

IHIMA SPOTLIGHT SERIES

PRESIDENT ELECT

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our IHIMA Spotlight Series! In this ongoing series, we aim to illuminate the roles within our Board of Directors, offering you a close-up view of the extraordinary opportunities that lie in store for you as an IHIMA member. And what better way to commence this journey than by exploring the multifaceted role of the President-Elect?

ROLE OVERVIEW

The President-Elect is a cornerstone of IHIMA, ensuring leadership continuity and fostering the growth and success of our organization. Here are some of the core responsibilities that make this position so pivotal:

- Acting as President in Absence: The President-Elect assumes the duties of the President in their absence, disability, or inability to act, ensuring a seamless transition and uninterrupted leadership.
- Executive Board Member
- Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee: Lead the charge in setting our long-term objectives, helping to chart the course for IHIMA's future.
- Delegate to AHIMA House of Delegates: This is your ticket to influence the health information management field on a national level, participating in crucial decision-making processes.



COMMITTEE/TRAVEL RESPONSIBILITIES

In addition to the above-mentioned responsibilities, the President-Elect takes on the following crucial roles and travel commitments:

- Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee
 - Shaping our organization's strategic direction and ensuring IHIMA's future success.
- Delegate to AHIMA House of Delegates
 - Representing our organization on a national stage, engaging in impactful decision-making processes.
- Member of the Scholarship Committee
 - Contributing to the development of future leaders in our field through scholarship programs.
- Ex Officio Member of the Professional Development Committee
 - Enhancing the professional growth and opportunities of all IHIMA members.
- Advocacy Summit in Washington D.C.
 - A unique opportunity to advocate for critical issues in the heart of the nation's capital.
- AHIMA's Leadership Conference
 - Network with like-minded professionals and gain insights into the latest industry trends.

ELECTORAL PROCESS



The President-Elect is an elected position.

President-Elect serves one term in this capacity and, upon its completion, progresses to a one-year term as President.

To be eligible for this role, candidates must be active IHIMA members in good standing **and possess previous board experience.**



YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

The President-Elect position is not just a title; it's a chance to make a lasting impact on IHIMA, your career, and the health information management field. It's an opportunity to lead, influence, and shape the future.

If you believe you have what it takes to excel in this esteemed position, we encourage you to express your interest and take the next step in your journey with IHIMA during the 2024/2025 call for nominations in a few weeks.

MEET OUR BOARD

JAMEY MCGOWEN, MBA, RHIA,
CDIP, CCS



JAMEY IS IHIMA'S 2023/2024 PRESIDENT ELECT. SHE IS THE CDI/CODING DIRECTOR FOR ECU HEALTH IN NORTH CAROLINA, AS WELL AS AN HIM ADJUNCT LECTURER FOR INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S LUDDY SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS, COMPUTING, AND ENGINEERING: IUPUI.

“ I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR PROFESSION AND WANTED TO FIND A WAY TO GIVE BACK. SERVING ON THE BOARD ALSO HELPS ME STAY UP TO DATE ON HIM TOPICS THAT I MAY NOT ENCOUNTER IN MY DAY TO DAY ROLE AS A CODING/CDI DIRECTOR. ”

Q&A WITH JAMEY

What motivated you to join IHIMA's Board of Directors?

- *I'm passionate about our profession and wanted to find a way to give back. Serving on the Board also helps me stay up to date on HIM topics that I may not encounter in my day to day role as a Coding/CDI Director.*

Could you briefly describe your primary roles and responsibilities as a board member?

- *In the President-Elect role, I'm responsible for working closely with our President and other Board Members to ensure continuity of IHIMA's strategic goals. I'm also responsible for coordination of IHIMA awarded scholarships to our Indiana CAHIIM accredited programs.*

What specific initiatives or projects have you been involved in as a board member, and how have they contributed to IHIMA's goals?

- *Each year, the board discusses and outlines topics that we will focus on from an educational standpoint as part of our strategic plan. When I was the Professional Development Chair, it was rewarding to know that we recruited speakers and topics for our members that aligned with the strategic plan.*

Board service often comes with challenges. Could you describe a challenge you've faced and how you and the board addressed it?

- *One of challenges we face is recruiting new faces on the board and that is something we are actively working on. Hence, the purpose of you reading this! A lot of the reason I didn't volunteer before is because I was intimidated. Maybe how you are feeling no? Like how can I contribute or when do I have time? Refer to the next question for answers :)*

What advice would you give to someone considering joining IHIMA's Board of Directors?

- *Just do it. My hesitation was always that I wasn't confident enough in myself nor did I think I had time for it. If not me, then who's going to do it is what finally convinced me. It doesn't matter your current role, nor your previous work experience, how much you know or don't know, you can make a difference. You are part of a bigger team so just know, you wouldn't be working alone. As it relates to time... let's be real... I didn't join because I was filling my time eating bon-bons and watching the latest reality shows and needed something additional to fill my time up with. I did it because I asked again, if not me, then who? The time commitment does depend on the role, but again, we all support one another. I make the time and when I need help, I ask for it. When I've been asked about time, I can't always quantify it because sometimes I'll just call another board member as a friend and end up talking about board related things because we share that passion with one another.*

How has your board experience shaped your view of the health information management field and its impact on healthcare?

- *I'm in a Coding/CDI Director role so my day job is somewhat limiting on what is going on outside of that. The board has allowed me to stay in the know and up to date on other hot topics within HIM. I'm sure I'm not the only one that feels like I can't give an easy answer to what our profession does. Our skills and expertise allow us to have an impact on healthcare beyond the traditional roles.*