President's Message

Dear South Florida HIMSS Chapter Members:
As you may be aware, chapter elections are now open. We will be soon transitioning newly elected and appointed members on to the South Florida HIMSS Board of Directors. I would like to express my gratitude for allowing me to serve as your chapter President the past two years. It has been an amazing experience that I will look back on fondly. I have met such amazing people doing important and meaningful HIT work in our South Florida Community. These past two years have not only been fun but also hard work. With that said, I could not have done this without being supported by an amazing team of board members who have dedicated significant time and energy to making our chapter successful. I want to sincerely thank them all for their commitment.

As of July 1st, Oscar Perez will transition from the President-Elect role to the new President of our South Florida Chapter. I have no doubt in his ability to lead this chapter and take it to the next level. Please join me in welcoming him as your new chapter president!

Chapter Elections Open May 29th to June 7th

All chapter members should have received an email ballot to vote for our new chapter leaders. If you do not see this email, please check your spam file. For any questions or problems related to voting, please contact vbannon@brrh.com for assistance.
7th Annual SFLHIMSS Student Scholarship Golf Tournament

Please join us for the 7th Annual Golf Tournament on June 11 from 3:45pm to 7:15pm at Topgolf in Miami Gardens, Florida. Proceeds from this annual event support the SFLHIMSS Scholarship Fund. Our SFLHIMSS Chapter is proud to be one of only 3 chapters throughout the entire nation that offers an annual scholarship to students!

We have decided to change things up and take golf DIGITAL this year! Every year the golf tournament proves to be one of SFLHIMSS most anticipated events, and this year is no different. Topgolf is the premier entertainment destination in Miami that blends golf with technology. It features dozens of climate-controlled hitting bays for year-round comfort with HDTVs in every bay and throughout the sports bar and restaurant.

The golf tournament includes three hours of Topgolf game play, reserved bays, appetizers and drinks, awards ceremony, raffle prizes, and more. No golf experience required. Everyone is welcome! Please join us for a wonderful evening of golf and festivities, networking with HIT colleagues, and fundraising for the scholarship fund!

Register NOW as SPACE IS LIMITED! Whether you are able to attend the tournament or not, you may still donate to the SFLHIMSS Scholarship Fund. Just click on the registration link for more details.
The South Florida HIMSS Chapter is looking for volunteers to serve on our brand new Education Committee. The Education Committee is responsible for:

- Develop a chapter education strategy
- Monitor the chapter’s educational events to ensure that the topics deemed important by National are addressed by in-live, or webinar based learning.
- Facilitates the creation & scheduling of educational webinars at least quarterly
- Records live event & webinar presentations for posting on the chapter website.
- Work with Program committee to have chapter education events certified for continuing education from HIMSS and other leading national organizations
- Assist members in obtaining advanced member status and/or CPHIMSS/CAHIMSS certifications.

If this interests you, please email vbannon@brrh.com. Once we have our newly appointed Education Committee chair, we will begin to schedule regular committee meetings.

**Women & Diversity in Healthcare Program**

On May 14, 2019, SFLHIMSS hosted its first Women and Diversity in Health IT event! Thank you to the women and men that attended as well as the AMAZING panelists that dedicated their time to support this event. The evening began with networking and dinner, followed by Liz Rockowitz, the SFLHIMSS Past President, moderating a panel comprised of Dr. Dawn Marie Rogers, CMIO for Memorial Healthcare System; Nicole Williams, Director of Project Management for Mount Sinai Medical Center; and Monica L. Puga, VP of Population Health for Memorial Healthcare System. The panelists shared leadership insights and personal experiences that helped them develop into successful executives as well as advice as to what can be done to continue to have an impact in health IT. The event concluded with a breakout session, where attendees were able to gather together with one of the three panelists for a more in-depth discussion. This event turned out to be a greater success than we ever could have anticipated and we hope to make this a reoccurring event in the years to come!
SFLHIMSS HIT Education Event for Professionals and Students

Blockchain in Healthcare 101

On March 13th, the SFLHIMSS chapter held its annual student event. This was a well-attended event with over 70 health professionals from numerous areas of healthcare, and graduate students from 11 different universities. Prior to the start of the event, students from the Biomedical Informatics Program at Nova Southeastern University conducted a quick survey asking healthcare professionals, what are the top three skills they are looking for when hiring an entry-level health informatics analyst. Most stated that they wanted the candidate to know a programming language such as SQL, Python or R. Next on their list was having a good attitude, willingness to learn and a self-starter. The third item on potential employers’ lists was that they look for communication skills and willingness to take direction.

The speaker for the annual event was Mauricio Angée who is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) with over 30 years of experience in healthcare. Mr. Angée is currently the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami, Florida. He is presently pursuing a Doctorate degree in Business with a concentration in Information Security at St. Thomas University. He is currently an adjunct faculty at Florida International University and St. Thomas University, both located in Miami, Florida. Mr. Angée presented “Blockchain 101 in Healthcare”. The agenda covered the basics of blockchain, the digital wallet and the application of blockchain, how blockchain fits into healthcare, and what the challenges are of blockchain in healthcare.

You can find the “Blockchain 101 in Healthcare” presentation on our SFLHIMSS website under “Events and Education.”

2019 Florida Health IT Day in Tallahassee

Our 3rd Health IT Day took place on April 24th at the Florida State Capitol in Tallahassee, Florida, and was a HUGE success! Thank you to Kendall Brown, Advocacy Committee Chair, and her Advocacy committee members as this event could not have taken place without all their hard work! Additionally, thank you to Krista Riveron, Janine Pratt, and Lou Mendez for making the journey to Tallahassee for this event as well.

Both the Florida House of Representatives and the Senate were in session during Florida Health IT Day from 10am to 6pm. Even still, attendees were able to meet with several staff members and a few elected officials.

The day included 3 presentations, which are available on the SFLHIMSS website:
- Telehealth: William Manzie, Memorial Healthcare System’s Administrative Director of Telehealth Strategy
Interoperability: Summer Kahlon, MD, Steward Health Network’s CIO (and CNFL HIMSS incoming President)

Florida Healthcare Legislative Update: Lisa Rawlins, Maury, Brown and Rawlins Managing Partner (and Former SFLHIMSS Advocacy Committee Chair)

Attendees had an in-person meeting with AHCA’s new Secretary, Mary Mayhew. Secretary Mayhew wants to collaborate with HIMSS on the future of Health IT in Florida. Also present was HIMSS own Valerie Rogers, Director of State Government Affairs at HIMSS North America, who flew in from Washington, D.C.

SFLHIMSS was recognized in the Senate Chamber by Senator Gayle Harrell, where she presented our Proclamation for Health IT Week. This was a HUGE recognition as April 21st to April 27th was declared Florida Health IT Week and HIMSS was recognized in a FULL Senate Chamber during Legislative Session. SFLHIMSS now has Proclamations from all three Florida Health IT Days, which will be displayed on SFLHIMSS website.

This year, Florida had three telehealth bills and one interoperability bill that directly related to Health IT. This is the FIRST year we have had something relevant to Health IT to speak with elected officials about. As the interest in Health IT continues to increase and becomes a focus of elected officials, next year we can expect a similar trend in Health IT bills.

Legislative session begins in January next year. In order for it to be a success, we must start making relationships at the local district level between now and January, and YOU can help! This includes making relationships with local hospital and health care organization’s government relations representatives as well as elected officials. Please contact the SFLHIMSS chapter at sfl.info@himsschapter.org as to how you can become more involved!

Click here to see more event photos

Why Obtain a CAHIMS or CPHIMS Certification?
Certifications are a cornerstone of any rapidly evolving field and obtaining one illustrates your dedication to furthering your professional knowledge and skill set. Certifications demonstrate that you meet a standard of professional body of knowledge. Additionally, many organizations require that candidates have certifications and encourage current employees to obtain certifications.

By getting certified, you can:
- Distinguish yourself in an increasingly competitive marketplace
- Expand your career opportunities
- Validate your knowledge, competency and credibility
- Gain skills and tools to help you make a difference in your organization and your community
- Demonstrate your commitment to continuing professional development
- Gain a sense of personal and professional achievements

Currently, HIMSS offers two certifications in the US:
- CAHIMS – Certified Associate in Healthcare Information and Management Systems
- CPHIMS – Certified Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems

CAHIMS Certification
If you are new to the field and/or have limited professional experience, obtaining CAHIMS certification is a great way to expand and diversify your industry knowledge. Recent graduates can use this to polish up their resumes and more experienced professionals can keep up with the ever-changing industry, especially if you’ve had less direct information technology experience. To be eligible for the CAHIMS exam, the entry-level certification program requires a high school diploma or equivalent and the exam content spans general, foundational knowledge about the industry.

The CAHIMS credential will help you:
- Demonstrate professional knowledge in healthcare information and management systems to potential and current employers
- Establish a solid foundation that will give you an advantage as you strengthen your abilities, acquire more experience, and advance your career path

CPHIMS Certification
The CPHIMS certification is designed for professionals with proven industry experience and is considered the flagship of HIMSS certifications. To be eligible for the CPHIMS exam, you need a bachelor’s degree from accredited college or university AND five or more years of information and management systems experience; three of them in a healthcare setting OR a graduate degree or higher from an accredited college/university AND three years of information and management systems experience, with two of those in a healthcare setting.

The CPHIMS credential will help you:
- Demonstrate that you meet an international standard of professional knowledge and competence in healthcare information and management systems
- Increase your credibility with your employer

The Value of HIMSS Certifications
In a field experiencing such vast change, it’s important to possess a standard body of knowledge and an up-to-date skill set that shows you are well informed and well prepared for what is ahead in your career.
- You’ll establish a standard body of knowledge which demonstrates your growing expertise of health information and technology subject matter.
- You’re setting yourself apart from others in a competitive marketplace.
- You’ll expand your opportunity for career advancement.
- It shows you are getting involved and engaging further with your work outside of your regular job.

There is nothing quite as valuable as the knowledge you will cultivate throughout your career and obtaining and keeping active HIMSS certifications is a fantastic way to keep that knowledge up to date.

To learn more about CAHIMS and CPHIMS certifications, visit the HIMSS website under Professional Development > Certification
Interested in being a Chapter Sponsor? Click here

Looking to Get Involved?

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHAPTER COMMITTEES

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