



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA Chapter  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA Chapter

PA Health I.T. Workforce Development  
Conference  
November 7, 2014

PHiMA

AHIMA Affiliate

Pennsylvania Health Information  
Management Association



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Health Informatics and Health IT

# Innovative Programs in Health Informatics and Health IT for Workforce Creation and Research

*Leanne H. Field, Ph.D.*

*Director, Health Informatics and Health IT Programs*

# The Healthcare IT Workforce:

*a critical link in the delivery and execution of  
21<sup>st</sup> century healthcare using integrated  
technological tools*

# HIMSS Analytics - First-ever Health IT Workforce Survey

- *Approximately 1/3 of healthcare provider organizations indicated they had to place an IT initiative on hold because of staffing shortages, and many expressed that these lower priority issues created risks to patient care and revenue generation.*
- *The lack of a qualified talent pool was the biggest reported challenge to fully staffing both healthcare providers and vendor organizations.*

**HIMSS Workforce Survey**  
*HIMSS Analytics*  
**July 2013**



<http://apps.himss.org/content/files/2013HIMSSWorkforceSurvey.pdf>

# Health IT talent in high demand

## Large IT projects, ICD-10 key drivers

BY BERNIE MONEGAIN, Editor

**BOSTON** - American healthcare workers' confidence levels remained fairly consistent in the second quarter of 2013, according to the Q2 Randstad Healthcare Employee Confidence Index. Confidence levels among healthcare workers decreased by one-fifth of a point, to 54.3, in the second quarter of 2013.

Harris Interactive conducted the online survey on behalf of Randstad Healthcare in April, May and June of this year, among 188 health-

**“Employers have to find innovative ways to compete for top talent.”**

**Steve McMahan**

care workers, ages 18 and older. It included physicians, healthcare administrators, healthcare IT professionals and other healthcare professionals.

“Healthcare workers are in high demand, with the sector experiencing some serious labor shortages. For example, healthcare information technology specialists such as medical coders and healthcare consultants for large IT projects are in high demand within the field due to the implementation of ICD-10. Employers have to find innovative ways to compete for top talent,” said Steve McMahan, executive vice president of

Randstad US, Professionals.

A March report by Wanted Analytics indicated that more than one million jobs were posted for healthcare-related occupations, representing a 3 percent year-over-year increase in hiring. Registered nurses led the country in the most job ads, up 13 percent when compared to March of 2012. However, critical care nurses had the highest year-over-year growth with 34 percent more jobs posted online this year than there were last March, according to Wanted Analytics,” McMahan added.

“Even with the recent delay of the employer mandate provision of the ACA” he said, “many healthcare organizations can't pause due to other time-sensitive, mandated initiatives, such as the implementation of ICD-10 and the rigorous requirements to transition to electronic medical records by 2015. This, coupled with the ongoing issue of trying to augment nurse and physician staffing levels with the coming impact of the ACA, is creating challenging times for most.”

### **SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Percentage of healthcare workers who believe more jobs are available virtually unchanged**

In the second quarter of 2013, 20 percent of healthcare workers believe more jobs available, slipping one percentage point from Q1 2013. More than half of healthcare workers (52%) believe fewer job opportunities available, holding steady compared to the previous quarter.

**Majority of healthcare workers confident they can find a new job; percentage remains unchanged**

More than half of healthcare workers surveyed (54%) indicate they are confident they could find a job in the next 12 months, showing no change from the previous quarter.



**A March report by Wanted Analytics indicated that more than one million jobs were posted for healthcare-related occupations.**

### **Employer confidence rises among healthcare workers**

About six-in-10 (61%) healthcare workers feel confident in the future of their employer, rising three percentage points from the previous quarter.

### **More healthcare workers optimistic about economic strength**

The number of healthcare workers who say the economy is getting stronger rose four percentage points this quarter to 26 percent. Forty-

three percent of healthcare workers believe the economy is weakening, rising two percentage points from the previous quarter.

Meanwhile, a new survey by CareerBuilder concludes that extended healthcare job vacancies are taking a toll on most healthcare organizations.

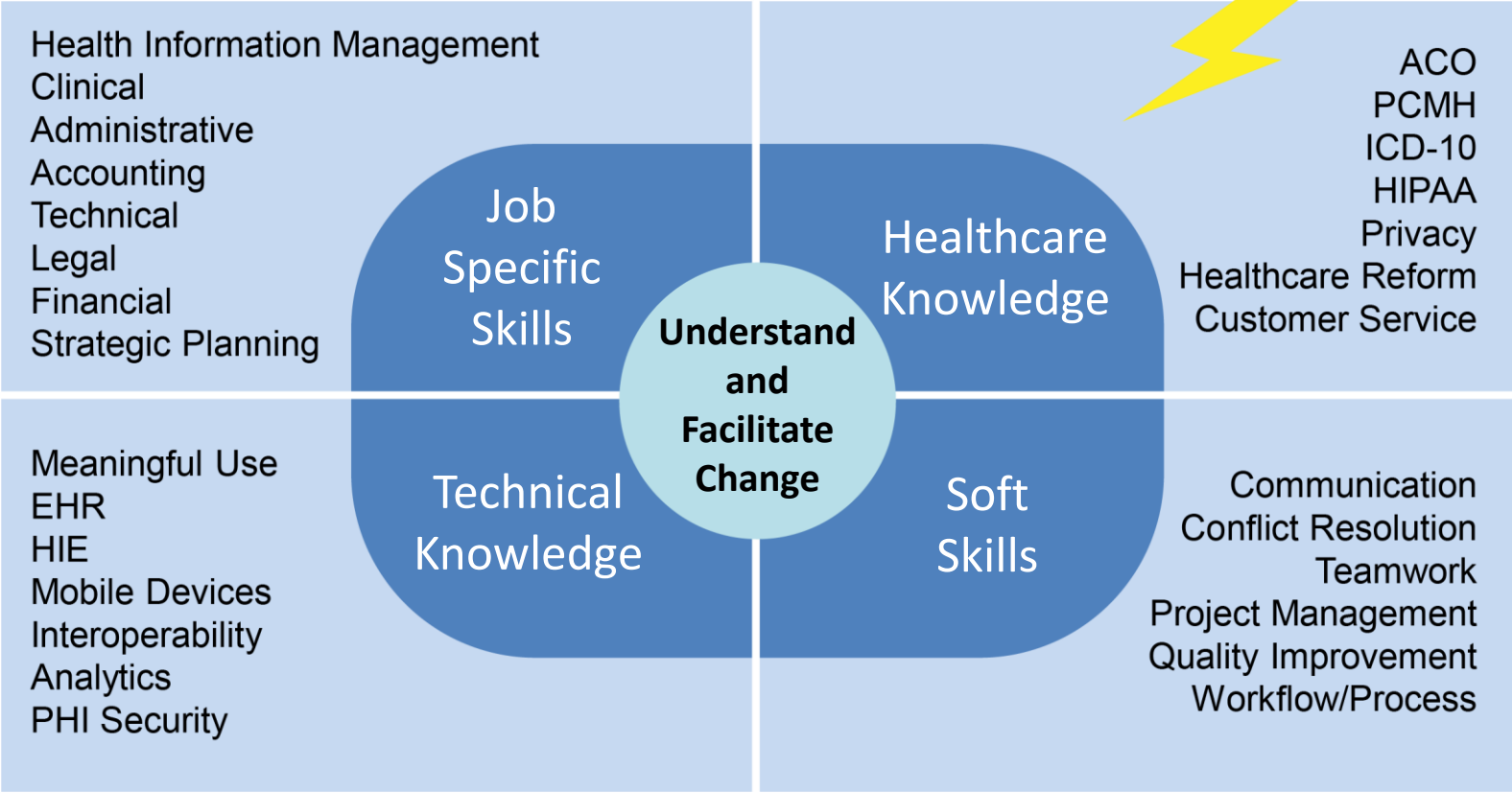
“The job market for healthcare positions continues to grow quickly in the rebounding economy, but filling key positions is far from easy, Jason Lovelace, president of

CareerBuilder Healthcare, commented in releasing the results. It takes proactive recruitment strategies focused on building pipelines and observing relevant workforce analytics. Organizations are struggling to find a balance between bringing in new talent and hiring experienced industry veterans capable of stepping into stressful environments with little ramp-up time. It's important, however, that healthcare leaders develop pathways for new graduates.” ■

**Healthcare IT News: September 2013**

<http://www.pageturnpro.com/MedTech-Media/52817-Healthcare-IT-News-September-2013/index.html#1>

# Core Competencies and Fluency with Multiple Technological Tools are needed...



**Innovative Health Informatics and  
Health IT Programs:  
The University of Texas at  
Austin**

# History of Programs at UT Austin

## November 2009

Texas e-Health Alliance - a workforce is needed for Health IT;  
College of Natural Sciences responds

## January 2010

Curriculum development begins with industry partners; PURE-HIT Consortium applied for university-based training grant, Office of National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

## April 2010

PURE-HIT consortium receives \$5.4 million; UT Austin \$2.7 million  
Curriculum development continues; recruit faculty

## May 2010

Recruit first class of students

## June 2010

Inaugural Summer Certificate program begins with 55 students

## July 2010

Graduate 54 students from the program!

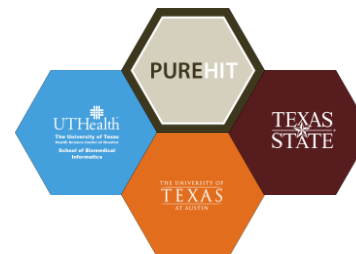
## August 2010 – November 2011

100% of graduates seeking Health IT jobs are hired



# Consortium of Texas Universities

- **Professional University Resources and Education for Health IT (PURE-HIT)**
  - Texas State University
  - UT School of Biomedical Informatics
  - The University of Texas at Austin





## ***Generous Corporate and Healthcare Supporters***

- Allen Technologies
- AHIMA
- Allscripts
- Athenahealth
- Availity
- Austin Regional Clinic
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
- Cerner
- Cisco
- Civility Consulting
- CTG Healthcare Solutions
- Delisi Communications
- Dell Healthcare and Life Sciences
- eClinicalWorks
- e-MDs
- Fujitsu
- GE Healthcare
- Greenway Medical
- GRIDdesign
- Healthcare Transformation Solutions
- ICA
- Infor
- Intel
- Intel-GE Care Innovations
- Jericho Systems
- Labcorp
- Lone Star Circle of Care/  
Centex System Support Services
- maxIT
- McKesson
- NextGen Healthcare
- Orion Health
- Peerless Industries
- Sandlot Solutions
- Scilmage
- Sentry Data Systems
- Seton Healthcare Family's
- Scientific Technologies Corporation
- Stryker Corporation
- St. David's Foundation
- TEKsystems
- Texas e-Health Alliance
- TMF Health Quality Institute
- Texas Medical Association
- UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Welch Allyn
- White Glove Technologies

# UT Austin Certificate Programs

- **Public Health Leader Certificate**
  - Public health informatics certificate program for public health professionals (2011-2013)
- **Health IT Privacy and Security Certificate**
  - Computer Science students at UT Austin (2011)
- **Health IT Nine Week Certificate Program**
  - Designed for recent college graduates and others who want to enter the Health IT workforce (ongoing)

**Health Informatics and Health  
Information Technology  
Certificate Program**

# Nine Week Professional Education Program

**Purpose:** to prepare post-baccalaureate students to rapidly enter the Health IT workforce



# Overview: Nine week integrated program; spiral curriculum

## WEEKS 1- 6

- Five rigorous courses to build Health IT knowledge and competencies
- Hands-on skill development with multiple Health IT technologies
  - Research projects
  - Professional development

## WEEKS 7-8

Two-week practicum off campus with industry, healthcare organizations, government or other hosts

## WEEK 9

Research project presentations and on-site job interviews

# Educational Partnership with UT Southwestern Medical Center

- **Successful program for distance learning**
  - Remotely train students in Dallas
  - UTSW CIO and CMIO lecture on hospital systems; provide hospital-based practicum in medical center

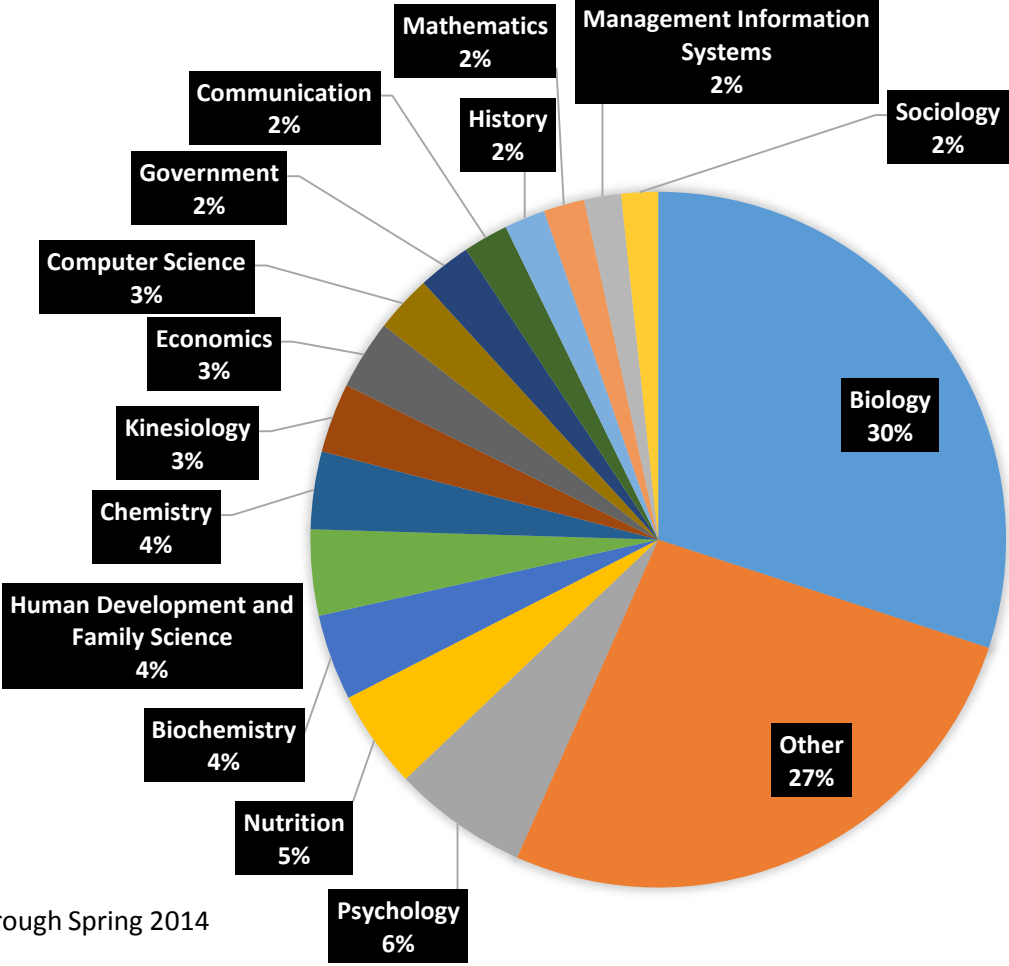


# Student Characteristics

- **Recent College Graduates (85%)**
  - Variety of majors and degree programs
  - GPA > 2.75
  - Strong interest in healthcare
  - Variety of college experiences – shadowing medical professionals, research, global travel
- **Working Professionals (15%)**
  - Previous healthcare experience
  - Previous computer or IT experience
  - Other professions (e.g. teachers)
  - Military veterans



# Undergraduate Majors



Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

N=526



# “Other” Undergraduate Majors

Accounting	Engineering	Latin American Studies
Advertising	English	Learning and Development
Allied Health	Finance	Management
Anthropology	Fine Arts	Marketing
Applied Learning and Development	Forensic Science	Media Arts
Applied Mathematics	General Studies	Music
Biomedical Engineering	Genetic Engineering	Nursing
Biomedical Science	Global Studies	Petroleum Land Management
Business	Health Management and	Pharmacy
Business Administration	Education	Philosophy
Business Management	Health Promotion	Physical and Applied Geography
Chemical Engineering	Health Science	Physics
Computer Information Systems	Healthcare Administration	Plan II Honors
Computer Network Engineering	Healthcare Information	Political Science
Computing and Information Systems	Systems	Public Health
Consulting and Change	Hotel and Restaurant	Public Relations
Management	Management	Radio, Television & Film
Corporate Communication	Human Resource Management	Rhetoric and Writing
Criminal Justice	Industrial Engineering	Sports Management
Education	Information Technology	Telecommunications
Electrical Engineering	Interactive Design	Textile and Apparel
Elementary Education	International Studies	Theology

## Representative Graduate and Professional Degrees

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- Business
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Education
- Engineering
- Health Administration
- Information Technology
- Law
- Management
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Public Health
- Public Policy
- Social Work
- Sociology

# Program Recruiting and Admission

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## Recruiting

- Website
- Information sessions
- E-mails
- Academic advisors
- Posters and flyers
- Webinars
- Social media
- Newspaper
- Recommendations from former students!

## Admission based on:

- Review of application and academic transcript
- Writing sample
- Group interview
  - Focused on communication skills
- Willingness to travel and relocate!

Don't move home with your parents after you graduate!

Apply now for the Health IT 9-week Certificate Program

Classes begin September 2nd



Healthcare + Technology = Exciting Career!

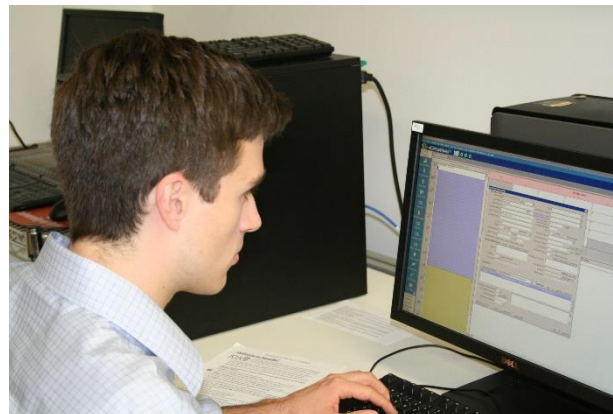
Average starting salary of \$53,000

GRADUATES OF ALL MAJORS WELCOME!

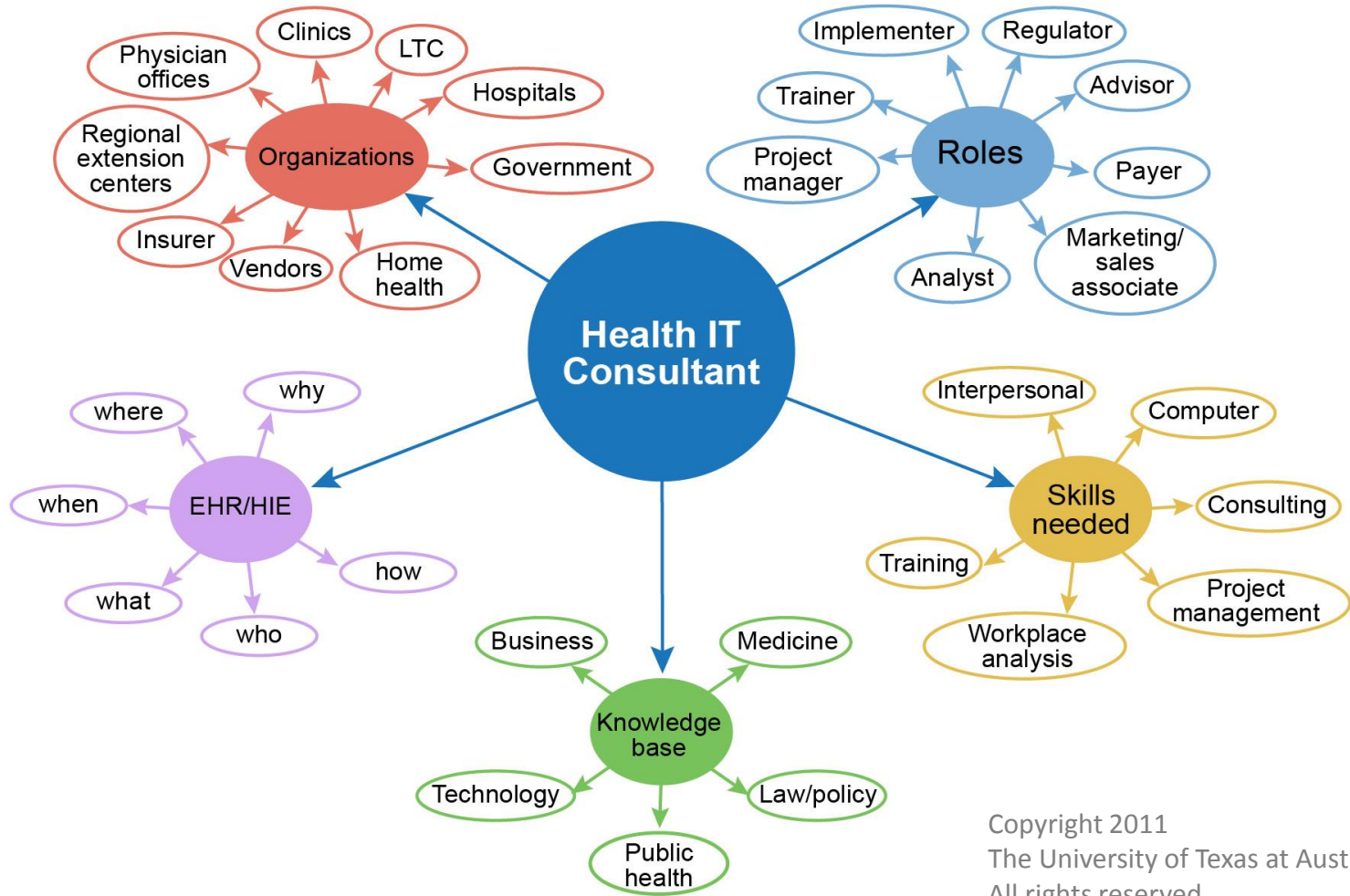


# Proven three-fold approach to prepare graduates for the Health IT workforce

1. Knowledge and Skills Development
2. Real-World Experience
3. Professional Development



# Health Information Technology



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# Curriculum: Five Courses

1. Introduction to Health Informatics
2. Fundamentals of Health Information Technology
3. **Workflow, Process Redesign and Project Management**
  - Graduates eligible to sit for the *Certified Associate in Project Management* (CAPM) examination (Project Management Institute)
4. Operational Models of Healthcare Practice
5. Electronic Health Records and Health Information Exchange Systems (Laboratory)
6. Practicum in Health IT



# Enrichment Opportunities

- **Disease du Jour**
- **Guest Speakers**
- **EHR Demonstrations**
- **Hands-on skill development in the Health IT Learning Center**
  - Workflow simulations in mock ambulatory clinic
  - 7 EHR ambulatory software systems; 1 inpatient system
  - 2 HIE software systems
  - Immunization registry and electronic laboratory reporting
  - HL7/SQL
  - Data Analytics Workshop



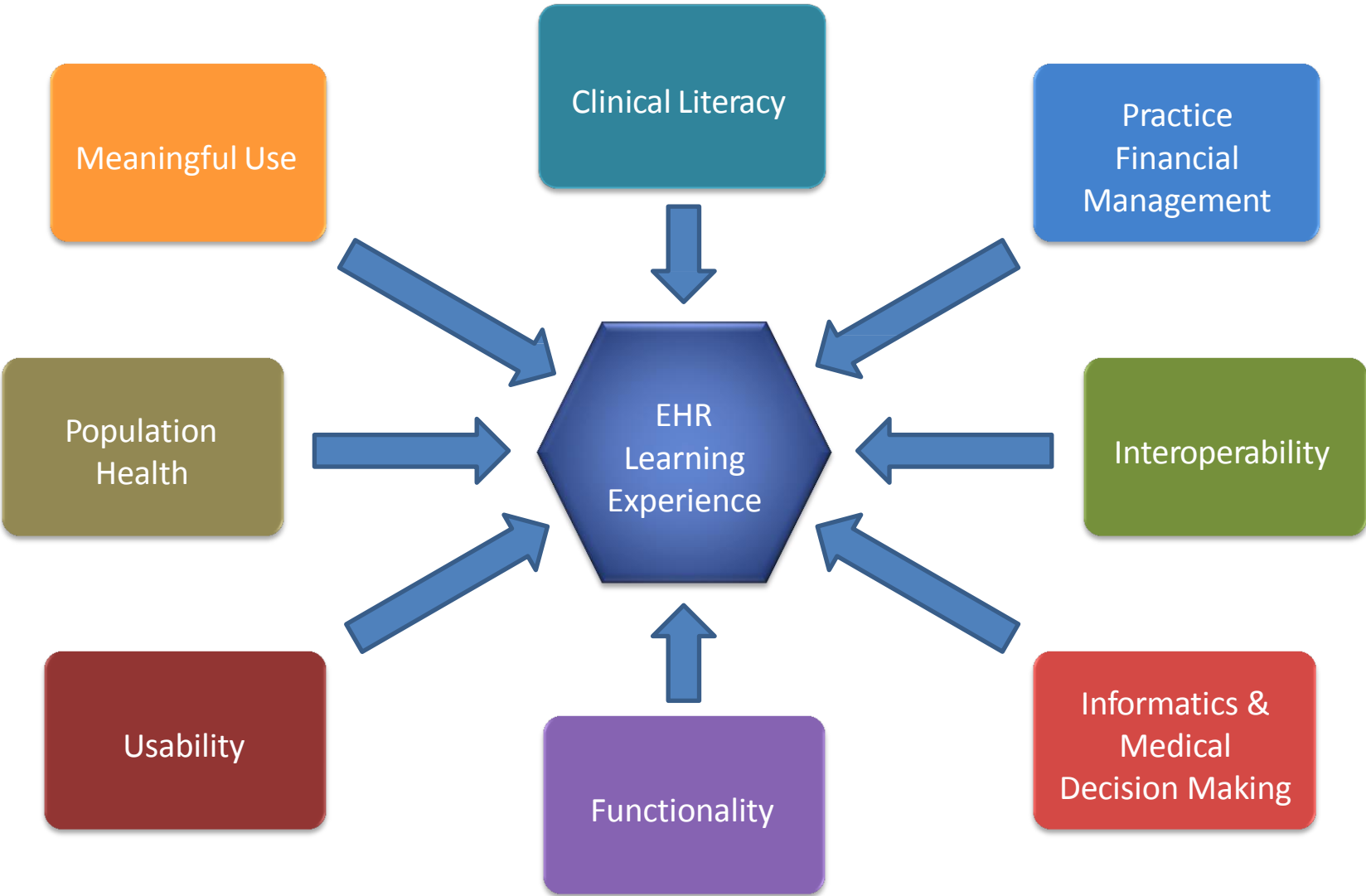
**PHiMA**

— AHIMA Affiliate

Pennsylvania Health Information  
Management Association



# Approach to Teaching EHR and HIE Systems



# EHR Scenarios

## Themes

- Billing
- Continuum of care
- Patient Safety
- Policy
- Privacy and security
- Public health
- Quality management
- Quality reporting
- Standards and Interoperability
- Telemedicine
- Usability

AMBULATORY EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Diabetes Scenario

The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program  
Revision 7/14/2014

AMBULATORY EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Congestive Heart Failure

The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program  
Revision 6/18/2014

INPATIENT EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Appendicitis

The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program  
Revision 7/9/2014

AMBULATORY EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Breast Mass

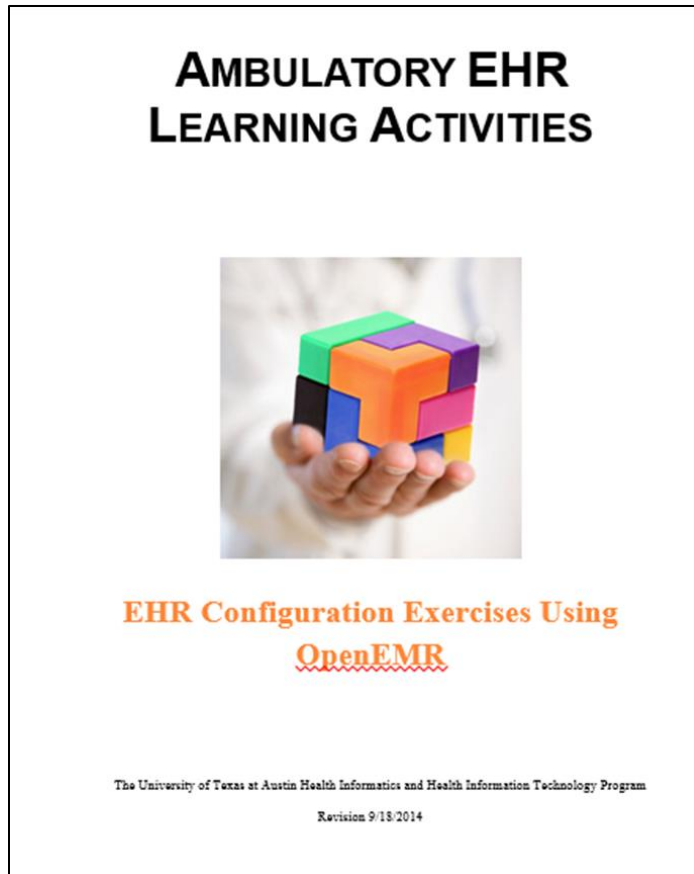
The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program  
Revision 6/25/2014

AMBULATORY EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Asthma Scenario

The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program  
Revision 7/14/2014

# OPEN EMR



- **Goal:** to gain experience with open source EHR architecture
- **Approach:** Hands-on exercises in EHR configuration for a physician's office practice:
  - Establish facility and practice parameters
  - Create users and role-based logins
  - Set up payer profiles
  - Assign security privileges for users
  - Input fee schedules
  - Create CDSS rules
  - Understand EHR database structure and queries
  - Run clinical and administrative reports

## AMBULATORY EHR LEARNING ACTIVITIES



HL7 Messaging



The University of Texas at Austin Health Informatics and Health Information Technology Program

Revision 9/18/2014

- **Goal:** To understand HL7 messaging standards, including differences in ver 2.x and 3.x message structures
  - Create ADT, orders and result message types (Ver 2.x) using an HL7 editor
  - Test HL7 message types for correct syntax and content requirements
  - View inbound and outbound HL7 messages transmitted between an EHR and a reference laboratory

# Data Analytics – Meaningful Analysis of Large Healthcare Data Sets

- **Goal:** to develop problem solving skills needed to answer questions in an ever complex and ever changing healthcare ecosystem
- **Approach: create a simulated healthcare environment**
  - Data set with 100,000 covered lives
    - 2 hospitals; 3 physician practices
    - Expand to one million lives to emulate current ACO, PCMH and other population health models
  - Queries involving clinical case mix, financial risk determination, population health management, and predictive analytics
  - Hands-on analyses with Excel, Access, SQL and other analytic tools.

# Research

- **Value of research for Health Informatics and Health IT students**
  - Teach basic research methodologies
  - Develop problem solving skills
  - Enhance oral and written communication skills
- **Two types of research projects:**
  - **Research projects for 9 week certificate students**
    - Pairs of students mentored by faculty
    - Poster presentations in Health IT Research Forum
  - **Applied research projects with external partners**
    - Student and faculty participation

# Research Themes

- Patient Safety
- Data Analytics
- Interoperability
- Privacy and security
- Telehealth/Telemedicine
- Public Health Informatics

### Making Health IT Matter in Indiana: "Bright Spots" between Health Information Exchanges and Public Health

Sam Stew, BS Microbiology, and Michael Beard, BS MIS  
The University of South Florida Health Informatics and Health IT Grad Program, Summer 2013

**INTRODUCTION**  
The purpose of this research was to identify and describe successful implementations of strategies or approaches that are results-driven, replicable, or innovative.

**RESULTS**  
We identified bright spots as the successful implementations of strategies or approaches that are results-driven, replicable, or innovative.

**BRIGHT SPOTS CRITERIA:**  
1. Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) / HealthCare Condition Detector (HCD)  
2. Syndromic Surveillance - Public Health Emergency Surveillance System (PHESIS)  
3. Direct Communication - Public Health Alert System (DHAS)  
4. Patient Safety - MyVAX Indiana  
5. Collaboration - Public Health (PH) / Regional Institute (RI) / HIE (HIT)  
6. Immunization Registry - MyVaccine (M)

**DECODE CODE CO-OCCURRENCE:**  
A heatmap showing the co-occurrence of various health IT terms.

**BRIGHT SPOTS IDENTIFIED:**  

- Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) / HealthCare Condition Detector (HCD):** A national initiative to improve patient safety and public health surveillance.
- Syndromic Surveillance - Public Health Emergency Surveillance System (PHESIS):** A public health surveillance system that monitors emergency department (ED) data.
- Direct Communication - Public Health Alert System (DHAS):** A system that provides real-time alerts to public health officials.
- Patient Safety - MyVAX Indiana:** A vaccine management system that tracks vaccine status and provides reminders.
- Collaboration - Public Health (PH) / Regional Institute (RI) / HIE (HIT):** A collaborative effort between public health and the health information exchange.
- Immunization Registry - MyVaccine (M):** A system that tracks immunization status and provides reminders.

**CONCLUSIONS**  
The findings of this research suggest that successful implementations of health IT strategies are often the result of collaboration between public health and the health information exchange.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
Public health and the health information exchange should continue to collaborate and share information to improve patient safety and public health surveillance.

**REFERENCES**  
1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013). National Immunization Program. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/>

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Sam Stew, BS Microbiology, and Michael Beard, BS MIS  
The University of South Florida Health Informatics and Health IT Grad Program, Summer 2013

### Evaluating the Usability and Functionality of MyHASA Patient Portal

William R. Pate and Andrew L. Gilman  
The University of South Florida Health Informatics and Health IT Grad Program, Summer 2014

**Abstract**  
The purpose of this research was to evaluate the usability and functionality of the MyHASA Patient Portal. The results of the study suggest that the portal is generally usable and functional, but there are areas for improvement.

**Introduction**  
Patient Portals (PP) can offer significant benefits to patients and providers. However, the success of these portals is largely dependent on their usability and functionality.

**Methods**  
The purpose of this research was to evaluate the usability and functionality of the MyHASA Patient Portal. The study was conducted using a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods.

**Results**  
The results of the study suggest that the portal is generally usable and functional, but there are areas for improvement. The most common usability issues identified were related to navigation and data presentation.

**Conclusion**  
The findings of this research suggest that the MyHASA Patient Portal is generally usable and functional, but there are areas for improvement. The results of the study suggest that the portal is generally usable and functional, but there are areas for improvement.

**REFERENCES**  
1. Pate, W. R., & Gilman, A. L. (2014). Evaluating the Usability and Functionality of MyHASA Patient Portal. *Journal of Health Informatics and Health IT*, 1(1), 1-10.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
William R. Pate and Andrew L. Gilman  
The University of South Florida Health Informatics and Health IT Grad Program, Summer 2014



## Health Informatics and Health IT

# Using Electronic Health Records to Improve Community Health Outcomes: A Case for Query Health in Texas

**Leanne H. Field, Ph.D.**

Director, Public Health, Health Informatics and Health IT Programs  
The University of Texas at Austin

and

**James B. Daniel, MPH**

Public Health Coordinator  
Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT

**CDC Public Health Informatics Conference  
May 12, 2014**



# Research Project in Partnership with Jericho Systems

- ***Data Segmentation for Privacy (ONC Pilot Program)***
  - Pilot to simulate advanced patient privacy control over shared medical records
  - Successfully tested 12 scenarios simulating roles of a research university and a marketing network
    - <http://wiki.siframework.org/DS4P+Jericho-UT+Austin+Pilot>



# Health IT Learning Center

Classroom

Longhorn Clinic



Health Information Exchange Laboratory

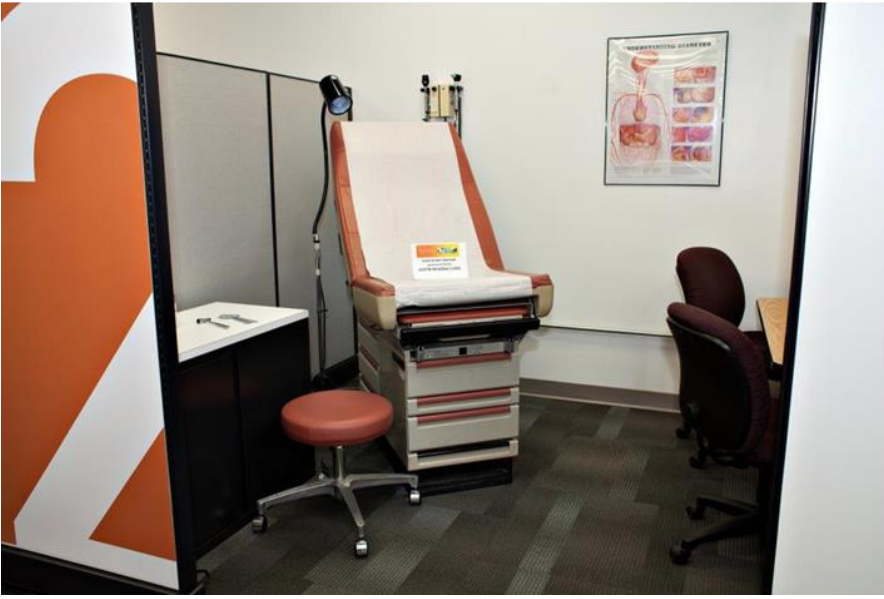
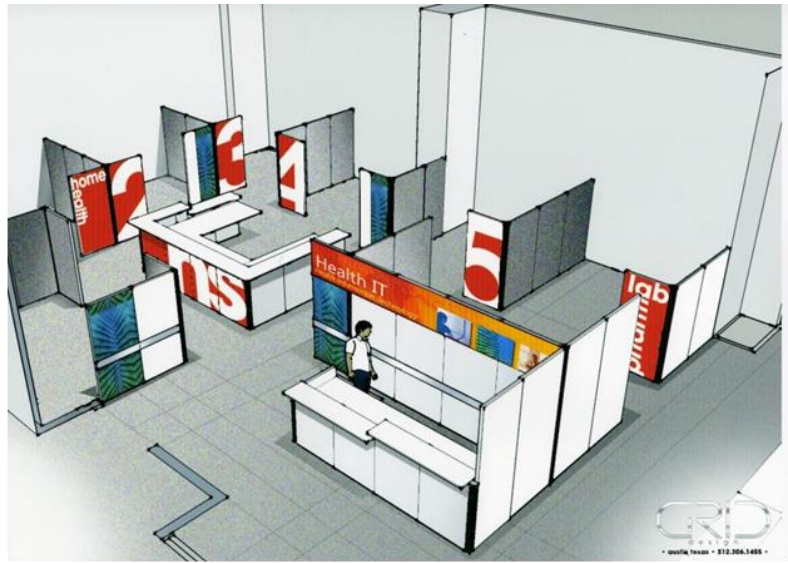
# Classroom: Expert Lectures



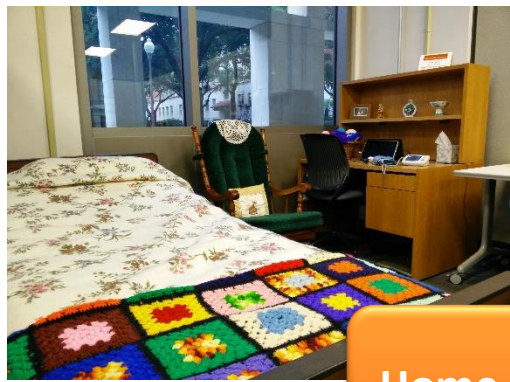
# Classroom: Group Activities



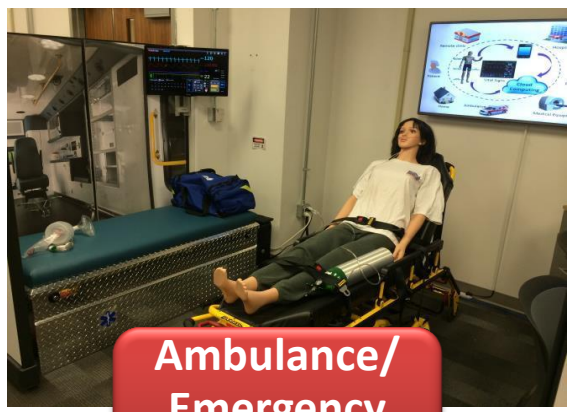
# The Longhorn Clinic



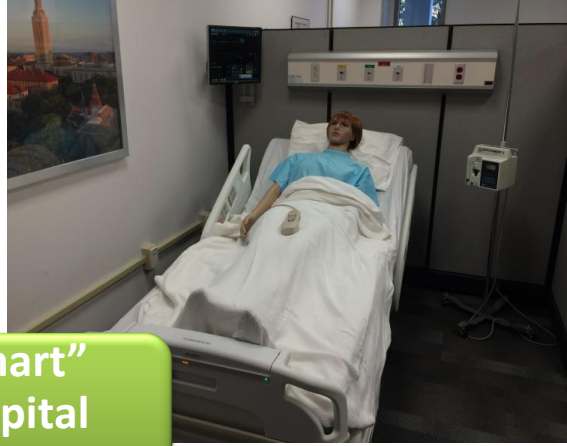
# Modeling the Healthcare Continuum of Care



Home Health



Ambulance/  
Emergency  
Department



“Smart”  
Hospital  
Room



Telehealth

“Smart”  
Ambulatory  
Clinic



# Hands-on Skill Development with EHR Systems



**EHR systems:** Allscripts, athenahealth, Cerner, eClinicalWorks, e-MDs, Greenway, NextGen

# Workflow Exercises in the Longhorn Clinic: Telemedicine Simulation





# Workflow Exercises:

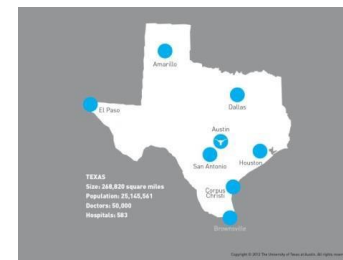
## Simulation of Laboratory Reporting, Vital Signs, and Superbill Management



# **Health Information Exchange Laboratory**

# Health Information Exchange Laboratory

- **Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology (LIFT) grant** – awarded September, 2011
- **Goals**
  - Create an interoperability learning laboratory
  - Exchange simulated healthcare data
  - Model laboratory after Texas’ “network of networks”
  - Engage students in newest HIE technologies
  - Serve as a test bed and center for research



# HIE Laboratory (NHB 1.324)



# HIE Laboratory Conceptual Diagram



El Paso



North Texas Regional HIE



Central Texas Regional HIE

KEY:

eClinicalWorks

e-MDs  
CHARTING THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE®



Future HIE

Corpus Christi

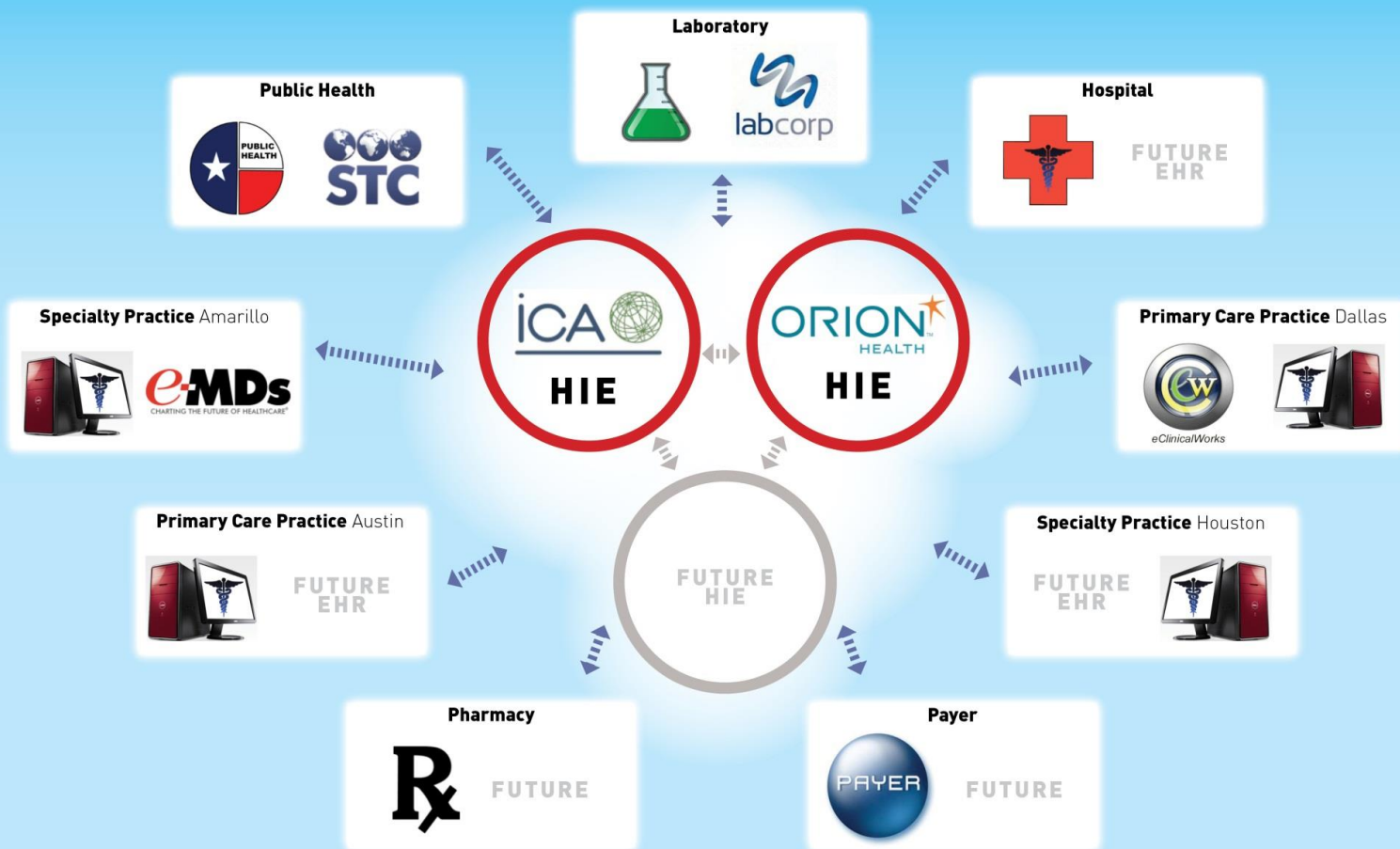
Brownsville

TEXAS  
Size: 268,820 square miles  
Population: 25,145,561  
Doctors: 50,000  
Hospitals: 583

The University of Texas at Austin

# Health Information Exchange Laboratory

Generously funded by a grant from the Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology



# HIE Lab “Use Cases”

- **Exchange Continuity of Care Documents (CCDs) between heterogeneous “virtual” practices via HIEs**
- **Compare progress notes in the EHRs with the CCDs**
- **View Test Patient Records in an HIE portal**
  - Role-Based logins and “Breaking the Privacy Seal”
  - Patient matching exercises – reconcile similar but not identical patient demographics
- **Compare and contrast multiple HIE models**
- **Complete bidirectional transfer of laboratory orders and results**
- **Transfer immunization records from “virtual” physician practices to a simulated public health registry**

# Standards Used in the HIE Lab

Transaction / Document Types	IHE and Other Transaction Standards
<i>Transactions between EHRs and HIEs</i>	XDS.b (Cross Enterprise Document Sharing)*
Patient Identity Feed	HL7v2 and ITI-8
Patient Demographic data (ADT)	A04
Patient Update Notification	A08
Patient Identity (PIX) Query	ITI-9
Registry Stored Query	ITI-18
Continuity of Care Document (CCD)	XML C32
Provide and Register Document Set (CCD)	ITI-41
Retrieve Document Set (CCD)	ITI-43
<i>Transactions between EHRs and Other Entities</i>	
Lab Orders and Results	ORM, ORU
Immunizations	VXU

\*XCA (Cross Community Access) to be implemented for HIE-to-HIE transactions



# HIE Laboratory in Action!



# Professional Development

# Professional Development Skill Areas

## Lectures, Activities, Deliverables

Resume and  
cover letter  
creation

Job search  
strategies

Interview skills

Personal  
Branding

Networking

Workplace  
professionalism

# Networking Day for Employers



# Etiquette Luncheon



# Two Week Practicum



# Practicum Hosts

- Afoundria
- Austin Regional Clinic
- Corepoint Health
- CTG Healthcare Solutions
- Delisi Communications
- Dell Services
- e-MDs
- eCareSoft
- Greenway Medical
- Gulf Coast Regional Extension Center
- Harden Healthcare
- Harvard University (Data Privacy Lab)
- Healthcare Transformation Solutions
- Healthcare Access San Antonio (HASA)
- Legacy Community Health Services
- Lone Star Circle of Care/Centex System Support Services
- maxIT
- McKesson
- MedSpring Urgent Care
- Memorial Hermann Healthcare System
- Operational Strategies
- Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
- OZ Systems
- Patient Privacy Rights

# Practicum Hosts

- People's Community Clinic
- Premier Family Physicians
- Sandlot Solutions
- San Antonio Head and Neck Surgical Associates
- Scott & White Healthcare
- South Austin Medical Center
- Scientific Technologies Corporation
- Texas e-Health Alliance
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission: Department of Aging and Disability Services, Department of State Health Services, Medicaid Program, Office of e-Health Coordination
- Healthcare Access San Antonio (HASA)
- Legacy Community Health Services
- Lone Star Circle of Care/Centex System Support Services
- maxIT
- McKesson
- MedSpring Urgent Care
- Memorial Hermann Healthcare System
- Operational Strategies
- Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
- OZ Systems
- Patient Privacy Rights



# Research Poster Presentations



- **Judged by members of Health IT industry and healthcare organizations**





# Job Interviews



# Program Milestones



**July 2010**

**1<sup>st</sup> in the Nation to  
graduate students from  
an ONC-funded  
program, and to move  
graduates into the  
workforce!**

# Visit from Dr. David Blumenthal, National Coordinator for Health IT

October 2010



**“This program has hit a home run!”**

**Dr. David Blumenthal**

## June 2011

The program moves into the Norman Hackerman Building, a new science research and teaching building in the center of The University of Texas at Austin campus.



**Norman Hackerman Building**

Photo by Paul Finkel

# Innovation Award

## October 2011

- *Texas-Based Innovation in Healthcare Delivery Award*



BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER



**Seton**  
Healthcare Family



TEXAS  
*e*-HEALTH  
ALLIANCE

# Visit from Dr. Farzad Mostashari, National Coordinator for Health IT

## January 2012



**“Students in this program get jobs after  
only 9 weeks of training! Terrific!”**

***-Dr. Farzad Mostashari***



# Launch of the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Laboratory

**PRESS RELEASE - December 6, 2012**



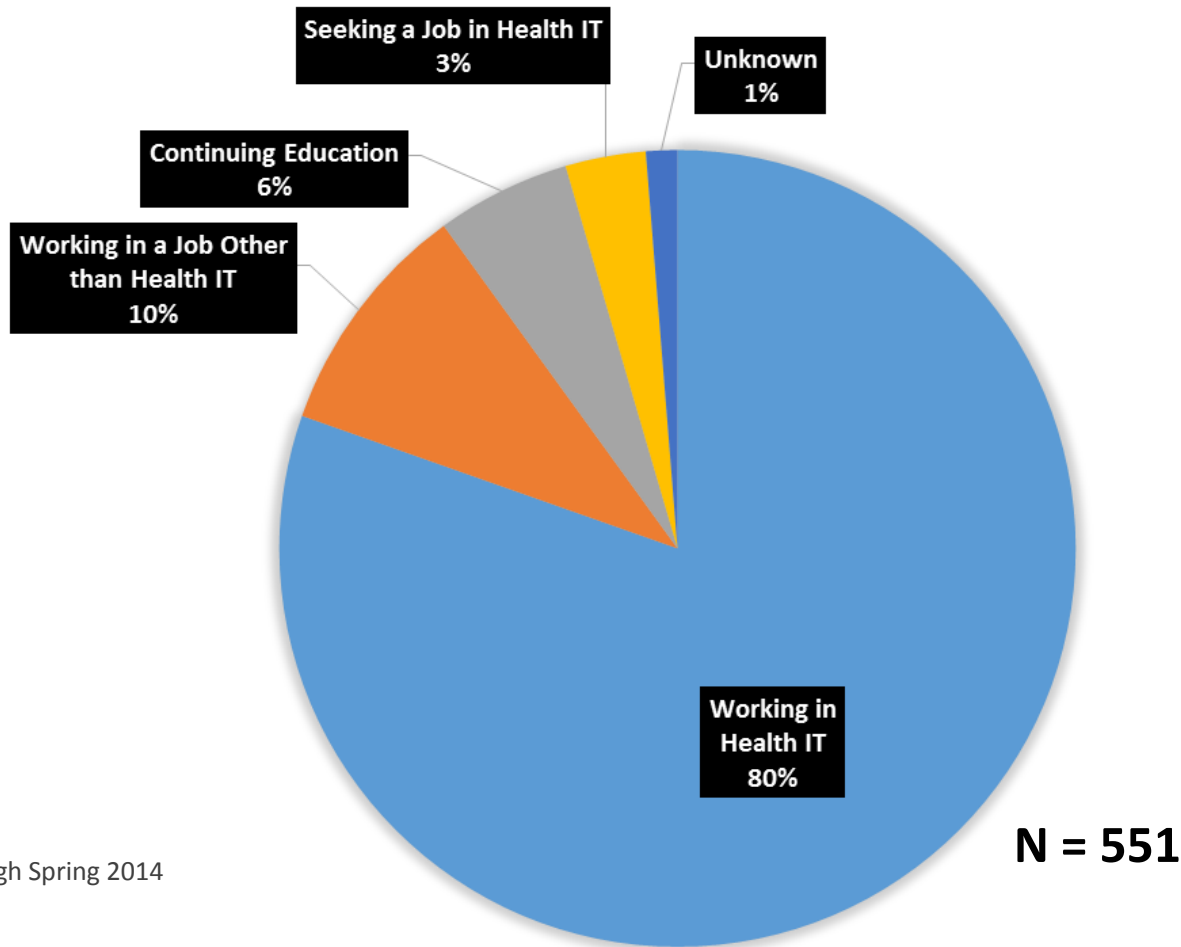
***"With the launch of our new HIE learning lab, UT Austin's Health IT Certificate students have the future of American health care in their hands. . . . I applaud the vision of our faculty and the enthusiastic support of our private sector partners in making this critical resource available to our students,"***  
***William M. Sage, M.D., JD, Vice Provost for Health Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin***

# **Employment Outcomes 2010-2014 Graduates**

# Individuals Trained (2010-2014)

Session	Graduates	Funding Source
Summer 2010	54	PURE-HIT grant
Summer 2011	54	PURE-HIT grant
Fall 2011	54	Professional Education
Spring 2012	48	Professional Education
Summer 2012	53 Austin; 9 Dallas	PURE-HIT grant
Fall 2012	50 Austin; 10 Dallas	Professional Education
Spring 2013	50 Austin; 9 Dallas	Professional Education
Summer 2013	49 Austin; 5 Dallas	Professional Education
Fall 2013	47 Austin; 7 Dallas	Professional Education
Spring 2014	45 Austin; 7 Dallas	Professional Education
Summer 2014	52 Austin; 9 Dallas	Professional Education
Fall 2014	47 Austin; 6 Dallas	Professional Education
<b>Total in 4.3 years!</b>	<b>665</b>	

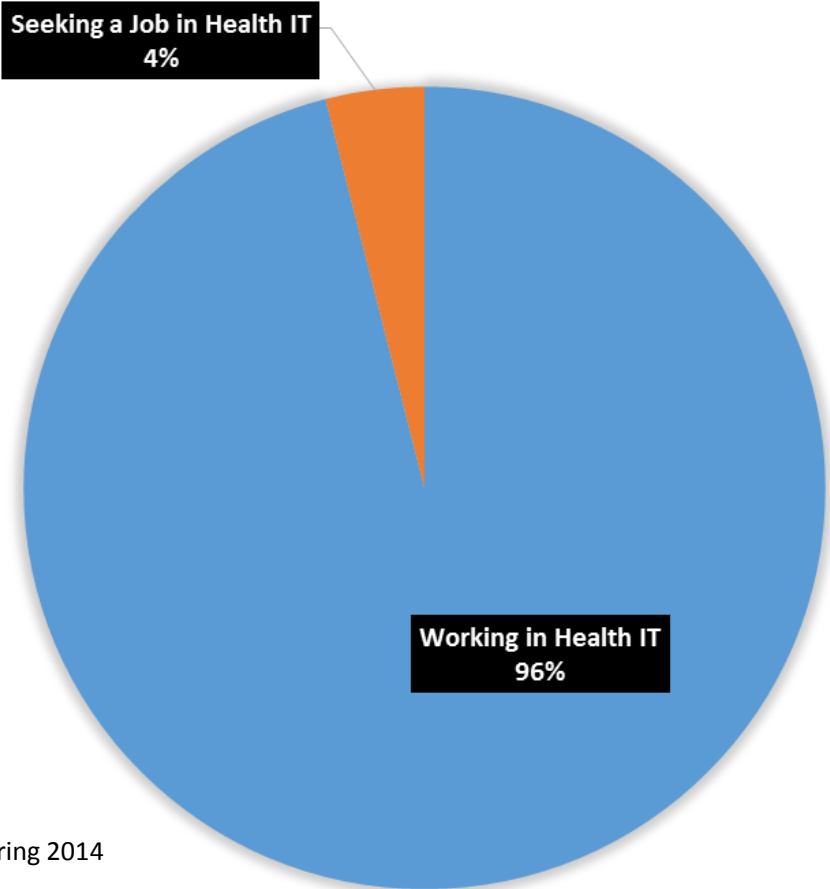
# Where Have Our Graduates Gone?



Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# Overview of Job Placement for Graduates Seeking Health IT Jobs

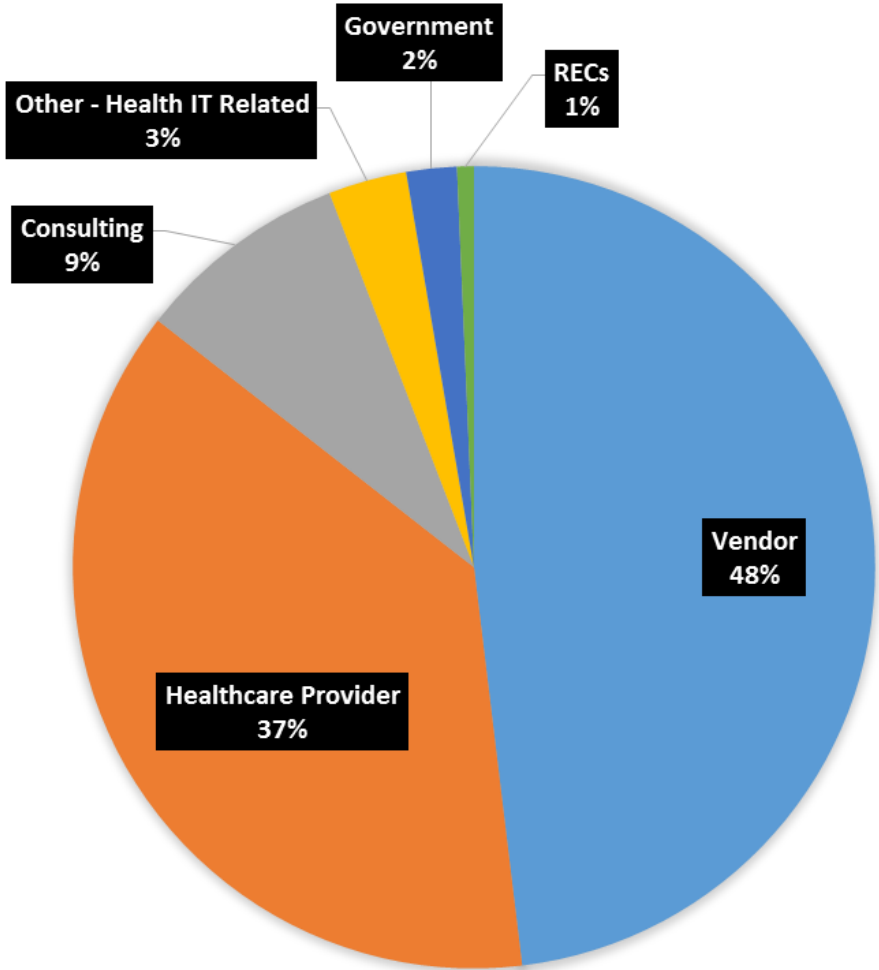
## (Summer 2010- Spring 2014)



n = 446

Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# Percent Graduates Placed with 84 Employers by Type



N=443

Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# Employers of Graduates<sup>1</sup>

Employer	Graduates
eClinicalWorks	73
Baylor Scott & White Health	51
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas	39
e-MDs	33
Cerner Corporation	27
Austin Regional Clinic (ARC)	21
Greenway	19
Dell Services	13
Corepoint Health	11
Memorial Hermann	11
Epic	9
Health Information Associates (HIA)	8
Ascension Health Information Services/ Seton Healthcare Network	7
The Advisory Board Company	7
Athena Health	6
McKesson	6
VersaSuite	6
University Health Systems	5
NextGen	4

Employer	Graduates
NextGen	4
Aprima	3
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Dentistry	3
Medix	2
UT Medicine Health Science Center San Antonio	2
Intellica	2
eCareSoft	2
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center	2
Allscripts	2
St. Davids	2
Jericho Systems Corporation	2
CommUnity Care	2
Arcadia	2
Clinical Pathology Labs	2
Providence Health Services	2
Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS)	2
Your Doctor Program	2

<sup>1</sup>Two or more graduates  
Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# Employers of Graduates<sup>2</sup>

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Cumberland Consulting Group  
American Cancer Society  
Boston Public Health Commission  
Mogul Medical Urgent Care  
St. Edward's University  
TMF  
Remedy Informatics, Inc.  
MedSpring Urgent Care  
People's Community Clinic  
Village Health Partners  
TecNex  
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center  
Universal American  
Lone Star Circle of Care/Cyntex Systems Support Services (CSSS)  
Concentra  
Accenture  
Central Texas Heart Center  
Kinnser Software  
Physician Technology Partners  
West Texas HIT REC  
Odyssey Information Services, Inc.  
Waterloo Consulting  
Afoundria  
Integra Net  
E W Consulting, Inc.  
Houston Department of Health and Human Services  
(HDHHS)

DCG Partnership 1, Ltd.  
Hospital Corporation of America (HCA)  
CynergisTek, Inc.  
Hospira  
Sonic Healthcare USA  
Hewlett-Packard  
Sandlot  
Healthcare Access San Antonio (HASA)  
United Surgical Partners International  
Texas Office of eHealth Coordination  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Health and Human Services Commission  
Premier Family Physicians  
Harden Healthcare  
Austin Bariatric Clinic, P.A.  
Gulf Coast HIT REC  
Patient Privacy Rights  
Texas Nerve and Paralysis Institute  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
Texas Health Resources  
UniMed Direct  
Texas Health and Human Services Commission  
New Mexico HIT REC (HealthInsight)  
Visible Health, Inc.  
Legacy Community Health Services

<sup>2</sup>One graduate

Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

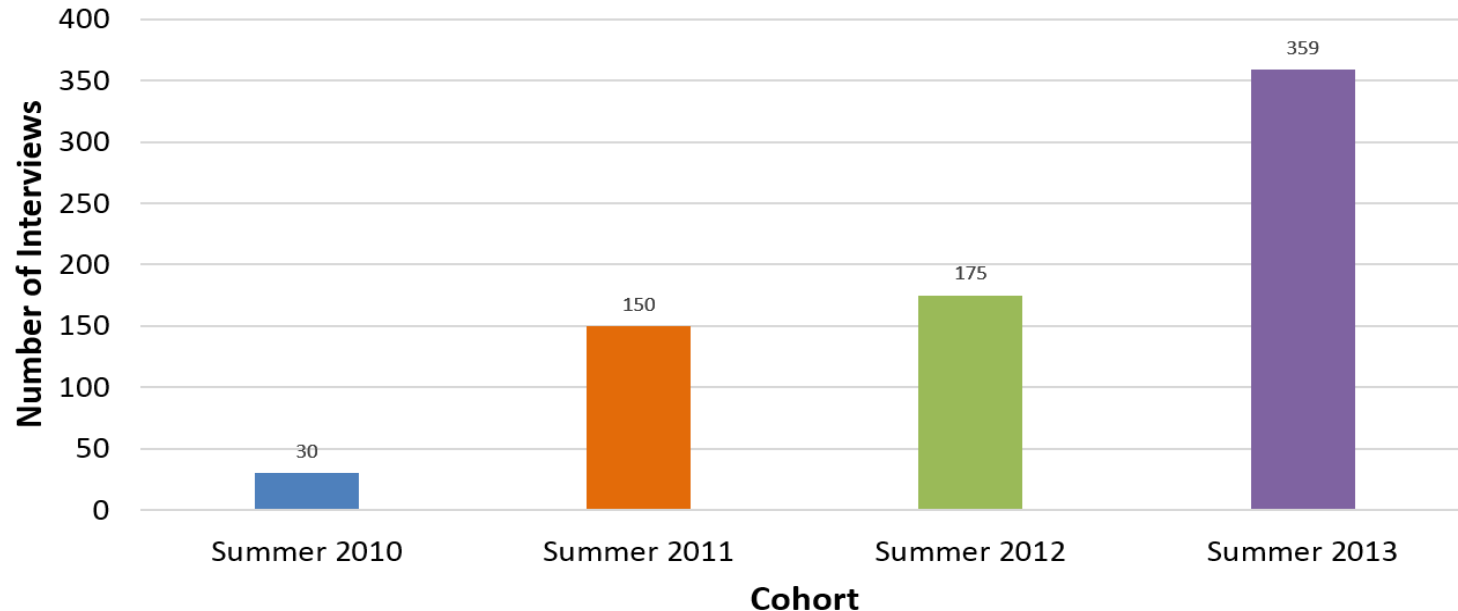


# Individuals Trained (2010-2014)

- Rate of hire for graduates of Health IT
  - 94% of Summer 2010 graduates found jobs within **15 months**
  - 89% of Summer 2011 graduates found jobs within **9 months**
  - 88% of Fall 2011 graduates found jobs within **6 months**
  - 43% of Fall 2012 graduates hired in **one month**
  - 74% of Summer 2013 graduates hired in **two months**
  - 51% Spring 2014 graduates hired within **one month**
- Salary Statistics
  - Salary range (10 cohorts): \$27,000-\$93,000
  - Average salary (10 cohorts; n=97): \$52,605

Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# On-Campus Interviews



## Summer 2013 statistics:

- 359 interviews in 1.5 days with 13 employers
- 3 to 8 interviews per student
  - 4 interviews per student (on average)

Summer 2010 through Spring 2014

# Job Titles

- Application Analyst
- Application Coordinator
- Associate Consultant
- Associate Product Manager
- Business Analyst
- Chief Medical Officer
- Clinical Support Analyst
- Consultant
- Content Developer
- Customer Service Specialist
- Data Management Specialist
- Director of Community Relations
- EHR Template Developer
- Epic Application Analyst
- Epic Implementation Consultant
- Epic Project Manager
- “Go Live” EMR Support Specialist
- Health Business Intelligence Analytics Consultant
- Health Informaticist I
- Health Revenue Cycle Associate
- HL7 Interface Analyst
- Implementation Analyst
- Implementation Consultant
- Implementation Specialist
- Interface Developer
- IT Project Management Coordinator
- Meaningful Use Consultant
- Policy Analyst
- Product Innovation Manager
- Project Management Analyst
- Project Manager
- Project Manager II
- Product Specialist
- Senior Business Analyst
- Software Developer
- Software Systems Specialist I
- Software Training Specialist
- Support Analyst
- Training Specialist I & II
- Velocity Delivery Consultant
- Workflow Analyst

# **Recent Developments/ Future Plans**

# Serving Our Veterans

- **Texas Veterans Commission**
  - May 2013: Program approved to train veterans and other eligible persons under provisions of Title 38, United States Code for programs
- Actively recruiting veterans in collaboration with UT Austin's *Student Veterans Services Office*



# St. David's Foundation Grant

- ***Health Information Technology Training for Safety Net Clinics in Central Texas***
  - One year grant (9/1/12- 8/31/12)
  - Provided Health IT education for 45 clinic personnel in three low income clinics served by the Foundation
    - El Buen Samaritano
    - Lone Star Circle of Care
    - People's Community Clinic



# Training for Office of e-Health Coordination

- Contract to provide 60 hours of didactic content
- and hands-on learning with EHR and HIE systems
- Train 10 individuals in the Office of e-Health Coordination, Texas Health and Human Services Commission



Texas Health and Human Services

# Development of a Medical Informatics Theme for the Dell Medical School (DMS)

(May 2014)

- **Taskforce Chairs:**
  - Leanne H. Field, Ph.D., M.S., UT Austin,
  - DuWayne Willett, M.D., M.S., UT Southwestern Medical School
- **Recommendations:**
  - Identify knowledge objectives
  - Suggest six learning activities to teach the knowledge objectives
    - Including hands-on skill development in the Learning Center
  - Identify the best timing for the delivery of activities
  - Suggest assessment methods
  - Develop on campus and external research and experiential learning opportunities for DMS students





# Academic Partnership with the CDC to Pilot a Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program (August 2014)

- I-Scale pilot program with the *CDC Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program* to assess ability of program graduates to solve public health informatics problems at local health departments

**InfoAid — Informatics Assistance**

**Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program (PHIFP)**

*InfoAids provide short-term informatics assistance for urgent public health needs.*

**Request an InfoAid**  
E-mail: [PHIFP@cdc.gov](mailto:PHIFP@cdc.gov)

**More Information**  
Phone: 404-498-6586  
E-mail: [PHIFP@cdc.gov](mailto:PHIFP@cdc.gov)

**What is an InfoAid?**  
An Informatics Aid (InfoAid) is a mechanism that allows CDC PHIFP fellows to provide short-term informatics assistance in the event of an urgent public health need. Short-term informatics assistance is provided to federal agencies, state and local health departments, international health agencies, and non-profit public health entities.

**Why request an InfoAid?**  
Informatics has become increasingly important in the field of public health as local, state, and federal health agencies depend on sophisticated electronic systems. InfoAids can address public health agencies' needs to provide the following:

- Access to informatics expertise for assistance in facilitating communication and data exchange
- Connectivity to regional and national Health Information Technology (HIT) infrastructure in the context of emerging national HIT landscape
- Support of country-level health information systems for disease surveillance and outbreak response in the context of the CDC's Global Health initiatives

**What are examples of InfoAids?**


- Evaluate electronic health records for tracking TB cases in a large U.S. city
- Support the CDC Emergency Operations Center's public health response activities during the H1N1 pandemic
- Design and develop a biosurveillance and preparedness dashboard for a state health department
- Support efforts to organize and display vulnerability and health indicators for a city-wide Climate Change Tracking System
- Perform strategic assessment of country-level information management systems for HIN/AIDS in a Caribbean country

**Who may request an InfoAid?**  
In the event of an urgent public health need, authorities in the following public health agencies may initiate an Info Aid:

- CDC/ATSDR and other federal agencies
- Local and state public health agencies
- International health agencies
- Non-profit public health entities

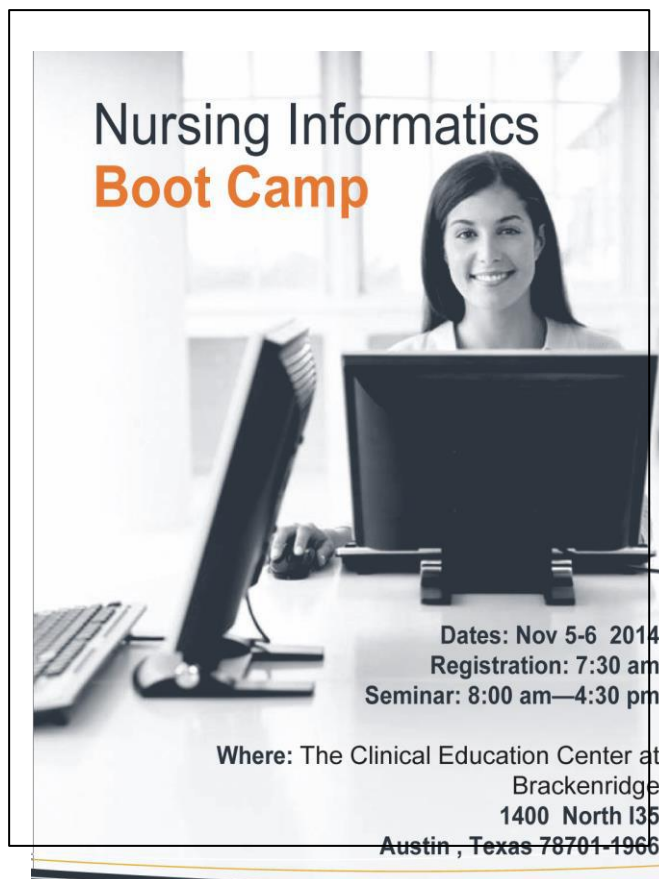
**How is an InfoAid request initiated?**  
The requesting agency contacts [PHIFP@cdc.gov](mailto:PHIFP@cdc.gov) and submits an Info-Aid Request form.

**How long will an InfoAid last?**  
An InfoAid generally lasts from 2-3 weeks but may be extended a week if necessary. After an InfoAid, the requesting agency may continue collaboration for report writing, presentation and follow-up projects.



Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services  
Scientific Education and Professional Development Program Office

# Educational Collaboration with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing (November 2014)



- Co-Sponsor **Nursing Informatics Boot Camp** (Nov. 5-6) with Seton Healthcare Family, UT Austin School of Nursing
- Provide **Advanced Experiential Education Workshop** for Master's of Nursing Informatics Students (Nov. 7-8)
  - Jointly develop advanced outpatient and inpatient clinical scenarios

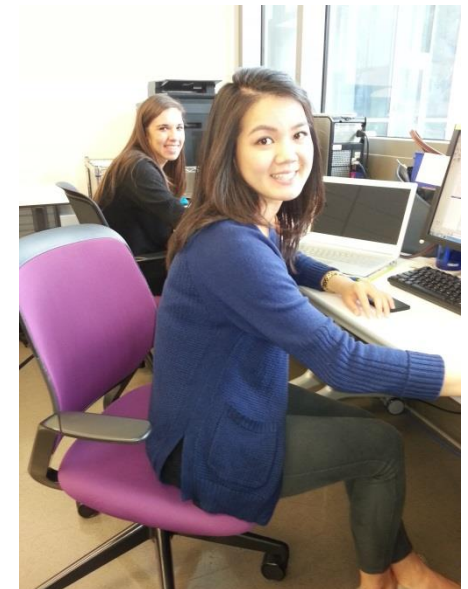
# Join Infor's Educational Alliance Program

- Offer Cloverleaf certification to interested program graduates
  - 12 students trained in Fall 2014 class
- Install Cloverleaf to integrate multiple echnologies
- Develop a *Centers of Excellence* with Infor scientists to provide students opportunities for research and experiential education



# What's Next?

- Continue to offer the nine-week Health Informatics and Health IT professional education certificate program three times per year
- Carry out applied research projects in partnership with ONC, state and local public health organizations, industry partners, and other university partners
- Offer executive education/customized employee training programs to interested organizations
- Integrate health informatics and public health informatics education into degree programs at UT Austin
- Participate in graduate medical education with the new Dell Medical School?



# Continue Development of Health IT Learning Center



**Norman Hackerman Building**

- Integrate additional technologies to fully model the Healthcare Continuum of Care
- Continue development of the HIE laboratory
- Add other emerging technologies/  
mobile applications

# Key Elements of Program Success

## Funding to launch and grow the program

- **ONC's University-Based Training Grant (\$2.77 million) – 3 years**
  - Paid students' tuition (up to \$10K)
  - Provided training-related expenses
    - Faculty salaries
    - Program costs
- **Longhorn Innovation for Technology Grant (\$100,000) – 1 year**
  - Made possible the creation of the HIE laboratory
  - The hiring of a professional engineer and experienced project manager with PMP credentials to interface with industry and develop the laboratory

# Generous Health IT industry, healthcare and governmental partners

- Initial and ongoing support from TeHA and other industry supporters
- Assistance from industry with the creation of an innovative, hands-on curriculum that makes students “job-ready”
  - Ongoing feedback to keep the curriculum current and to identify “gaps” in competencies of program graduates
- Provision of expert guest lectures from partners aligned to industry resource requirements and market drivers
- Donation of hardware, software (hosted by industry partners) and medical devices;
  - Provision of ongoing technical and training support



## Generous Health IT industry, healthcare and governmental partners (con't)

- Advice and support for the development of the HIE laboratory
- Participation in program events (e.g. employer networking day; interviews)
- Donation of scholarships (limited numbers)
- Hosting students for clinic visits and practicum experiences
- *Hiring graduates!*
- Support from our local Austin HIMSS chapter
  - Provide scholarships to students; support program events; encourage students to exhibit posters at regional meetings; mentor individual students

## Additional elements of success

- **Creative team of faculty with years of real-world experience in the field**
  - Constant desire to innovate and push the envelope for Health Informatics and Health IT education!
- **Valuable distance education partnership with UT Southwestern Medical Center**
  - Provides a satellite location in Dallas
  - Hire program graduates
  - Teach in the program and advise program faculty
- **Supportive administration in the College of Natural Sciences**
  - Provision of a modern facility appropriate for a “high tech” program
  - Partially underwrote program expenses during the 3 years of the ONC grant
  - Ongoing supplemental support services to the program without charge

# Snapshot of Success:

- 665 graduates in 4.3 years
- 96% of those seeking successfully placed in Health IT jobs
- \$52,605 average starting salary



## UT: Health-oriented data mining, managing to be in strong demand for years to come

Zach Varghese's job search in the high-demand field of health information technology lasted exactly zero days.

The day Varghese, 36, earned his health IT certificate in early November through the University of Texas, he received a job offer from e-MDs of Austin. There, he works as a content developer to improve the efficiency and security of computer networks that manage medical records for a rapidly increasing number of hospitals, physicians and health insurance providers and he's hardly the only one to rapidly enter the workforce after completing the postgraduate certificate program that was developed with the help of the private sector.

"All the students in my class are still connected on Facebook, and I've seen almost all of their statuses change to 'employed' with various health care employers in the field," Varghese said. "I actually don't think I know any of them who aren't employed in the field."

### A new way to help patients

Varghese has a medical degree and a master's degree in public health, but he switched to health IT because it offered what he saw as his best chance to improve the health care delivery system.

Since hosting its first students in summer 2010, UT has produced 391 graduates from the nine-week course, with more than 90 percent of those securing a job within a year of completion.

Students are trained to learn how health care professionals record patient information, how that information can be stored electronically and how that data travels between various computer systems used by insurers, physicians

and hospital networks.

Upon completion, graduates are able to work creating systems to store electronic health records, help implement them at customer sites and improve their efficiency so data networks can mine the information to look for long-term health trends.

UT officials created the program in response to a call from health care networks in Texas. Such networks anticipated a need for 50,000 full-time health IT workers created by provisions of the 2009 federal stimulus and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that require a transition to electronic health records, or EHRs, with penalties for providers that don't have systems in place for meaningful use by 2015.

That shift means that any company or entity involved in health care needs to have secure and accessible EHR systems in place, with trained employees earning an average of about \$51,000 per year.

### Companies helped UT get in the game

"It's built-in job security for these students because the products are always changing, and there's new systems coming into place," said Bob Ligon, a health IT instructor at UT. "The demand will stay because the technology and the health care system are changing in parallel."

Because the program was created specifically to meet industry demand, UT officials have worked closely in concert with more than 50 providers and EHR vendors who have provided medical equipment, computer systems and software to train students, and offer two-week practicum positions as part of the course.

That close relationship lets Ligon, Health IT Program Director Dr. Leanne Field and their colleagues update the course after each semester to keep current with evolving technology and user demands.

The result of that diligence is a reliable pipeline of jobs into workplaces such as e-MDs, which has hired 22 UT graduates, or Scott & White Health Plan, with 30 hires.

### More help wanted

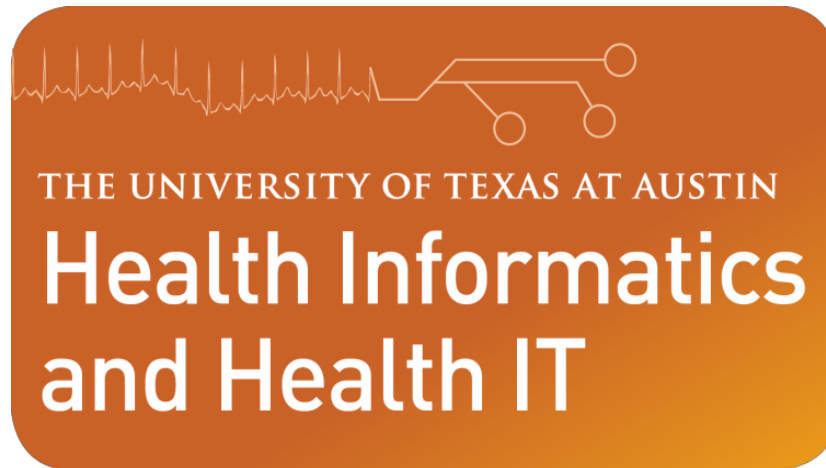
"This is a field that has grown by leaps and was one of the only professions that actually grew during the economic downturn," said Matt Chambers, chief information officer at Scott & White, where health IT employees work as project managers, trainers and data analysts. "Because most of them come into the field with a bachelor's degree, they have very interesting educational backgrounds and work well in hospitals that are working to implement the systems."

Chambers expects demand for health IT graduates to remain extremely strong for the next five years to meet the labor-intensive need to implement EHR systems throughout the health care industry.

After that, the focus will likely shift to system maintenance, which Chambers estimates will reduce yearly demand by as much as 50 percent. At UT, though, Ligon and his colleagues think the emerging field of health information data mining will keep job demand strong well into the future.

"You'll gradually see a shift in competencies and what can be done using the technology," he said. "It's going to become about taking the data and how you can use it to tell a story."

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**Thank you!**

***Leanne H. Field, Ph.D.***

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**512-475-8897**



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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA Chapter  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA Chapter

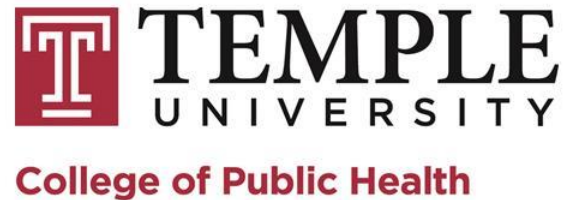
PA Health I.T. Workforce Development  
Conference  
November 7, 2014



# Models for Education and Industry Collaboration

Cathy Flite

Temple University



Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management  
(BSHIM)

Masters of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI)

Post - BS Certificates in Health Informatics

# MSHI Program



Summer	Fall	Spring
<b>Year 1</b>		
HIM 5001: Information Systems: Documentation, Ethical and Legal Aspects	HIM 8001: Information Technology for the EHR	HIM 8011: Healthcare Reimbursement Systems
HIM 5002: Clinical Information Systems	MIS 5001: Managing Information Technology	HIM 8027: Electronic Health Record: Ethical, Legal and Advocacy Aspects
HIM 5004: Introduction to Healthcare Delivery		
<b>Year 2</b>		
HIM 8028: HIS: Standards and Electronic Applications	MIS 5101: Database Analysis and Design	HIM 9189: Applied Project
OT 8509: Leadership in the Health Professions: The Art and Science of Influence	MIS 5102: Information Systems: Modeling and Development	HIM 8029: Graduate Seminar



# BSHIM

- Data Analytics and IT for HIM
- Clinical Medicine
- Management

Recommended Semester by Semester Plan

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
<b>Freshman Year – Pre-Professional</b>			
English 0802 - Analytical Reading & Writing (GW)	4	Kinesiology 1223 - Anatomy & Physiology I	4
Quantitative Literacy (GQ)*	4	IH 0851 - Mosaic I (GY)	3
HIM 1101 - Medical Terminology	3	Race & Diversity (GD)	3
Arts (GA)	3	U.S. Society (GU)	3
General Elective	2	Human Behavior (GB)	3
<b>Sophomore Year – Pre-Professional</b>			
IH 0852 - Mosaic II (GZ)	3	General Elective	3
Elective (English 2596 - Writing for Business & Industry is recommended)	3	Statistics - Math 1013 OR Psych 1167 OR Soc 1167	3
World Society (GG)	3	CIS 1055 - Computers and Applications (recommended)	4
Kinesiology 1224 - Anatomy & Physiology II	4	General Elective	3
<b>Junior Year – Professional Curriculum</b>			
HIM 3101 - Health Information Systems in Acute Care	4	HIM 3202 - Legal Aspects of Health Information Management	3
HIM 3103 - U.S. Health Care System	3	HIM 3204 - Health Information Systems in Non-acute Care	3
HIM 3020 - Special Topics in Health Information Management	1	HIM 3206 - Clinical Medicine I	3
HIM 3111 - Statistics and Research in Health Care	3	HIM 3208 - International Classification of Disease	4
HIM 3113 - Healthcare Database Administration	3	HIM 3211 - Management in Health Information Systems	3
		HIM 3285 - Professional Practice Internship	2
<b>Senior Year – Professional Curriculum</b>			
HIM 4101 - Health Informatics: Infrastructure & Standards	3	HIM 4202 - Health Informatics: Systems & Design	3
HIM 4105 - CPT Coding	4	HIM 4204 - Systems Analysis in Health Information Management	3
HIM 4107 - Quality Improvement in Healthcare	3	HIM 4211 - Political, Social & Ethical Aspects of Health Information	2
HIM 4109 - Clinical Medicine II	3	HIM 4213 - Healthcare Reimbursement Systems	3
HIM 4197 - Human Resource Management in Health Information Systems	3	HIM 4286 - Management Internship	3
		HIM 4298 - Health Information Management Case Studies	3

\* Math 0823 or 0824 are strongly recommended

# Industry Collaboration

**BSHIM (internship)**

**MSHI (project)**

**Post-Bac (hospital)**

# Outlook

- 22% growth



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

- 36% increase in health informatics jobs in 2011



burningglass  
CAREERS IN FOCUS

# Temple Students



Connexin Software Inc.



# Types of Positions

- Director, Financial Applications
- PM Engineer
- LIS Project/Reports Coordinator
- Interface Implementation Analyst
- EPIC Applications Analyst
- Epic EMR Application Coordinator
- Network PM
- AD HIM Operations
- AD of Medical Records
- Clinical Business Systems Analyst
- PM
- Training Consultation
- TUHS Training Coordinator/Specialist

Question  
**10**

As a result of my participation in the MSHI program:



# Thank you

## Contact Information

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(215) 707-7654



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA Chapter  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA Chapter

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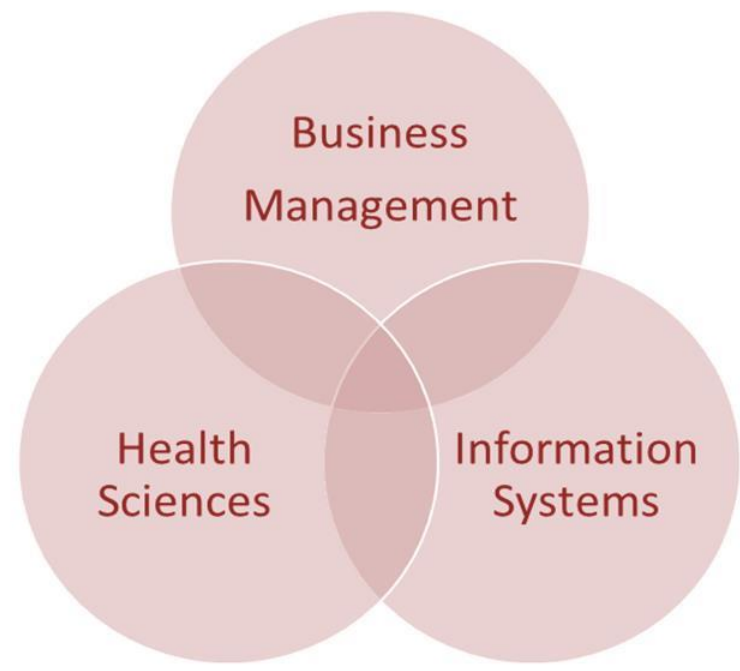


# Duquesne University Pittsburgh, PA

Bachelor of Science in Health  
Management Systems  
Masters in Health Management  
Systems



# Description of HMS Program



# Health Management Systems Degree

- Bachelors Degree
  - Pre-professional phase ( 2 years) – 69 credits
  - Professional phase – 66 credits
- Masters degree
  - 36 credits

# Internship Requirement

- Mandatory (undergrad)- 180 hours
- Can be completed after Junior Year
- Project based Internship
- Optional Internship II

# Recent Statistics

## BSHMS

Year	Class size	Employed* upon graduation	Within 3 months	Grad school	??
2012	17	8		8	1
2013	15	10	1	4	
2014	14	10		2	2

\* within health care field

# Jobs Our Graduates Hold

- Quality Analyst
- Managed Care Analyst
- Physician Practice Manager
- Systems Analyst
- Human Resource Director
- Director Of Operations
- Database Manager
- Director Of Quality
- Application Analyst
- Insurance Specialist
- Patient Data Analyst
- Medical Sales Representative
- Health Care Consultant
- Project Manager

# Health Information Education Options at Penn College

Dan Christopher, MBA, RHIA  
Department Head, Health Information  
Programs  
Penn College, Williamsport, PA

# Pennsylvania College of Technology

- Penn College enrolls nearly 6,000 students in bachelor, associate, and certificate programs relating to more than 100 different career areas.
- Penn College manages the state's largest worker training program through its Workforce Development and Continuing Education unit.

# Current Options Available at Penn College

- **Health Information Coding Specialist**  
CERTIFICATE
- **Health Information Technology**  
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (A.A.S.)
- **Health Information Management**  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE (B.S.)
  - A 2+2 bachelor's completion program offered completely online



# Possible Future Directions for Penn College Health Information Programs

- The College recognizes and agrees with AHIMA's Reality 2016 career projections for the Health Information profession which includes four priority areas:
  - Encourage HIM professionals to obtain master's level degrees
  - Enhance opportunities for individuals with associate degrees through specialized tracks
  - Invest in faculty development in research, EHR management, data integrity, and data governance
  - Increase the number of graduate-prepared HIM professionals by creating eligible pathways for doctoral- or master's-prepared individuals, including proposed post-graduate certificates
- Since Penn College currently only offers associate and bachelor degree programs, we hope to focus on development of specialized tracks

# Specialized Tracks for Health Information Education

- This will most likely take shape as post degree certificate programs building on our existing programs.
- Specialty Tracks could focus on areas such as:
  - Clinical Documentation Improvement
  - Health Data Analytics
  - Healthcare Privacy and Security
  - Healthcare Technology
  - Data Governance
- AHIMA already offers certification credentials in many of these areas

# References

- Butler, Mary. "Adapt or Disappear: AHIMA's Reality 2016 has a New Mission to Transform the HIM Workforce through Education—or Else." *Journal of AHIMA* 85, no.5 (May 2014): 24-29.

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