Karen Atherton



During the Research Symposium, the HIM department presented a Plan of Study application created within the database management course using Microsoft Access 2010. It was designed by Karen Atherton, Ali Baker and Phronda Buckley in an effort to improve the process to track and report courses electronically for HIM students. Mrs. Brock was the project sponsor and has begun to utilize the application in the department.

The users will enter the student's demographic data, HIM courses, instructors, semesters and clinical sites. A plan of study report can be created for the courses the students are required to complete. Since the application is electronic, the data will be easier to manage and maintain. This report completes phase I of the application and phase II which will generate a report that can be submitted to the dean with the graduation requirements, will be completed at a later date. Several professors and health science students attended the symposium and were very interested in utilizing the software.



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ANNUAL AHIMA CONFERENCE

September 29 through October 4, 2012

Wyndham Jade hotel (888) 747-8707

Registration opens in May

Check <http://www.ahima.org/events/convention/default.aspx> for registration fees when they are published in May.

Megabus information: <http://us.megabus.com/Default.aspx>

More Year-End Pictures



Alisha Davis, Deb Pillow, Dr. Brown, Brittany Cabil



Gentlemen of HIM: Ali Baker and Travarus Holloway



Karen Atherton, Tesha Wallace, Elaine Bonner and Phronda Buckley

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*Graduates of TSU HIM program

