

House of Delegates Year in Review

[Save to myBoK](#)

By Elizabeth Delahoussaye, RHIA, CHPS

This has been a busy and engaging year for the members of the House of Delegates (HoD) as we build on the present and prepare for the future.

For those who may not be familiar with the HoD, it is a grassroots AHIMA member forum that governs the health information management (HIM) profession. Comprised of delegates elected or appointed from each of the 52 [Component State Associations](#) (CSAs) and the [AHIMA Board of Directors](#), the HoD is chaired by the Speaker of the House and is organized into two standing teams that are led by co-chairs and ad hoc task forces. These teams provide a forum for delegate discussion, debate, scanning, and problem solving to advance the HIM profession.

Through their hard work and dedication, we would like to highlight some of the HoD accomplishments from this past year:

- **House Leadership:** The House Leadership Team focused on refining and discussing the tools and processes used for coordination, collaboration, and communication with the work of other groups.
- **Envisioning Collaborative:** The Envisioning Collaborative developed the [2016 Environmental Scan report](#). This important document is used by the AHIMA Board of Directors to inform strategy. Top trending items from the 2016 report included cybersecurity, mobile health apps, and the rise of Millennials in the workplace.
- **Task Forces:** Throughout the year a call to serve is sent to delegates on a variety of topics impacting the HIM profession. This year, the HoD created the following task forces—Delegate Engagement, Standards of Ethical Coding, Ethical Standards for Clinical Documentation Improvement Professionals (CDIP), and use of the Engage community.
- **Professional Practice:** Over 12 Practice Briefs, toolkits, and best practice statements were vetted.
- **Forums:** The HoD hosted a series of forums on a variety of HIM-related topics, including data breach, patient-generated health data and patient ID, and health IT standards.
- **Advocacy:** The HoD continues to play a key role in advocacy efforts. Many delegates participated in social media and Hill Day this past March and helped urge members and the public to sign the MyHealthID petition.
- **Action Items:** The HoD action item—proposed revisions to the Standards for CDIP—was up for discussion in 2016. It was voted on and approved in May.
- **Voting:** In August the HoD voted to select the 2017 Nominating Committee and Speaker-elect of the HoD.

The House of Delegates works virtually year-round and meets in person once a year to address important issues of the HIM profession. The 2016-2017 HoD plans to meet on Sunday, October 16 at the AHIMA Annual Convention and Exhibit in Baltimore, MD. With a special focus on the future of HIM, October's face-to-face meeting will include interactive sessions where delegates will participate in discussions on generational differences, workforce changes and opportunities, healthcare technology, and HIM Reimagined, the follow-up to Reality 2016.

I would like to thank the delegates for volunteering their time and talents.

Elizabeth A. Delahoussaye (elizabeth.delahoussaye@cioxhealth.com) is senior vice president of privacy and compliance at CIOX Health.

Article citation:

Delahoussaye, Elizabeth A. "House of Delegates Year in Review" *Journal of AHIMA* 87, no.10 (October 2016): 20.

Driving the Power of Knowledge

Copyright 2022 by The American Health Information Management Association. All Rights Reserved.