**President’s Address**

By: Sarah R. Keppen, HIM Club President

Welcome, I hope you enjoy 1st edition of hopefully many club newsletters. The other club officers and I decided that we wanted to let all of you HIM program students more about the club and what we have done so far this year.

Looking back this past fall, the HIM Club had a very busy semester. We cleaned up our section of highway 19, had another successful blood drive, went galactic bowling, sponsored healthcare speaker event for Hi&T Week, and took a trip to Bodies Human exhibit in Watertown.

The club is currently getting ready for another fun-filled semester of activities. If you have any ideas for activities, we welcome any suggestions. Ideas can be emailed to any club officer listed on page 6.

**Day With Santa Provides Fun for All**

By Donelle McClaren

The Day With Santa was a fun filled event for all. The children loved to be in the pool of shredded paper as they looked for a sack of prizes. We filled brown paper lunch sacks with miscellaneous small items like candy, action men, party toys, craft kits, etc. There were 325 sacks filled and we ran out before the end of the event. The Chamber of Commerce prepared for approximately 500 children and that may be what we should use next year. The number of children participating in the day of holiday fun varies from year to year but as we have participated in the event, we have increased the number of activity items we prepare. The HIM Club booth is a popular spot for the children because we always have something different and they are looking forward to see what we have next year.

Participation from the club is needed to do this event which is held the second Saturday of December each year. Sarah Keppen, Donelle McClaren, and Rachel Berens helped to prepare the goody sacks for the event. If you choose to do the same activity we suggest you purchase items in bulk/gross from Oriental Trading Post or somewhere comparative. They are online and inexpensive. Sarah Keppen and Donelle McClaren tended the booth this year and extra hands could have been used.

**Madison area children loved to be in the pool of shredded paper as they looked for a sack of prizes.**
The HIM Club would like to welcome new and returning HIM students to Dakota State University. We have started this newsletter in an effort to inform students on who we are and what the HIM Club is all about. We hope to keep you informed of our previous activities as well as future activities so if you would like to participate we would love to have you join us. If you have any questions or comments please note the officer list on the back page and feel free to contact any of us. Enjoy and have a great semester.

HIM Club President’s Advice to HIM Students

By: Sarah R. Keppen, President

As a fellow HIM program student I would like to give you some advice that I hope you’ll find helpful. I encourage you to take advantage of the resources that are available to you as a HIM student. There are so many opportunities to connect with people while in college. Get connected with upper-level students. They have been where you are, and will have great advice to give you. Get connected with HIM professionals in field. They might be willing to hire you when you graduate or even just be a mentor to you as a student and later on as a new HIM professional. I think that it’s so important to get connected to as many as people as you can in your college career. Fortunately as an HIM student you have a resource that will help you make those all important connections. The HIM Club can help you get in touch with other HIM students and professionals that can help you in your college career and later on as an HIM professional. Take advantage of this as soon as you can and you will soon be reaping benefits that will last you a lifetime.

Did You Know?

A health record and a personal health record (PHR) are not the same thing. A health record is information about your health compiled and maintained by each of your healthcare providers. A PHR is information about your health compiled and maintained by you.

Holiday Pot Luck Social

By: Roxanna Williams

In December the HIM Club hosted a holiday potluck social and gift exchange for HIM students. We had a delicious turkey hot dish, vegetable dish, various salads and holiday treats. After dinner and a short meeting gifts were exchanged. Holiday plans were a big topic for conversation. To end the evening the sacks were filled with little prizes for the Day With Santa event.

Donelie helps to set up the potluck dishes and treats at the Holiday Social.
HIM Club Hosts Trip to Bodies Human Exhibit

by Rachel Berens

Three Health Information Management members and two members from the Math and Science club traveled to Watertown, SD in November to view the Human Body Exhibit. The exhibit displayed over 100 authentic human specimens, including whole bodies and individual organs. It was very educational in regards to learning how the human body works as well as to show the effects of poor health.

Dakota State University Hosts Scrub Camp

by Rachel Berens

Two Health Information Management members and two Student Ambassadors volunteered their time to help with the DSU Scrub Camp. The camp was for high school students wanting to learn more about healthcare careers. The students broke into two groups and one HIM member and one student ambassador went with each group. The students spoke with Dakota State professors about the different health related degrees offered at Dakota State. They included: Dale Droge & Donna Hazelwood discussing the Natural Science degrees, Bruce Feistner discussing the Respiratory Care degrees, and Joyce Havlik discussing the Health Information Management. Other speakers the students listened to were Chuck Kevghas speaking on Bioterrorism, Dr. Hansen and Dr. Schuurmans speaking on Professional Dentistry, Dr. Brooke and Dr. Long speaking on Professional Optometry, and Jim Iverson speaking on Long Term Care. The students also received a tour of the Madison Community Hospital and were able to ask employees questions about their jobs.

DSU Health Fair

By: Sarah R. Keppen

The HIM Club sponsored a booth at the DSU Health Fair on November 12th. We handed out information and quiz about common household products than cure common ailments such as an ulcer or canker sore. Participants that stopped by to take the quiz were entered in a drawing to win prizes that were featured in the quiz such as honey, licorice, and ginger root. We also passed out emergency medical cards and band-aids.

Did you know?

If you put pepper on a cut it will stop the bleeding and the wound will heal cleanly with little, if any, scarring.
HIM Club Sponsors Successful Fall Blood Drive

By: Sarah R. Keppen, Coordinator

Every semester the HIM Club sponsors a blood drive. The Community Bloodmobile stopped the DSU main campus on October 20th. According to Rita Nelson of the regional community blood bank, 42 pints of blood were collected. Each pint of blood will help up to three seriously ill patients in the Madison, SD area. The club has been sponsoring a blood drive for many years. Last year we reached the milestone of having reached 1000th donation. That is quite an accomplishment. The club should really be proud of its efforts.

If you are interested in helping organize the spring blood drive contact me at kep-pens@pluto.dsu.edu. Volunteers are needed to make flyers to put around campus, sit at sign-up booth, and inform the campus community about the drive.

Health Information Management Club Benefits Students

By: Roxanna Williams

The Dakota State University Health Information Management (HIM) Club is a student organization that promotes the field of Health Information Management. Membership is open to all students currently enrolled or interested in the Health Information Technology Program, the Health Information Administration Program, and the Healthcare Coding Certificate at Dakota State University.

What are some of the benefits of having a student organization for health information management students?

Socialization and Support:

The HIM Club brings students in these fields of study together to share ideas and concerns with the courses. The club gives students of all levels a chance to interact and work together to promote the Health Information Programs and get involved with other health related activities.

Networking with Professionals:

As a member of the club, students are encouraged to attend state health conferences and state HIMA conventions. Attending these meetings provides an opportunity for students to network with health related professionals and gain a better understanding of their field of study. These networking opportunities also introduce students to additional health related facilities where their skills may be used in addition to hospitals and medical clinics. As a result the club is asked to participate in many projects for healthcare facilities and help with state and national organization projects, such as the American Health (Information Management Association (AHIMA) Electronic Newsletter.

Service to Others (on campus and in the community):

The HIM Club also gives students a chance to get involved in campus activities and the community. Our club participates in health fairs, activity fairs and the DSU homecoming parade. We hold a blood drive during the fall semester and during the spring semester. We have also adopted a section of highway that we clean up during each semester as a way to get together and give back to the community. Other activities we are involved in include celebrating Health Information Technology Week and Health Information Privacy and Security Week as well as State and National Conventions.

All of these activities help to build a positive reputation for the HIM Club and the Health Information Management Programs at Dakota State University. The Director of DSU’s HIM Programs, Dorine Bennett, adds “Our students are entering a career field with a strong professional organization of component state and national associations. We hope that their involvement in the DSU HIM Club will encourage their future participation in their professional associations as well.” For more information regarding club activities, please feel free to visit our website at http://www.clubs.dsu.edu/him/.
HIT Week Brings Informative Speakers

By: Sarah R. Keppen

The Health Information Management (HIM) Club celebrated Health Information and Technology Week November 2-8. This week is designated by the American Health Information Management Association to recognize the work of those healthcare professionals nationwide. In honor of Health Information and Technology (HIT) Week, the Health Information Management (HIM) Club sponsored talks by two health information management professionals.

Renae Spohn, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ, FAHIMA, FNAHQ gave a presentation based on the theme of this year’s HIT Week, “The Strength of, The Power of Care”. Renae Spohn works for the Good Samaritan Society as Director of Clinical Applications. She is also on the American Health Information Management Association board of directors. Healthcare in South Dakota is on the cutting edge of technology with adaption of electronic health records. Patti Brooks, MSIS, MBA, RHIA gave a presentation about Avera Health’s transition to the electronic health record. She also spoke about the job opportunities in healthcare IT. Patti Brooks is the director of the IT department at Avera Queen of Peace Health System in Mitchell, SD.

In addition to the two wonderful speakers, the club provided food and drinks for attendees. A fun evening was had by all who attended. This event was recorded and is available for viewing at http://video.dsuedu/downloads/bennettd/110408.wmv

HIM Club Calendar

FALL SEMESTER 2008

September
September 17th – Fall HIM Program Welcome Social
September 31st – Fall Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

October
October 20th – Fall Campus Blood Drive
October 24th – Galactic Bowling Night
October 25th – Bodies Human Exhibit Outing

November
November 4th – Health Information & Technology Week Speaker Event
November 10th – DSU Scrub Camp
November 12th – DSU Health Fair

December
December 9th – Holiday Social
December 13th – Day with Santa

SPRING SEMESTER 2009

January
January 26th – Pizza Ranch Fundraiser
January 26th – Campus HIM Club Social
TBA – Sioux Falls HIM Club Social
TBA – Juvenile Diabetes Association Mall Walk

February
TBA – First Club Meeting of 2009
TBA – Make valentines for Madison area nursing homes
TBA – Movie Night to West Twin Theater or West Mall Theater (location will be announced at later date)

March
TBA – Club Trip

April
April 20th – Spring Campus Blood Drive
TBA – Health Information Privacy and Security Week Activities (Week of April 12th – 14th)
TBA – Spring Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup
TBA – HIM Program Graduate Banquet
HIM CLUB OBJECTIVES

♦ To promote the Health Information Management Programs.

♦ To provide students interested in Health Information Management with an opportunity to meet and become acquainted with others who share their interests.

♦ To encourage the ethical and professional development which brings into practice the skills and values set forth in the Health Information Management Programs.

♦ To foster a sense of service to the campus and community by encouraging participation in events and projects that benefit these groups.

HIM Club Officers 2008–2009

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Each officer has their own page. Click on the links to find out more about us!!

Editor: Roxanna Williams