

***Welcome to New Leadership...EHR Association Provides Guidance on
HITECH Regulations...Looking Forward to National Health IT
Week...Special Deal at HIMSS11...Recap of HIMSS10 in Atlanta... and More***

**Chairman's Message: Justin Barnes
(Greenway Medical Technologies)**

As I congratulate our incoming Chair, Vice Chair and new Executive Committee members, I'm wrapping up my second term as your Chairman. These past two years have been remarkable for our industry. For many of us who have been working to advance the adoption of EHRs toward the betterment of healthcare in the US, the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) represented the realization of our shared objectives. But, as we've seen, that was just the beginning of the work we still have ahead of us to ensure that federal and state programs are practical, and that funding is distributed fairly to provider organizations that are now challenged to implement and "meaningfully use" EHR systems.

I've had the privilege of working with a great team on the Executive Committee and Workgroups. In particular, I want to recognize the contributions of Mark Segal (GE), Mickey McGlynn (Siemens), Charlie Jarvis (NextGen), Rick Reeves (CPSI), Charlene Underwood (Siemens) and Jacob Reider, MD (AllScripts) who led our workgroups and other efforts to develop formal responses to proposed regulations for meaningful use and certification. And I want to thank these individuals and others who participated in meetings with ONC, CMS and other policymakers to educate and represent our collective experience in the development and deployment of complex EHR technologies.

My thanks also to Charles Parisot (GE) and Bob Barker (NextGen) for their leadership in the area of standards and interoperability. They have helped the Association stay the course in our positions on these issues, providing education to our membership and guidance to the industry in general as we strive to "walk the talk".

Mark Segal has been an invaluable asset as Vice Chair of the Association, providing support not only to me in our Executive Committee roles, but also participating in a number of important initiatives on behalf of the entire membership. My sincere thanks to Mark.

And, of course, I have to thank HIMSS staff – Amenia Bussell, EHR Association Manager, Tim Castallo, Coordinator and Gail Arnett, Senior Director, EHR Association and Corporate Membership. They do an amazing job of keeping us organized and providing full-time support, as we're all flying around the country and the world trying to keep up with our day jobs as well as build an effective, respected Association.

It has been my privilege to serve as your Chairman for these past two years. I will continue to be part of the leadership team and look forward to working with everyone as our industry steps up to unprecedented opportunity.

Welcome New Members!

We want to recognize two new EHR Association members – MedComSoft and DocComply – to our ranks. We look forward to working with them in the upcoming months.

**Congratulations and Welcome to New
and Re-Elected Leadership**

We want to congratulate these individuals who were elected to the Association's Executive Committee during our May 11 All-Member call, with Chair and Vice Chair elections taking place on the June 8 All-Member call.

Carl Dvorak (Epic) and Charlie Jarvis (NextGen Healthcare) have been elected Chair and Vice Chair of the EHR Association, effective July 1,

2010. Each will serve in his respective role for a 1-year term. Please join us in congratulating Carl and Charlie on their new leadership roles.

Carl and Charlie each bring more than 20 years of HIT industry experience in both the ambulatory and enterprise space. Carl is Executive Vice President of Epic. He is a founding member of the Association and served on the EHR Association's first Executive Committee. Carl was re-elected to the Executive Committee in 2009. Charlie is Vice President for Healthcare Services and Government Relations at NextGen Healthcare Information Systems. He was first elected to the Executive Committee in 2007 and his leadership roles in the Association include serving as Chair of the Communications Workgroup, the Government Initiatives Workgroup and the Ambulatory SIG. Most recently, he served as Vice Chair for the Government Initiatives Workgroup.

Representing enterprise EHR vendors for a two-year term:

- Rick Reeves (CPSI) – Rick has served as Certification Workgroup chair and on the Executive Committee since 2006.
- Mickey McGlynn (Siemens) – Mickey has provided leadership on the Government Affairs Workgroup since 2008.
- Carl Dvorak (Epic) – Carl was a founding member, serving on the Executive Committee from 2004 to 2006, then was re-elected in 2009.

Representing ambulatory EHR vendors:

- Jacob Reider, MD (AllScripts) – Dr. Reider has served on the Executive Committee since 2009, and has been re-elected for a two-year term.

Representing ambulatory EHR vendors for a one-year term:

- Pamela Chapman (eMDs) – Pamela is newly elected to the Executive Committee.

Special thanks to Justin Barnes (VP, Marketing, Corporate & Government Affairs - Greenway Medical) and Mark Segal (VP, Government & Industry Affairs - GE Healthcare) for their service to the EHR Association as Chairman and Vice Chair. We are deeply appreciative of the leadership both have provided to the Association and to the industry. The last two years have been an unprecedented and dynamic time for the EHR Association and the HIT industry as a whole. Their dedicated leadership and steadfast commitment have proven successful in positioning the Association as the recognized industry leader in expertise, collaboration, innovation, and advocacy on EHR related issues. Thank you both very much.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank Maria Rudolph, formerly of eMDs, for her service on both the Executive Committee and the Communications Workgroup. Maria's experience with ambulatory EHRs and with various professional groups was an asset that will be missed. We wish Maria well in her future endeavors.

EHR Association Responds to ONC and CMS on Standards, Certification and Meaningful Use

The Association mounted a concentrated effort to review and respond to Interim Final Rules (IFRs) from ONC on standards and certification, as well as CMS' Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on meaningful use. No other such collaboration in the history of the Association has drawn as much interest from member companies, given the impact that these regulations will have on our members and their customers.

Similarly, led by Rick Reeves (CPSI), we also developed detailed comments on ONC's proposals for new temporary and permanent certification programs. All of these documents are available on our public web site under the Resource Center link at <http://www.himssehra.org/ASP/statements.asp>.

Use this information to educate your colleagues and customers on these complex topics.

Strategic Planning Session Brings Association Members Together

Members of the Executive Committee and other Association members will attend a Strategic Planning meeting in Washington DC on June 9 to lay out goals and objectives for our advocacy efforts in the upcoming year. Our fiscal and operating year starts on July 1, to coordinate with HIMSS' budget cycle. With so much activity at the federal level that impacts our businesses and our customers, we want to ensure that our time and focus is well targeted to represent the best interests of our member companies. Stay tuned for follow-up information on our July 13 All-Member call.

National Health IT Week – Washington, DC June 14-18

On the heels of enactment of economic stimulus and healthcare reform legislation, National Health IT Week 2010, now in its fifth year, will provide an opportunity for the health IT community to come together to examine the current policy landscape and raise awareness on the benefits that health IT can bring to healthcare in the US.

This year's theme is "One Voice, One Vision: Transforming Health and Care", and events will take place June 14-18 in Washington, DC. Your involvement in events throughout the week will send our nation's policymakers a powerful message on the importance of fostering the widespread use of health IT to improve patient safety and healthcare quality. Of particular focus is the HIMSS Public Policy Summit on June 16 which leads into an afternoon on Capitol Hill meeting with your Congressional representatives, senators and their healthcare staff.

The EHR Association is a National Health IT Week Partner. As a HIMSS corporate member, your company can gain visibility and learn more about participation through this no-charge partnership program. For additional information visit <http://www.healthitweek.org/>.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR EHR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS: Opportunity for Shared Exhibit Space at HIMSS11

Once again, HIMSS is offering a shared booth space for EHR Association member companies that may not be planning to exhibit at HIMSS11 in Orlando, February 20-24. This is a great package deal which has been enhanced this year to include 4 exhibitor badges and 1 client badge for each company. The 40x50 booth is located on the center aisle, #249, in Hall A-1. This space will accommodate up to 12 kiosks. The \$3950 package includes:

- Turn-key kiosk with seating, electrical, internet, graphic panel, four exhibitor badges and one client badge.
- Listing in the Online HIMSS Buyers Guide, Pocket and Resource Guide (if contracted prior to 12/15/10).

Contacts: Amenia Bussell (abussell@himss.org), Kelly Laidler (klaidler@himss.org), Tia Peterson (tpeterson@himss.org) or Becky Washler (bwashler@himss.org) for further information and to secure your space in the EHR Association member booth at HIMSS11.

EHR Association at HIMSS10 in Atlanta

With more than half of EHR Association member firms exhibiting at HIMSS10, and with a full slate of Association meetings during the week, it was a jam packed time for everyone. With record-setting attendance and miles of Georgia World Congress Center hallways and exhibit hall aisles, every minute was filled with important stakeholder meetings, customer events and

getting from one place to the next. Highlights include:

- Our annual all-member meeting, attended by 40 individuals representing 24 member firms. The featured speaker was Janet Marchibroda, now working with ONC as vendor liaison. The meeting was followed by a reception and dinner, where we were joined by former National Coordinator, Rob Kolodner, MD.
- Members were invited to meet privately with representatives from CCHIT as well as the Collaborative, an initiative focused on using EHRs to driving quality programs.
- The Executive Committee also had private meetings with MGMA, PEHRC, NIST, HL7, HITSP, the National eHealth Collaborative, ACP and IHE-USA.

EHR Association Workgroups

Some brief workgroup updates:

Government Initiatives Workgroup:

- This workgroup is focused on the June 9 Strategy Session, as well as follow-up activity from our May "listening session" with ONC.

Certification Workgroup:

- CCHIT has updated the 2011 certification requirements to align with the proposed criteria in the IFR. Vendors who have achieved 2011 certification will not be assessed fees for incremental review and certification based on these new criteria.

Standards & Interoperability Workgroup:

- The Standards and Interoperability Workgroup led our effort to develop *Implementation Guidance for ARRA Stage 1 Interoperability*, based on the EHR Association Interoperability Roadmap, with recommendations to the industry about how to comply with final rules in a manner that supports practical implementation of current standards to position provider organizations and their EHR vendors to be ready for Stage 2 requirements. This

document will be available on our web site shortly.

Much of the Association's success is based on the great work of volunteers who collaborate as part of workgroups. We encourage participation in their regular conference calls.

Remember, the more you get involved, the more your organization and your customers will get out of the EHR Association. Contact Amenia Bussell at abussell@himss.org and she'll add you to the list for workgroup call notices and dial-in information.

- **Government Initiatives – Mickey McGlynn, Chair (Siemens) and Charlie Jarvis, Vice-Chair (NextGen)** – Regular calls on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 2pm/ ET.
- **Standards and Interoperability – Charles Parisot, Chair (GE)** – Monthly calls on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:30pm/ET.
- **Certification Workgroup – Rick Reeves, Chair (CPSI)** – Calls are scheduled when new certification criteria require public comment.
- **Acceleration Workgroup – Charlene Underwood, Chair (Siemens) and Jacob Reider, MD, Vice-Chair (Allscripts)** – Conference calls are held on the first Monday of each month at 1:00pm/ET.
- **Membership Workgroup – Justin Barnes, Chair (Greenway) and Barbara Hobbs, Vice-Chair (Meditech)** – Calls are held when there are new member applications to be reviewed.
- **Communications Workgroup – Mike Nolte (GE Healthcare)** – Calls for this workgroup are on the third Tuesday of the month at 11:00am/ET.
- **Quality/Clinical Decision Support Special Interest Group – Jacob Reider, MD (Allscripts), Chair** – The Quality/Clinical Decision Support SIG holds its monthly call on the third Friday at 1:00pm/ET.

- **All-Member Calls** are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 12:30pm ET. Important information is shared with the membership by Association leaders, and votes are taken on positions and operational issues. You will be notified at least three days in advance of the call, with supporting materials as necessary. These calls are of particular importance since your organization, through its membership in the EHR Association, will be represented by Association positions and statements. Be sure your company is present to vote and be heard.

Useful Information

Amenia Bussell, Manager EHR Association, HIMSS can be reached at (734) 477-0864 or abussell@himss.org.

Details on certification requirements and a list of certified EHRs can be found at www.cchit.org.

Ideas for public relations outreach and other opportunities to broaden awareness of the EHR Association should be sent to Liddy West at ewest123@msn.com.