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EDUCATION, EXHIBITS & NETWORKING HEADLINE 2005 ANNUAL HIMSS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

The healthcare information technology and management systems world comes alive each February as industry professionals set out to learn, explore and discover solutions at the Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). In 2005, nearly 20,000 healthcare IT professionals are planning to descend on the Dallas Convention Center for the conference.

The 2005 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition, scheduled February 13-17, is the largest and most important healthcare IT and management systems event of the year. It brings together senior industry executives, physicians, nurse informaticists, developers, programmers, vendors and consultants from around the world for five days of learning, information exchange and networking.

Darby Dennis, president of the Central and Southern Ohio HIMSS Chapter stated: "The Annual HIMSS Conference is the place to be, especially for our members. It brings industry experts, vendors, buyers and other key professionals all together in one place, at one time. We look forward each year to the opportunity to learn new solutions, be part of the dazzling exhibitions and network with current and potential chapter and national members and others at this

exciting event. Our chapter is offering members who attend the opportunity to network with others from neighboring chapters in our region."

The HIMSS conference will feature a strong educational program, a powerful speaker line-up and a number of innovative sessions. Education sessions will focus on subjects ranging from managing the business of healthcare to e-commerce/e-health, infrastructure, patient safety, electronic health record and more. Roundtable sessions provide further explorations into the topics, and e-sessions offer opportunities for attendees to gain additional knowledge at their own pace.

Interoperability will be a major focus at the conference. On the exhibit floor, a groundbreaking interoperability demonstration with two showcases, Cross-Enterprise and Ambulatory Care, will utilize cutting-edge technology and standards to demonstrate interoperability in an interactive environment. Attendees will be able to create, track and manage virtual electronic health records and experience interoperability advances across both acute and ambulatory care environments.

The conference will also feature Microsoft and Sun Microsystems user group sessions, which will provide education and networking opportunities exclusively for members. Popular symposia for

nurse informaticists and physicians are also on the schedule. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Defense/Military Health Systems will have a strong presence at the conference, in the education sessions as well as on the exhibit floor, highlighting leading-edge military technologies that have application for the commercial healthcare IT industry.

National health information technology coordinator, Dr. David Brailer, heads up a powerful line-up of keynote speakers, which also includes and Sun Microsystems founder and chairman of the board, Scott McNealy, and Dilbert creator, Scott Adams. Industry leaders as well as business and technical experts have been signed up to lead conference sessions.

HIMSS 2005 is a once-a-year opportunity for healthcare IT leaders and peers to share strategies, best practices, challenges and solutions – and to network and establish contacts with some of the industry's best and brightest. To learn more about the 2005 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition, visit the HIMSS Web site at www.himss.org. For more information about the Central and Southern Ohio Chapter, visit www.csohimss.org.

Member Spot Light: Dr. Stephen Beck.

As a Physician Owner and Physician Consultant in Medical Informatics at Group Health Associates, Stephen Beck has been actively involved in the implementation of an outpatient EHR (EpicCare) over the past 7

years. As a physician in Internal Medicine, he has been using EpicCare in his office since May 2000. He has experience in planning, implementation and follow up of EHR installations, has developed multiple decision support tools, and worked with patient lists to enhance disease management.

Dr. Beck has a special interest in change management, return on investment, and decision support. He is currently doing independent consulting in medical informatics.

Nationally, Dr. Beck serves as the Chairman of the Professional Practice Task Force of HIMSS and serves our chapter as Membership Chair.

Success Story: CSOHIMSS Fall Conference

This past November 12th, the CSOHIMSS Chapter held their semi-annual regional conference in Columbus, Ohio. The theme of this conference was Improving Quality of Patient Care Through Information Technology.

With six speakers, three sessions, one roundtable discussion, and over 50 attendees, the CSOHIMSS Fall Conference 2004 was another great success for our chapter's continuing education initiatives.

More than 60% of the attendees took the time to complete the quality survey and results show a very high overall approval rating of 93%, a gain of 6% over the Spring 2004 held back in June.

The biggest feature that receive the most positive feedback was the session given by Tom Gregorich, Director of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Gregorich's session focused on IT Metric and Benchmarking. Attendees acknowledged great value in the lessons-learned and best practices demonstrated by Mr. Gregorich and took away a new perspective on how to measure their information servers in a pragmatic, quantitative manner.

Without question, most attendees were very pleased with the discussion and content on IT Metrics & Benchmarking, so much so, that it exceeded the allotted time. It could have easily been a conference subject all on its own, suggesting that the chapter revisit this subject in future conferences.

All in all, the attendees and the positive feedback revealed in the surveys shows not only how important of a role technology plays in the quality of patient care, but also that our colleagues in the industry are well aware of this and are taking the proactive steps of leadership examples.

Copies of the presentations should be available for download shortly. In addition, the CSOHIMSS website always tries to obtain and make available presentation from any event the chapter is associated with so that those who were unable to attend can still benefit from the information presented.

To download the handouts of previous presentations, go to the CSOHIMSS website at: www.csohimss.org and navigate to Program/Events, and then select Previous Programs. If you have trouble downloading a desired document, feel free to contact us at contactus@csohimss.org for assistance.

Chapter Business, Activities and Participation:

Calendar of Events:

Event	Date & Time	Location	Registration
HIMSS Annual Conference 2005	Feb. 13 th through Feb. 17 th	Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas	Register
CSOHIMSS Luncheon at National Conference	February 14 th , 12pm – 1:30pm	TBD	Register

Open Positions:

Currently, the only vacancy on the CSOHIMSS Chapter Board of Directors is the **Advocacy Chairperson**. We encourage our membership to become more involved in any way possible.

Active participation has its advantages! Members who participate in this capacity earn valuable HIMSS points which are necessary for advancement to Senior Member or Fellow status within HIMSS.

In addition, you will be plugged into what is going on at the chapter level and have an influential voice in what activities and conferences our chapter sponsors.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in chapter activities or if you are interested in volunteering in any other capacity, please contact Darby Dennis, at contactus@csohimss.org.

Open Request to Members:

The CSOHIMSS Chapter has an open request to all members for any subject or issue that they would like to see the chapter address.

Addressing the issue could be in the form of a feature article or a conference presentation (either locally or nationally).

All suggestions welcome. Please consider those that are current, relevant and of

pressing concern to the contemporary healthcare environment.

Presentation and article suggestions should be forwarded to the Board at contactus@csohimss.org for consideration.

Academic Scholarships:

CSOHIMSS has modified the scholarship program to be a single \$1,000 award once a year, awarded in the Spring.

The CSOHIMSS Board of Directors unanimously agreed to the new program at the Board Retreat in June, 2004.

In addition to the scholarship awards, winning applicants will receive a complimentary one-year membership in National HIMSS as well as membership in the CSOHIMSS Chapter.

Anyone interested in applying for this scholarship, should go to the CSOHIMSS website to download an application for consideration.

Chapter Sponsorship:

As mentioned in previous quarterly newsletters, the Board of Directors for the Central and Southern Ohio Chapter of HIMSS has revised the Chapter Sponsorship Program to better serve the membership. The new pricing structure and benefits are as follow:

Five Star (\$1,000 per year):

- *Two Full-Day CSOHIMSS Event Sponsor (Spring and Fall) with two Event Passes*

- *Premium representation at CSOHIMSS Luncheon*
 - *All other Three Star Benefits*
- Three Star (\$500 per year):
- *One Full-Day CSOHIMSS Event Sponsor (Spring or Fall) with one Event Pass*
 - *Attendee List for Event*
 - *Sponsor Display table and Introductions at Event*
 - *Logo featured on website*
 - *Listed in all CSOHIMSS communications*
- One Star (\$300 per year):
- *Contributes to CSOHIMSS Luncheon at National HIMSS Annual Conference, Includes free attendance to Luncheon, free to mingle with other attendees*

If your company is interested in becoming a Chapter Sponsor or if you have any suggestions as to how companies may benefit better from sponsorship, please request an application at: contactus@csohimss.org.

Member Feedback:

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

This section posts questions and comments from chapter members. If you have a comment or question, send them to Sean McPhillips at newsletter@csohimss.org for consideration.