



HIMSS[®]

SOUTH FLORIDA Chapter

President's Message



Dear South Florida HIMSS Family,

We wanted to send a big **THANK YOU** to all of you for **ALL YOU DO** in helping our community during these unprecedented times. Whether you are in the front lines taking care of patients and putting yourself in harm's way or silently in the background working nonstop in supporting operations and those in need, each and every one of you have a strong force of good will!

As we head into another month of the COVID-19 era, many of us are ready to move on to the next phase and begin to slowly return back to a new normal. Please continue to stay vigilant and take care of yourself, your family and others. Wash your hands frequently, wear masks when in public, practice social distancing and if you feel sick, stay at home and telehealth your physician. We will eradicate this dark force known as COVID-19 soon.

Stay safe as the force is strong with all of you.

May the 4th be with you!

Let's Celebrate SFLHIMSS Awards!

South Florida HIMSS Chapter has a lot to celebrate this year! Thanks to a ton of hard work by our board and chapter members we have swept the HIMSS20 Chapter Awards! From outstanding service in HIT to demonstrated leadership in HIT, HIMSS honors members whose achievements and dedication support the transformation of health through information and technology.



HIMSS Chapter Leader of the Year Award

*Pua Cooper, MSN, RN, FHIMSS, CHCIO
2018-2019 President, South Florida Chapter of
HIMSS.*



HIMSS Chapter of the Year Award
Medium Chapter: South Florida Chapter of HIMSS



HIMSS Chapter Advocate of the Year
Kendall Brown
2018-2019 Chapter Advocate, South Florida Chapter of HIMSS

We would like you to Join us at our next chapter meetup to celebrate (TBD)! Our meetups are the ideal place to interact with our board members, sponsors and chapter members. It is also a great time to learn more about our chapter, annual events, and how you can get engaged.

CONGRATULATIONS

RUTH MARQUEZ OF NOVA SOUTHEASTERN

THE SFLHIMSS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER!



The SFLHIMSS Scholarship is for students of health information technology or informatics and promotes the development of emerging leaders in health information technology management.

The South Florida HIMSS Chapter would like to recognize and congratulate Ruth Marquez of Nova Southeastern University for being this year's recipient of the chapter's student scholarship.

Marquez is the first-generation STEM Graduate student in her family. During her undergraduate years, she gained scientific experience in 2 grants she participated in: The USDA - Innovative Curriculum for Agriculture Training and Career for Hispanics (iCATCH) Grant and the STEM Institute for Scholastic Leadership Experience (STEM ISLE) Scholar. With the opportunities these grants gave her, she was able to obtain analytical skills, team leadership, grant writing, data collection and interpretation. These skills will help her continue with her education and further advance innovation in both academia and the field of informatics. Her goal is to contribute to the field of healthcare with new innovations of informatics specifically targeting patients with developmental delays such as those on the Autism Spectrum and ADHD. As a mother of a little girl on the spectrum, she has been inspired to use telehealth in behavioral health to help autism families gain affordable and timely access to a medical team that can best serve them right at the comfort of their own place.

Congrats, Ruth!

SFLHIMSS Chapter 2020 Mixer

Thanks to all of you who attended the SFLHIMSS 2020 Mixer in January 23, 2020! We started the year full of energy, enjoying great company and connecting with other healthcare and IT professionals over appetizers and drinks. We hope you enjoyed the event! We are looking forward to getting together again once the social distancing is lifted. In the meantime, we are working on creative ways to stay connected during this unprecedented time. We'll see you soon!



SFLHIMSS 2020 Events Update

As a chapter, we are continuing to diligently monitor the development of 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and adjust on a daily basis. It is imperative as a Health IT community that we remain focused on the safety, security, and privacy of our patients, staff and community and yourselves. In order to continue to keep our community safe, your South Florida HIMSS Chapter Board have made the following changes for the following upcoming events.

- **HIT Education Event for Professionals & Students -Machine Learning in Healthcare 101 -** March 31, 2020 - Postponed until further notice
- **SFLHIMSS Chapter 8th Annual Student Scholarship Golf Tournament -** April 20, 2020 - Postponed until further notice

For updates on COVID-19, please visit Florida Health website: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/>

ADVOCACY *update*

THE LATEST FROM YOUR SFLHIMSS ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

I am very pleased to report that our efforts to pass an interoperability Bill in the State of Florida has achieved success. The State of Florida Senate took up HB1391 and voted 39 - 0 in favor of passage of the Bill. The House adopted the amendment Senator Harrell offered on the SB1870 last week, so both Bills were similar. The House then voted on the Bill and approved it 118 - 0. It is

important to note there were only 125 bills that passed this legislative session out of over 3,600 bills filed.

Thanks to the efforts of South Florida HIMSS, Central and North HIMSS Chapter, the assistance of HIMSS National, especially Alana Lerer for assisting with the letter writing campaign, a first for state initiatives we are able to claim victory! Thanks also are in order to Paul Salmon for his assistance in the letter writing campaign, Janine Pratt for her example of interoperability during HIT Days that got the attention of Representative Toledo, who sponsored the Bill on the House side.

The last remaining hurdle is for the Governor to sign the Bill into Law. We do not anticipate any issues with that taking place.

SFLHIMSS Membership and Volunteering Opportunities

GET INVOLVED



South Florida HIMSS is an active and busy chapter that boasts over 1,690 members. It provides members a wonderful opportunity to volunteer and help influence how technology is used to positively transform healthcare in our own backyard.

If you are interested in joining please visit <https://www.himss.org/membership-types/individual> to see what membership type is right for you.

If you want to volunteer, please contact the corresponding Board member by clicking [here](#) and they will help orient you to the committee and discuss with you our various opportunities. We are always looking for volunteers to help with events throughout the year. To volunteer your time at one of our events throughout the year, please email sfl.info@himsschapter.org.

SFLHIMSS Chapter will be soon sending our "call for nominations" email for several Board positions. This is a great opportunity to work more closely with South Florida HIMSS and promote the interests of Healthcare IT in our area.

You will be able to nominate yourself or someone you think will serve the Chapter well. A detailed description of each of the positions will be available.

We look forward to receiving your nominations!



Educational Offerings

WALDEN UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION FOR GOOD™

Did you know that Walden University has a partnership with HIMSS that grants eligible HIMSS members a 20% tuition reduction for their degree programs and a \$2,000 grant?

- With the Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting a 13% growth in IT employment through 2026, an IT degree from Walden can give you **in-demand skills that make you more valuable** and competitive in today's job marketplace.
- Feel prepared and confident to **design, develop, and manage IT systems** within your organization and in your community.

Earn a degree in MS in Cybersecurity, MS in Software Engineering, or MS in Data Science with Walden University and you may be eligible to receive a 20% tuition reduction +\$2,000 grant! To learn more about eligibility and restrictions, please visit Waldenu.edu/himss

Educational Offerings



Lead the Digital Evolution of Healthcare

There are different ways to make a positive impact in healthcare. FIU's [Master of Science in Health Informatics and Analytics](#) (MSHIA) program will teach you the skills you need to leverage technology and data analytics tools to improve quality, safety, outcomes, and cost-effectiveness of healthcare delivery.

- Fully-online program for working professionals that can be completed in 14 months
- A unique curriculum that develops both your technical and business skills
- Training on the latest and innovative software
- Experiential coursework working with real companies to solve their health IT challenges
- Program accreditation: One of only seventeen CAHIIM accredited health informatics programs nationwide
- Mentorship opportunities with health IT executives

Join us for an online information session and learn how to advance your career in the health information and analytics industry.

Online Information Session

Thursday, May 21

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM

[RSVP](#)

Thank you to our SFLHIMSS Chapter sponsors

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