



**HIMSS**

ALABAMA CHAPTER / HEALTHCARE INFORMATION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS SOCIETY

## Fall Issue, 2006

### **President**

Matthew Wyatt  
Information Services Consultant  
UAB Health System  
mwyatt@uabmc.edu

### **President-Elect**

Theresa Meadows  
Director, Clinical Systems  
St. Vincent's Hospital  
tmeadows@stv.org

### **Past President**

Steve Anderson  
Director, Advanced Technology Center  
St Vincent's Hospital  
sanderso@stv.org

### **Treasurer**

David Kernea  
Consultant  
Innovative Consulting Group  
dkernea@innovativecg.com

### **Membership**

Nancy Nixon  
Privacy Officer  
Huntsville Hospital  
nancyni@hhsys.org

### **Secretary**

Loyd Bittle  
Director, Clinical Informatics  
Jackson Hospital  
loyd\_bittle@yahoo.com

### **Advocacy Liaison**

Lynn C. Graves  
Information Services Consultant  
UAB Health System  
lgraves@uabmc.edu

### **RHIO Chapter Liaison**

Sue Boldin  
HIM Manager  
UAB Health System  
sboldin@uabmc.edu

### **Website Support**

John Dransfield  
Manager, Information Systems  
Mobile Infirmary Medical Center  
johndransfield@mobileinfirmary.org

### **Other Board Members**

Matt Escher  
Maxwell Airforce Base  
matthew.escher@maxwell.af.mil

Cynthia Hyde  
CIO, Assistant VP Information Services  
Ascension Health/Providence Hospital  
chyde@providencehospital.org

### **Advisory Members**

Jennifer Cole  
Information Services Consultant  
UAB Health System  
jcole@uabmc.edu

Melanie Simson  
Director, Information Systems Applications  
Mobile Infirmary Medical Center  
msimison@mobileinfirmary.org

### **Student Liaison**

Muzna Mirza  
MSHI Student UAB  
muzna@uab.edu

[www.alabamahimss.org](http://www.alabamahimss.org)

## *From the President's Pen*



Dear Alabama HIMSS Members,

I'd like to start by personally thanking each of you for supporting the Alabama Chapter of HIMSS. As members, we are all "focused on providing leadership for the optimal use of healthcare information technology and management systems for the betterment of human health."

The board of the Alabama Chapter of HIMSS works hard to provide educational programs that help you and your organization make a difference in healthcare in Alabama. Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to talk with many of you about initiatives that are being implemented in your organizations. I am excited about the many innovative products and processes members of our local chapter are implementing and the positive results they are achieving. These efforts are clearly making a difference in the patient's experience and improving the quality and safety of healthcare in our state.

I am also excited about the role that the local chapter of HIMSS plays in the future of healthcare in Alabama. I believe the local chapters are poised to be instrumental in the formation of Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs) in this state and across the nation. HIMSS has created the RHIO Federation, whose goal is "to help foster the RHIO/HIE industry through education, outreach and advocacy activities at the local, state and federal level. The Federation focuses on three key areas of RHIO/HIE development: business rules, harmonization and chain of trust. All Federation activities are supported by 43 regional chapters through our RHIO Federation Chapter Liaison program". The Alabama Chapter has appointed Sue Boldin to serve as our liaison. Sue is the Program Manager for the coding and documentation improvement initiative at UAB Health System.

In further support of our future, every member of the board is dedicated to improving the quality of our conferences and educational programs. To do this, we need your help. Let us know what topics interest you. Tell us what we can do to help make future initiatives a success. Contact any board member with your suggestions.

I would like to thank each member of the board for their support and diligent efforts this past year. Each member of the team has generously volunteered their time and made many contributions to the success of the chapter.

If you would like to serve on a future Alabama Chapter of HIMSS board please let a board member know. It is important that we have new board members to keep the group energized, foster change, support growth and ensure the future success of the chapter.

I want to wish each of you success as you move forward with initiatives in your organization and making Alabama a leader in providing safe, quality healthcare.

Sincerely,

Steve Anderson

## **This Issue Features...**

Letter from Past President, Steve Anderson

Alabama HIMSS Sponsorship Packages 2

Alabama HIMSS 2006 Spring Conference Highlights 2

Letter from President, Matt Wyatt 2



### Alabama HIMSS Sponsorship Packages

#### Diamond Package - \$2,500

- Sponsors Lunch
- Free seminar admission for 5
- Vendor display table
- Company Name on Publications
- Acknowledgement for contribution during seminar
- 15 minute presentation at the seminar

#### Gold Package - \$1,500

- Sponsors Breakfast
- Free seminar admission for 5
- Vendor display table
- Company Name on Publications
- Acknowledgement for contribution during seminar

#### Silver Package - \$1,000

- Free seminar admission for 5
- Vendor display table
- Company Name on Publications

#### Bronze Package - \$500

- Free seminar admission for 3
- Company Name on Publications

#### Speaker Tips

*provided by Impact Communications*

##### Delivery Skills:

**#1** If you are in front of a live audience, maintain good posture by balancing your weight equally on both feet.

**#2** Connect with your audience by looking at them. Give each person a full sentence or thought. Consider moving towards them. With a larger audience, pick out 4-5 sections for eye contact. If you are speaking over the phone in a teleconference make sure you are talking to some pictures on your desk. This will help slow down your speech and help you to connect with listeners in your audience.

**#3** Use gestures and facial expressions to emphasize your points and to speak in a relaxed, natural manner. This is especially important if you are speaking over the phone. Gestures and facial expression will affect the tone of your voice and make it sound energetic. It will insure that you will not have a monotone.

**#4** Pause to breathe, think and enhance vocal variety.

**#5** Do not read to your audience. If you need to cue yourself from the visuals, simply pause. Once you have digested the

## Spring 2006 Conference

This year's Spring conference was held May 5th at St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. We had a host of excellent speakers and presentations. One very special guest, who flew all the way from Washington, D.C. was Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions.

Senator Sessions addressed questions such as: "With the recent influx of the Latino/Hispanic population, what impact will this have on our healthcare infrastructure?" Alabama HIMSS President Steve Anderson presented Senator Sessions with a gift card of thanks.



Dear Alabama HIMSS Members,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Alabama HIMSS Board of Directors, and as Chapter President for the 2006-2007 term. I believe strongly in HIMSS, both Nationally and in our state, and feel that we have the opportunity to improve healthcare through the effective use of information technology.

The State of Alabama has a large and strong healthcare market, which is a significant segment of our economy and our lives. We all undoubtedly have a strong desire to build a safe, effective, efficient, and accessible healthcare system. As Healthcare IT Professionals we are part of the driving force behind the future of healthcare in our state. My hope is that the Alabama Chapter of HIMSS can continue to support you in your efforts within your organizations, and in your professional development.

Alabama HIMSS has been recognized nationally for its membership efforts in both 2005 and 2006. I am hopeful that we can continue that trend as we strive to provide high quality education, and support for the health information technology community.

As president, my goal is to "First do no harm". Our chapter has been very successful in providing excellent bi-annual educational conferences for the benefit of our members, and the healthcare community at large. I hope to build on that tradition by developing relationships with other organizations and professional associations in our state. I believe that working together we can provide both educational and professional development benefit, as well as strengthen the communication among healthcare professionals in support of regional and national initiatives such as the formation of Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs) and the National Health Information Network (NHIN).

Lastly, I would like to invite our members to be active in HIMSS both at the Chapter and National level. The Board is continually looking for opportunities to engage with members. If you are interested in becoming involved in the Alabama Chapter of HIMSS, please approach any board member, or provide your contact information in the designated section of the conference evaluation form.

I thank you again for your participation in HIMSS and look forward to seeing everyone at the HIMSS07 National conference in New Orleans, February 25<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sincerely,  
Matt Wyatt, President Alabama HIMSS

### Spring 2006 Conference Sponsors

#### Diamond Sponsor

EMC<sup>2</sup>

#### Gold Sponsors

LBMC

Siemens

Emageon

Clear Winds

Check Point

#### Silver Sponsors

Cerner

API Software

Awarix

#### Bronze Sponsors

maxIT HealthCare

Aionex

**Thanks to all of them for making our Spring conference a Success!!**