

The Institute for e-Health Policy

2008-2009 Service Learning Advocacy Curriculum

Goal: To introduce 1st year medical students in the Georgetown University Service Learning Program to the health public policy issues associated with the use of e-health, health information and health information technology (HIT) to transform our healthcare system. As future physicians, they will learn how to be student advocates for its use and describe the benefits and challenges of e-health as tools to improve quality, efficiency, and safety of healthcare and to assure consumer privacy and security.

Student Learning Objectives:

At the completion of the course, the medical student will describe the Institute for e-Health Policy, its public policy agenda and how the students can influence the e-health policymaking process.

At the end of this course, the medical student can describe several federal programs, health advocacy organizations and national policy initiatives which currently advocate for the use of e-health, health information and health information technology to improve our health care system or will influence the future practice of medicine using these tools.

The medical student, regardless of future specialty interests, will have a positive attitude about being an advocate for e-health and for the inclusion of special resources to assure access to these tools with the low income, uninsured and underserved in his/her community; and for the unique knowledge, skills, and resources required of the health workforce to use these tools to demonstrate improved health outcomes.

The medical student will know how to research and write a health policy fact sheet.

Overview

The Institute for e-Health Policy staff greeted the students and led the October 29, 2008, orientation session. Dr. William Bria, Chair of the HIMSS Physician Community and Georgetown Medical School graduate, Class of '77, will welcome the students to the Institute's SL project. The Institute will host a minimum of seven learning sessions for up to six Georgetown University first year medical students, interested in the role of health information and health information technology in transforming our healthcare system. The benefit to Institute is to have future physicians understand its role, public policy advocacy and help place more e-health advocates in the field. An opportunity to learn about e-health and underserved populations will be included through a site visit to the D.C. Primary Care Association.

Prior to each learning session, students will be provided web-based resources to review as background. Students will be encouraged to ask questions and will be graded on group participation.

Students' final outcomes will be short policy statements on an e-health area of mutual interest to the Institute and the students. One session will be for students to work on the statements with Institute staff. Students will be encouraged to schedule a visit to meet with their elected officials on Capitol Hill to share what they have learned in the e-health public policy learning sessions.

Community Partners:

Neal Neuberger, Executive Director, Institute for e-Health Policy, neal@e-healthpolicy.org
Kathie Westpheling, Manager of Internships, kwestpheling@himss.org

Institute Office

Location: 4300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 250, Arlington VA;
Contact: Kathie Westpheling; 703-562-8831; kwestpheling@himss.org
(If student will be late or must miss a session – contact Kathie W for an excused absence.)
Metro: Foggy Bottom to Ballston – Orange Line – exit onto Stuart St – turn left and walk to
Wilson Blvd – look for Chipotle Restaurant & Business Bank signs – 4300 Wilson Blvd.

Proposed Dates of Service Learning Sessions: Locations: Institute, GU, DCPCA, GWU

- Date: 10/ 29/08 Orientation to Institute e-Health Public Policy SL Project (Institute)**
- Date: 11/ 5/08 Session on Privacy and Security (GU) –Library GF1 --**
- Date: 11/19/08 Session on State & Federal Affairs (H)**
- Date: 12/03/08 Session on HIT & the Underserved (DCPCA)**
- Date: 12/10/08 Session on HIT and Health Professions Workforce
Issues - Conversation with William Bria, MD (confirmed)
and William Hersch PhD (invited), OHSU ; & select
topics for up to 3 team policy briefs (HIMSS)**
- Date: 01/07/09 Session on 111th Congress Overview & Student Teams work on
Policy Statements with staff (HIMSS)**
- Date: 02/02 or 02/04 Teams Present Policy Statements to Hill Staff**
- Date: 02/09 Lunch at Institute and debriefing**
- Date: 03/11/09 SL Team Final Presentation at GU SOM**
- Date: Optional Session with CIO and Hospital Informatics – (GWU)**

Session 1: Orientation at HIMSS Government Relations Program

Date: October 29, 2008

Location: Institute Office

Coordinators: Kathie Westpheling & Neal Neuberger

Welcome by William Bria, MD, CMIO, Shriners Hospitals, Tampa FL.; Chair HIMSS Physician Community; Georgetown Medical School graduate, Class of '77.

Presenters: David Roberts – Introductions; Overview of Institute and SL agenda
Meredith Taylor – Role of Congress and its relationship to the Federal agencies and appropriations – authorizations and appropriations
Tom Leary – Federal Government – what is the role of government: service; research; and regulation. There are implications for HIT in all three domains.
Tom Keefe: State Government – service and regulations. Federal-state partnership for Medicaid. Introduction to concepts of Regional Health Information Exchanges (RHIE)
Neal Neuberger: Private Sector role in HIT policy development – standards development; regulatory and licensure boards

Neal Neuberger and Dr. Kim Bullock will review the *Community Mapping Project* for this SL Group. Please bring the Mapping Project Description.

Session 2: Privacy & Security Session

Date: November 5, 2008

Location: GU Library GF 1 – Student needs to get key

Coordinator: Kathie Westpheling

Presenter: Lisa Gallagher, Senior Director, HIMSS, Privacy and Security

Overview:

- Defining privacy and security
- Consumer and professional concerns
- Policy implications for adoption of HIT including EHRs and PHRs

Please review the following resources:

http://www.himss.org/content/files/CPRIToolkit/version6/v6%20pdf/D02_Privacy_and_Security_Principles.pdf

Session 3: HIT and Major State and Federal Activities

Date: November 19, 2008

Location: 4300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 250 Arlington VA;

Coordinator: Neal Neuberger

Presenters: Tom Leary, Director, Federal Affairs and Tom Keefe, State Government Relations, HIMSS

Overview:

- DHHS, Office of the National Coordinator and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- American Health Information Community (AHIC2.0)
- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and E-Prescribing
- State HIT Overview and innovative legislation for Health Information Exchange (HIE) and EHR adoption.

Resources:

Medicare and E-Prescribing resource will be provided.

State Health Information Technology: <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0809EHEALTHREPORT.PDF>
Read the Executive Summary.
eHealth Initiative 2008 5th Annual Survey of Health Information Exchange:
<http://www.ehealthinitiative.org/HIESurvey>

Session 4: HIT for the Underserved in conjunction with HIT Collaborative for the Underserved

Date: **December 3, 2008**

Location: DC PCA, 1411 K Street NW Suite 300 Washington DC ; 202-638-0252

Coordinator: Kathie Westpheling, HIMSS Internship Coordinator & Mary Walker, HIMSS Executive in Residence

Presenters: Jim Costello, Jane Thompson and Sharon Baskerville

Overview: Introduction to the DC Primary Care Association electronic health record (EHR) system in community health centers and regional health information organization (RHIO) being developed to shared health information. Executive Director Sharon Baskerville will welcome the students and provide the history on this innovative collaboration. Mary Walker will provide overview of the National Collaborative on HIT and the Underserved.

Resources: http://www.dcpca.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271&Itemid=90
http://www.himss.org/asp/topics_ambulatorycare.asp ; www.shireinc.org/hit-up

Session 5: HIT and Work Force issues coordinated by Neal Neuberger

Date: **December 10, 2008**

Location: HIMSS Offices

Presenter: Neal Neuberger

Invited Guests: William Bria, MD (confirmed) ; William Hersch, PhD (to be invited)

Overview :

- Health Professions Workforce Development – HIT training needs
- HIT Workforce shortage needs at all levels across the country
- Legislation: “10,000 Trained by 2010 Act” (H.R. 1467)

Resources:

- I- tunes links – go to I-tunes and search for Dr. Bria’s 5 HIMSS podcasts ;
- HIMSS Book by William Bria, MD – **The Physician Conundrum** ; Workforce report;
- State Health Alliance Recommendation on HIT workforce
<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0809EHEALTHREPORT.PDF>
- <http://medir.ohsu.edu/~hersh/hit-workforce-hersh.pdf> : *Characterizing the Health Information Technology Workforce: Analysis from the HIMSS Analytics™ Database*

Session 7 and 8: Congressional Affairs: The 111th Congress Outlook & Preparation of Policy Briefs:

Coordinator: Blair Hedgepeth

Presenters: Meredith Taylor, Blair Hedgepeth, and Wayne Humphries

Date: 01/07/09 and 02/04/09

Overview:

- Overview of the HIT legislative priorities
- Brainstorming on the policy areas student select to develop
- Steps for drafting a policy statement
- Use of the policy brief to educate Hill staff

Resources: Student teams will purchase (with SL supply budget)– **Bardach, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis, 2nd edition, CQ Press. This framework will be used to provide the framework for the policy statement.**

Over the next month, students work in teams with HIMSS staff to draft and present health policy brief on current legislation, regulation, or HIT area of interest to HIMSS Staff and then to Hill staff if possible. Students will present to HIMSS staff on Feb 4 and will assist students in making the Hill visits.

Debriefing Session: Luncheon and debriefing session on the SL experience on February 9 at HIMSS Office.

Special Session: Students will be invited to join Field Trip to GWU Hospital for Congressional Affairs Staff; details to follow when confirmed.

Final Session: Students present posters on their projects to their peers at Georgetown University.