PRESIDENT’S WELCOME MESSAGE
Tim Wong, MBA, CPHIMS, PMP

Hello everyone and welcome to the Spring Edition of the New England HIMSS newsletter. We are delighted to share information about our chapter highlighting our most recent and upcoming events, new sponsors, interesting themes in our marketplace, and much more!

We started 2019 on a positive note with an educational and social event titled “Blockchain and Dueling CIOs” in January bringing in over 100 members to this standing room only occasion. Our New Hampshire and Vermont Conference in April brought various members across New England together at this sold out event.

Looking ahead, the New England HIMSS Chapter has an incredible lineup of events still to come including our annual Spring Conference in May at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, MA. Our incredible committees are working tirelessly to bring the best possible programs, and part of being able to do that lies with our Sponsorship. We would like to thank our current Sponsors for their committed contributions to our chapter; because without them, we would not be able to continue to take our events to the next level. We hope to see and meet as many of you as possible at our upcoming events, and welcome any questions, comments, and thoughts you may have.

IN THIS ISSUE

Chapter Updates 2
HIMSS19 Global Conference 3
Recent Chapter Events 4
Featured Interview: Pat Rioux, RHIA 5
Featured Interview: Monique Czulewicz 6
A Message from Advocacy 7
Sponsor Spotlight: Lenovo Health 7

Interested in attending a monthly board meeting? Contact us to attend an upcoming meeting: ne.secretary@himsschapter.org

Interested in volunteering for a committee? Contact us for more information on how you can be involved: ne.membership@himsschapter.org
New England HIMSS Annual Spring Conference 2019 – May 16, 2019

New England HIMSS Annual Spring Conference will be held from 8:30am to 5:30pm EDT at the Gillette Stadium at Foxborough, MA on May 16, 2019. It will be an exciting mix of discussions, presentations by industry leaders and academicians, a networking session, and great food. The conference has been generously sponsored by Bluebird Tech Solutions, Cornerstone Advisory Group, Dolbey, Eink, Infor, Lenovo Health, Obix, Ordr, Solution Reach, Vecna, and Versatile Health. Registration is now open now! Reserve your tickets today!

New LinkedIn Chapter Page

New England HIMSS has launched a new chapter LinkedIn page! This public-facing page is a great spot to join in open discussions, see pictures of the latest chapter events and read about trending issues. Check out our brand new LinkedIn page and follow the page to keep up with the latest information!

NEHIMSS Chapter Elections

The New England Chapter of HIMSS engages its membership-at-large for nominations and the election of the following Executive Board of Directors: President Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary. An appointed nomination committee selected by the existing Executive Board is charged with ensuring all nominees meet the minimum requirements and qualifications of the respective position. The nomination committee has oversight of the election balloting and communication of the results for the newly elected Executive Board of Directors to the New England Chapter members.

All members of HIMSS in good standing are eligible to vote for the 2019-2020 Board of Directors. The election will be conducted electronically using a third party and voting will be open from May 10, 2019 to June 10, 2019. NEHIMSS looks forward to participation from all members in the voting process. Please check out our website for more information about nominees, election process, voting information, and more.

Upcoming Educational Event – Save the Date!

The New England HIMSS Chapter is planning an educational event at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island on August 22, 2019. The event will be held in Ochre Court, Salve Regina’s main administration building, which is a beautiful Louis XIV style mansion directly on the Newport Cliff Walk (pictured to the right, courtesy of Salve Regina University). The event will focus healthcare cybersecurity and telehealth.
HIMSS19 took place in Orlando, Florida February 11-15, 2019. The major themes of HIMSS19 included patient-centered care, interoperability, and emerging technologies such as blockchain and FHIR. The New England HIMSS Chapter held a networking event at HIMSS19 generously sponsored by InterSystems.
The New England HIMSS Chapter Student Event was held at Northeastern University and focused on use of data visualization in healthcare. Yixuan (Janice) Zhang, a PhD candidate for Personal Health Informatics at Northeastern University, demonstrated how her team developed interactive tools to help visualize and adjust Type 1 diabetes management plans. Janice discussed the importance and impact of data visualization on clinical decision making and healthcare interventions. The event was moderated by Jay Spitulnik, NEHIMSS Student Committee Chair. The presentation was followed by a round of discussions where students exchanged ideas about data visualization methods, and a networking session with NEHIMSS board members including Tim Wong, Jay Spitulnik, and Mary Dolan.

The New England HIMSS New Hampshire/Vermont Conference was held in Lebanon, NH and focused on major healthcare topics including payer claims, healthcare technology, and population health. The conference concluded with a CIO panel hosted by Tim Wong, NEHIMSS Chapter President. The NH/VT Conference was a sold-out event and the venue proved to be a huge hit with conference attendees!
Pat Rioux is the Secretary of the New England HIMSS Chapter for 2018-2019. Pat began volunteering her time with NEHIMSS at local events where she created name badges and assisted with set up, which eventually lead her to serving on various committees with NEHIMSS. Though Pat’s responsibilities over the years have varied, her passion for the organization and healthcare has remained the same. She highly recommends members volunteer to serve on the NEHIMSS Board to learn more about the organization and meet like-minded people.

Pat’s interests in healthcare began early on when she took a college course to determine careers of interest and discovered Health Information Management. Interestingly at the time, the course was called Medical Record Science. Her first role involved quality of care studies in the Medical Records Department at a community hospital. The opportunities to learn about coding, compliance, and research in the medical records department opened doors for her.

Pat indicated the switch to electronic health records (EHRs) has a great impact on her since she waited 30 years for it. “Since the Internet changed everything in all aspects of business, it has been exciting to see patients have access to their medical data through patient portals, apps, and other electronic means. We still have a long way to go to make EHRs better serve clinicians’ needs, but she agrees it is better than a world of paper record.”

PAT’S RECOMMENDED READS:
- Death by a Thousand Clicks: Where Electronic Health Records Went Wrong
- Mergers and acquisitions not leading to promised EHR integration
- HIMSS19: Loud and clear message from feds on patient data: It belongs to patients
- Medicine in Denial
Monique Czulewicz is the Treasurer for the New England HIMSS Chapter for 2018-2019. She has a background in information technology and developed an interest in health systems. She volunteered at hospitals to gain knowledge in healthcare.

Monique's interest in Health Information Technology (HIT) was influenced by a close family friend, Kathy Sperrazza, BSN. Kathy introduced her to a role, as an analyst, at iMDsoft Inc. where she learned the fundamentals of ICU and OR workflows. In 2014, Monique became a member of NEHIMSS. It elevated her professional network and helped her acquire new industry leads. First, Monique teamed with the Programs Committee and served as a coordinator for the 2016 & 2017 NEHIMSS Annual Spring Conference at Gillette Stadium. Later in 2017, she led efforts to donate to local charities. The goal was to align with the organizations mission statement and to make a positive impact on others. That year, the NEHIMSS board approved $3,000.00 in charitable donations.

Monique currently works under President Tim Wong alongside Secretary Pat Rioux. She will continue to serve as the chapter Treasurer for the 2019-2020 term under President Elect, Jeff Loughlin. Her responsibilities include recording the cash flow for every NEHIMSS events, ensuring that contracts with venues are paid in a timely fashion, coordinating the invoices for sponsors, managing checks for annual donations, and helping with the annual audit process.

In her spare time, Monique enjoys being with family and friends at Candlewood Lake, Connecticut.

MONIQUE’S RECOMMENDED READS:

- CMS Office of Actuary Releases 2018-2027 Projections of National Health Expenditures
- Forbes: 10 Recent Examples of Powerful Innovation in Healthcare
- Harvard Business Review: How to Orchestrate Change from the Bottom Up
Health information technology and healthcare generally are greatly impacted by decisions made by legislators and regulators. Oftentimes those decisions are made with the best of intentions, but without necessarily having the best information. We aim to be a resource to the states covered by the New England Chapter by providing frontline views and information. Anyone can advocate for any issue that is important to them.

Advocacy priorities each year are established by HIMSS at the national level to ensure some consistency in efforts. The current focal points established by HIMSS national include public health infrastructure, interoperability, cybersecurity, and patient engagement. Please consider your connection to one or more of these topics and identify how you would like to shape policy. For more information about the committee or for information on how to engage in advocacy, please reach out to the Advocacy Committee.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: LENOVO HEALTH

“As a long-standing sponsor of New England HIMSS, Lenovo Health is excited to be at the forefront of technology innovation. I am proud of our work with NEHIMSS and our regional healthcare systems to help provide better outcomes for patients throughout New England.”

– Michael Ronan, Lenovo Health

A special thank you to Lenovo Health for sponsoring the Super Bowl Ring presentation at the New England HIMSS Annual Conference at Gillette Stadium!

Lenovo is the world’s #1 PC manufacturer and is leading the Intelligent Transformation through smart devices and infrastructure that drives the new customer experience. Their comprehensive portfolio of hardware and software solutions is changing the healthcare industry for a better tomorrow. Their vast portfolio supports the administration, clinical and remote care needs of healthcare facilities with cloud, security and mobility solutions and accessories that streamline workflow and bring data closer to the patient and clinician. They also help our healthcare customers to strengthen their IT infrastructure with highly reliable, scalable and award-winning data center solutions that drive continuous uptime and lower total cost of ownership. In the end, Lenovo Health helps empower healthcare professionals to provide better quality care that improves clinical outcomes and engages patients throughout their care journey. Follow Lenovo Health on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or visit www.lenovo.com. Take a look at our other generous sponsors on the New England HIMSS Sponsorship page.