



HISI NEWS

April 2006 Edition

HISI at ICT Expo 2006, May 06

ICT Expo, Ireland's leading Information and Communications Technology event, will run over two days, 4 & 5 May 2006. The HISI/Proreclreland Session is scheduled for Thursday 4 May, from 2pm to 4.30pm.

The HISI / Proreclreland session will focus on ICT success in the Health Sector in Ireland. The importance of ICT in healthcare delivery at every level will be highlighted in speakers presentations and case studies from users. Positive news and success stories in the development, implementation and utilisation of information systems and technologies will be featured.

Enterprise Ireland will play a key role in the conference, reflecting the agency's welcome decision to adopt a proactive position in supporting the ICT healthcare sector in Ireland.

We anticipate that the international panel of speakers will attract a large audience again this year and prompt discussion on the importance of interoperability and the need for standards in the development, implementation and utilisation of electronic records.

For full details on speaker profiles and presentations visit www.ics.ie/expo

HISI Research Bursaries 2006

Every year the Society awards two research grants of €2000 each, to enable individuals to study an area of Healthcare Informatics. Submissions are received from a range of Informatics students at Bachelor, Higher Diploma/Post Graduate Diploma, Masters and PhD level.

The 2005 HISI Student Bursaries were awarded to:

Bridget Kane, Department of Computer Science, Trinity College

Mark Donnelly, Faculty of Engineering, University of Ulster

The closing date for applications for the current grant is **11 September 2006**. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of October 2006.

Please submit applications in writing or by email to: The Secretary (Research Awards), Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland, 58 Eccles Street, Dublin 7. Email: ghurl@mater.ie

The HISI Website

Please bear with us as our website undergoes changes. We hope to be up-to-date by the summer. Feedback and suggestions or recommendations regarding news or articles for the website can be sent to the Webmaster at hisi@hisi.ie. In the meantime, keep visiting us at www.hisi.ie



A look back at the HISI Conference 2005, Ireland's premier healthcare informatics event

Ireland's premier healthcare informatics event

On Wednesday, 16 & Thursday, 17 November last year, HISI hosted it's 10th Annual Conference and Scientific Symposium in the Stillorgan Park Hotel, Dublin.

A record number of delegates attended the opening day of the conference which offered a series of workshop and tutorial programs on new technologies in healthcare, financial application systems, nursing informatics, HL7 and a workshop on the new Healthcare Informatics Standards Committee established by the National Standards Authority of Ireland.

Post-graduate Informatics Students also had an opportunity to present their current projects and theses in progress. The plenary session featured acknowledged leaders and experts in healthcare management and information technology.



The O'Moore Medal 2005

We were very pleased that An Taoiseach, Mr. Bertie Ahern T.D. presided over the opening ceremony and presented the O'Moore medal to Professor Dr. Georges De Moor, head of the Department of Medical Informatics and Statistics of the State University of Ghent, Belgium and President of the European Institute for Health Records (EuroRec).

Picture to left : An Taoiseach, Mr. Bertie Ahern T.D. presenting the O'Moore medal to Professor Dr. Georges De Moor.

Keynote Speakers

In keeping with tradition, a keynote speaker at the plenary session was the current holder of the US CEO of the year award for information technology, Mr. Mark Neaman. Mr. Neaman was recognised for his crucial role in implementing a complete EMR system across the healthcare systems.

The session was organised in conjunction with the Irish Health Services Management Institute and explored the topic of "Maximising the potential of information technology in the management of healthcare".

The session chair was Mr. M. Lyons (Chief Executive, Adelaide & Meath incorporating National Children's Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin and Chairman, Irish Health Services Management Institute) and further distinguished keynote speakers on the day were Georges de Moor,

Alan Burns (CEO of Trent Strategic Health Authority UK) and Ken White (President & CEO of Trillium Health, Ontario, Canada).



Picture to left:
Georges De Moor,
Mark Neaman,
Ken White and
Jane Grimson –
plenary session

Prize for best paper

The €300 prize for best paper was kindly sponsored by IMS Maxims plc and presented by Mr. Tom Holmes to Ms. Ann Forde for her paper entitled "An Investigation Into Background Noise Classification During Pre-Processing".

The opening day's seminars and workshops showcased the knowledge of internationally recognised experts in healthcare informatics, most notably clinical decision support, nursing informatics, healthcare informatics standards, technology and systems innovation.

The second day's peer reviewed parallel sessions comprised of over forty presentations and explored developments in the use of information technology in the support of all aspects of the healthcare delivery process.

Commercial Exhibition

With a record number of attendees and exhibitors, we trust that we provided the opportunity to network effectively and to update and inform on the most recent developments in healthcare informatics at home and abroad.

During the conference, ICS Skills demonstrated the Health Informatics Training System (HITS), a training and certification solution for all healthcare workers. HITS is delivered online where candidates can access study aids. HITS certification is awarded by ICS Skills and was developed by ICS in partnership with the Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland.

The commercial exhibition was considerably expanded, with an increase in exhibition space of 50%. Exhibitors reflected a wide range of the systems and technologies utilised in healthcare and included a number of the world's major EPR/EHR vendors. In addition to exhibitions and demonstrations, a vendor parallel session enabled each company to make specific presentations and announcements.

We look forward to the upcoming 11th Annual Conference which is scheduled for 15 & 16 November 2006. See the next and back pages for further information.



Picture above: Mr. Tom Holmes of IMS
Maxims plc presenting the award for best
paper to Ms. Ann Forde.

HISI 11th Annual Conference and Scientific Symposium

The 11th Annual Conference and Scientific Symposium will take place on Wed. 15 & Thurs. 16 November 2006 at the Stillorgan Park Hotel, Stillorgan Rd, Dublin. Please see the back page for further information on the symposium and the call for papers and presentations.

O'Moore Medal 2006

Nominations for the O'Moore Medal, which the Society awards as appropriate to individuals or organisations that have made a major contribution to the development of Healthcare Informatics are now being considered by the Executive Committee of HISI.

Please send nominations by post or email to:

Mr. Gerard Hurl, Chairman,
Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland, 58 Eccles Street, Dublin 7. Email: ghurl@mater.ie

Report on Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Conference 2006

HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society) www.himss.org is the USA healthcare industry's membership organisation exclusively focused on providing leadership for the optimal use of healthcare information technology and management systems. Founded in 1961 with offices in Chicago and Washington D.C. HIMSS represents some 17,000 individual members and 275 member corporations employing over 1 million people.

The Annual HIMSS* conference took place in San Diego CA from Feb 12-16. The conference is the largest of its kind and brings together some 24,000 attendees and 825 exhibitors. Attendance is largely US based but there is also a growing International attendance.

Conference Themes

The conference usually has a number of key themes as with 200+ sessions it is too diverse to focus on one alone. This year there was a pronounced emphasis on Medical Error, Interoperability and Standards, Electronic Health Record (EHR), and RHIOs (Regional Health Information Organisations).

The key themes would reflect the results of the annual survey of healthcare information technology (IT) executives, who responded to the 17th Annual HIMSS Leadership Survey sponsored by ACS Healthcare Solutions. With patient satisfaction and safety at the top of the list of business priorities, other key results include:

- Patient satisfaction is the driving business issue facing healthcare, according to more than half of healthcare IT executives polled in the annual survey.
- Half of survey respondents identified reducing medical errors/promoting patient safety as a top priority.
- A paperless electronic medical record (EMR) for patients within a hospital system is getting closer: nearly 1 in 4 (24 percent) have a fully operational EMR system.

The survey includes responses from more than 200 IT executives who oversee the technology operations at more than 473 hospitals throughout the United States.

Keynote Speakers, Education Seminars and Workshops

As always there was a strong political and commercial presence among the keynote speakers including Dr David Brailer (advisor to President Bush on Healthcare IT) and Craig Barrett (Chairman of Intel Corp). Also contributing was Congressman Patrick Kennedy (Rhode Island) who has a keen interest in Health affairs and in fact has a Bill going through Congress at present.

Among the speakers from the Healthcare community were

- Bernard Kouchner, MD ("Universal Access to Medical Care Through Technology"). Kouchner, co-founder and president of Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors without Frontiers is the recipient of several human rights awards who has played a central role in international efforts in the fight against AIDS.

•Prof. Dr Georges de Moor (" Quality Labelling and Certification of Electronic Health Records") Head of the Department of Health Informatics and Medical Statistics of the State University of Ghent, President of Eurorec and recipient of the Prof. Rory O'Moore Medal at HISI Annual Conference 2005.
•Carolyn Clancy, director of the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (Healthcare IT: The Foundation for Improving Care)
•Richard Alvarez, president & CEO, Canada Health Infoway (EHR Implementation – A Progress Report from Abroad)

Commercial Activity

With over 825 exhibitors the exhibition space is enormous. All the major companies attend and those such as IBM, Kodak, Picas, Philips, Siemens, Oracle, Intersystems Cerner, MYSIS, iSOFT, Microsoft, Meditech, Vastech, HP et al had an anchor booth or large demonstration space. The range of exhibitors extends from these majors down to small specialist companies employing as few as 10 or 12 persons. The Innovation Pavilion offers demonstration and lecture facilities for new products and for research groups and associations. Some of the larger associations/groups such as those involved in IHE, EHR and Wireless/Mobility have a rolling series of demonstrations in this pavilion.

The USA Department of Defence, which invests heavily in Health R&D and operates a large number of Health establishments has a section with information booths and demonstrations showing leading edge military healthcare management and information systems and technologies.

As the Healthcare IT industry grows, vendors are continually conducting R&D into new products and services which they wish to show to conference attendees. HIMSS 06 has a database with approx 300 entries devoted to new products and solutions.

The annual conference is also a prime time to make announcements of company mergers and acquisitions, which this year included Dictaphone bought by Nuance and IDX by GE.

International Attendance

There is a growing International (non USA) attendance at the conference. The largest such contingent would be from Canada (500+), Europe (group of 100 from Netherlands alone), China and Australia.

The Departments of Trade from some of these countries, notably Canada and Australia, use HIMSS as a showcase for their software vendors. There is mention that Enterprise Ireland may do something similar in the future. Informatics Societies such as HISI, COACH (Canada), CHIK (Australia) and EuroRec (Europe) contribute to the debates and workshops and ensure that Government policies and vendor developments and initiatives take account of the wider picture.

HIMSS with EuroRec as the European Secretariat and a range of other societies are presenting a conference in Geneva 12 & 13 Oct (World of Health IT 2006). For information contact <http://www.eurorec.org/WoHIT2006/index.cfm>. There will be an Asia/Pacific equivalent in Singapore May 2007.

Report on the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Standards Workshop in Enterprise Ireland Feb 06

On 27 February 2006, the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) hosted the first of a series of workshops on standards in health informatics at the Enterprise Ireland Offices in Glasnevin.

The theme for the February event was standardization of the EHR. Two major standardization initiatives were covered in the days proceedings - CEN TC251 EHRcom, and HL7 Version 3. The 50 delegates who attended the event came from all over the country and from many different specialisms and roles within the health service and from supporting organizations. The delegates were first brought on a detailed tour through the many facets of the EHRcom standard by Damon Berry from Dublin Institute of Technology. Tony Kenny from Beaumont Hospital related his experiences of working with HL7 version 3.

The afternoon session focused on the formation of the Irish EHR standards working group. Chrissie Keane, the Secretary of NSAI's Health Informatics Standards Committee outlined how the plan is to develop a series of workshops which can be delivered as a roadshow in the different health regions. For the moment however, the workshops will be held in Dublin.

For information on upcoming events, please see next page

Upcoming Events in 2006 + 2007

(see the "Future Meetings" Section of the HISI Website for further information and web links)



NSAI Health Informatics Standardisation Committee Workshop (HISC)

Advances in healthcare within Ireland indicate a reform of the services is underway which will include the development of an electronic healthcare record (EHR).

During this implementation nurses in key positions within our healthcare service will need to articulate clearly how they will expect to translate patient data into a format for delivery within the EHR.

In order for nursing to achieve this we will need to proactively engage with the standards domain debate in Europe.

This workshop provides a simple introduction for nursing staff interested in standards with a specific focus on nursing language concepts and terminology. It introduces CENTC 251 ENV 13606 and ISO 18104 Nursing Reference Language and Terminology for nursing diagnosis and interventions. It introduces the NSAI live link web page.

<http://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink.exe?func=ll&objId=807938&objAction=browse&sort=name>

It will review nursing classifications systems and the International Classification of Nursing Practice Version 1. The workshop will consider the potential role standards and classification systems may have in steering nursing language in the future development of the EHR in Ireland.

Details - 30 May 2006, 09.30hrs, Main Lecture Theatre, Enterprise Ireland
If you would like more information, you may contact Chrissie at chrissie.keane@nsai.ie



This conference will take place in Seoul, North Korea from 11-14 June 2006. It is the premier International conference for nurses and informatics experts working with informatics applications in nursing care, administration, research and education and aims to bring together the worlds of the nursing informatics community.

For further information, registration forms and notice of deadlines, see <http://www.ni2006.org>



The 20th International Conference of the European Federation for Medical Informatics is scheduled for 20-27 August 2006 in Maastricht, Netherlands. The theme for MIE2006:

"Ubiquity: technologies for better health in aging societies"

Online registration and further information is available at <http://www.mie2006.org>



The 21st Bi-ennial Congress of the European Association of Hospital Managers will take place from 31 August - 2 September 2006 in Trinity College, Dublin. This congress will explore the professional challenge of healthcare management in Europe. There will be a particular emphasis on the pivotal role of the healthcare manager in the planning and delivery of healthcare services. For further details and registration form, see <http://www.eahm2006.ie>



Hosted by the NMPDU-NWA.
Conference Themes will include Health Governance, HR, Communication, Education, Research and Evidence-based practise. Date and venue – 21 September 2006, Sligo.
Contact Paula Kavanagh for further details. Paula.kavanagh@mailb.hse.ie or 071 9822106.



The World of Health IT 2006 Conference & Exhibition promises to be a first of its kind conference. This European-based event will attract and connect leaders and experts in health information and communications technology from Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Addressing the perspectives of clinicians, directors and other healthcare professionals, The World of Health IT 2006 will offer educational sessions, vendor exhibitions, exchange of experiences, networking sessions and other professional development opportunities.
For further information, see <http://www.eurorec.net>



HISA, Australia (The Health Informatics Society of Australia) will host the Medinfo 2007 Congress from 20 – 24 August 2007 in Brisbane. A Medinfo conference is the premier triennial international meeting for the medical informatics community. Medinfo 2007 will be the 12th Medinfo conference and 2007 will also mark the 40th anniversary of IMIA (International Medical Informatics Association)
For further information, Congress Announcement and call for submissions see <http://www.medinfo2007.org>



Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland
~ *Cumann Ríomheolais Sláinte* ~

Incorporating the Healthcare Informatics Section of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland
Affiliated to the Irish Computer Society

11th Annual Conference and Scientific Symposium

Wed. 15 – Thurs. 16 November 2006
Stillorgan Park Hotel, Stillorgan Rd, Dublin

The 11th annual conference and scientific symposium will reflect current developments in healthcare computing, associated technologies and communications infrastructures within Ireland and in the wider international context.

Preliminary Announcement, Call for Papers and Presentations

Papers and Poster Presentations of either a general or specialised nature will be considered. Abstracts of no more than 150 words must be submitted (by post or email) before Friday, 8 September 2006 to:

Mr. Gerard Hurl, Chairman
Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland
58, Eccles Street, Dublin 7
email: ghurl@mater.ie

NB. Abstracts should comply with the guidelines issued by the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland. See www.hisi.ie for details.

A prize of €300 will be offered for the best paper or poster presentation

Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland, 58 Eccles Street, Dublin 7
Tel: +353 1 8600568 Fax: +353 1 8307728 Email: hisi@hisi.ie Web: www.hisi.ie