

## **About the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC)**

The Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) was created by the passage of HB 2009 within the Oregon Health Authority. The Council is comprised of eleven individuals appointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski, and is charged with developing a statewide strategic plan for electronic health information exchange, coordinating public and private efforts to increase adoption of electronic health records, setting technology standards, ensuring privacy and security controls, and creating a sustainable business plan to support meaningful use of health information technology to lower costs and improve quality of care.

## [HITOC Members](#)

### **Upcoming HITOC Meeting:**

**Thursday, September 2, 2010**  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Oregon State Library  
Room 103  
250 Winter St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

### ***Save the Date:***

### **Oregon HIMSS Evening Social:**

Thursday, October 7, 2010  
Portland, Oregon  
Location: TBD- look for an announcement in the September HITOC Newsletter

## **Oregon's Strategic and Operational Plans for Health Information Exchange (HIE) approved by HITOC, OHA**

HITOC members unanimously voted their approval at their August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to recommend that Dr. Goldberg, Director of the OHA, approve and submit the final drafts of the HIE Strategic and Operational Plans for Oregon to the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC). The Oregon Health Policy Board confirmed the support and Dr. Goldberg has added his approval for the Plans. Staff is busy finalizing the formatting and collecting letters of support to include with the Plans when they are submitted to the ONC the week of August 23.

Over 150 individuals and organizations provided input through the HITOC website, public meetings in six communities around the state, and a statewide webinar. The comments received were captured and categorized for HITOC consideration, and several changes to the original draft were incorporated into the final approved Plans. Much of the feedback from this process will be incorporated into the work plan of Phase 1.

ONC approval of the Plans would mean that Oregon will receive several million dollars in implementation funds to help make the plans for HIE in Oregon a reality. In order to jumpstart these implementation efforts, HITOC has already begun the process to form the Workgroups and Panels that will be essential in performing the continued planning work that will be done during Phase 1 of implementation (please see story below for further details and information on applying).

### **HITOC Opens Applications for Phase 1 Workgroups and Advisory Panels**

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, HITOC voted to launch three workgroups: Technology, Finance, and Legal and Policy, in September. There will also be two advisory panels, one comprised of Executives of HIOs and the other a Consumer Advisory Panel.

We hope that all the people who have helped develop the Strategic and Operational Plans, as well as those interested in getting involved, will consider participating in the HIE planning and implementation efforts through one of the workgroups or panels. Applications are now open, with workgroup applications due by August 27. HITOC will make the appointments at its September 2 meeting and workgroups will start in September. Applications for the initial round of appointments to the Consumer Advisory Panel are due September 24.

Click [here](#) for more information and to get an application form.

## Newly created HIT course curriculum released August 17

In April 2010, ONC awarded \$10 million in two-year cooperative agreements to five US institutions of higher education to develop curriculum and instructional materials to enhance workforce training programs primarily at the community college level. One of the awardees under this program, Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), received additional funding to serve as the National Training and Dissemination Center to host an in-person training event for community college faculty, establish a secure electronic site from which all materials may be downloaded, collect feedback from instructors and students, and coordinate subsequent revisions of the curriculum materials.

The training event took place August 9-11 in Portland, Oregon. Over 200 community college faculty from across the country and approximately 40 university staff from the five Curriculum Development Centers were in attendance (University of Alabama at Birmingham, Columbia University, Duke University, Johns Hopkins University, and OHSU).

Portland Community College (PCC) also received funding through the Community College Consortia Program, which provides assistance to five regional consortia of 70 community colleges across the country. PCC is part of the Bellevue College Consortia, and will receive \$625,000 to partner over the next two years with Mt. Hood, Lane, Umpqua, and Blue Mountain Community Colleges to train and place 300 health IT workers. Each college will create non-degree, certificate training programs that can be completed in six months or less. At PCC, a newly created "Health Informatics Concentration of Study Award" will be offered beginning this fall.

The materials developed by the Curriculum Development Centers for these new community college HIT workforce certificate programs were distributed to the members of the Community College Consortia Program on August 17 for courses to begin this fall.

### News from *EHR Watch*: Medical certification boards help drive critical mass of health IT

Two significant medical certification boards - the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) - have announced their intention to make health IT deployment a standard in their assessment and certification of physician competency. (Please see "Recent Articles of Interest" below for a link to the full story.)

#### Contact Information

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#### Recent Articles of Interest

- [Medical certification boards help drive critical mass of health IT \(EHR Watch\)](#)
- [Bills Address EHR Incentive Pay for Hospitals, Mental Health Care \(iHealthBeat\)](#)
- [Health Care Providers, Insurers Lay Out Plans to Boost EHR Use \(iHealthBeat\)](#)