Health Information Management

75th Anniversary

1934-2009

Remembering our Legacy
Celebrating our Future

THE COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA
HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
75 years
1934-2009
Dear friend of The College of St. Scholastica,

Among the many contributions The College of St. Scholastica has made to the world of scholarship, the area of health information management is unique.

We can say with great pride that, as the first academic program in the nation to be recognized by the national professional association in 1984, we are among the founders of this profession. We have been a national leader ever since and remain so 75 years later.

The story you will read in this book is one of vision, dedication and progress. Our faculty members have set the standard for teaching and curricular excellence. Our students have gone on to lead in practice, research and professional development nationwide.

Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to this achievement, past, present and future.

Larry Goodwin
President
The College of St. Scholastica
In the Beginning...

In 1905 Mother Scholastica Kerst, Prioress of the Sisters of St. Benedict, purchased the “Daisy Farm” high on the hill above Duluth, MN, with an expansive view of Lake Superior. In 1908 ground was broken for Tower Hall, the beginning of a girls’ academy known as Villa Scholastica.

In 1912 the College was founded as a two-year institution. It expanded into a four-year institution in 1924 with 68 students enrolled. In 1928 Tower Hall was completed.

Sister M. Patricia Thibadeau, a petite woman with a congenitally deformed foot, scarred lungs from tuberculosis and a background of teaching normal school, was appointed by her superior at the St. Scholastica Priory to establish the first medical record department at St. Mary’s Hospital, another institution owned and operated by the Sisters. The medical record department opened in a parlor on Jan. 1, 1919, equipped with only a desk and a typewriter.

In 1926 Sister Patricia became the administrator (superintendent) of St. Mary’s Hospital, but her interest in medical records remained, and she became one of the first members of the new national association, the Association of Record Librarians of North America (ARLNA). Her application was approved in 1933 as registration #12.

When the national association first proposed the establishment of schools for medical record librarians, Sister Patricia was very interested and presented her superiors with a plan for a program at St. Mary’s Hospital in conjunction with The College of St. Scholastica.
When Mother Agnes Somers suggested a degree program, Sister immediately revised her plan. She had the cooperation of Dean Sister M. Alice Lamb and the faculty of the College as well as the medical staff of St. Mary’s Hospital in developing the program.

In October 1933 Sister Patricia sent her first letter expressing interest in developing a course for preparing medical record librarians to Evelyn Vreidenburg, president of ARLNA. On Nov. 16, 1933, a tentative curriculum for the St. Mary’s Training School for Record Librarians was sent to Jessie Harned, the association’s chair of the Committee on Medical Records. It was based on the association’s model curriculum for a certificate course requiring a minimum of six months including coursework in anatomy, theory of record keeping, medical terminology, and medical ethics. The model curriculum also required students to have extensive hospital-based experience with checking, assembling, summarizing, and filing case records; indexing and statistics; taking dictation and transcribing operative reports; working with pathology records in outpatient departments, social services and the admitting office; and visiting special hospitals (e.g. those for the “feebleminded”). Hospitals were authorized by the association to charge a fee for this course at a minimum of $10 per month and a maximum of $25 per month. The student’s minimum age was to be 21 with two years of college or the equivalent, proficiency in typing and shorthand, and a certificate of good health from a reputable doctor.

On Nov. 9, 1934, Sister Patricia received conditional approval for the St. Mary’s Training School for Record Librarians in a letter written by Edna K. Huffman, president of the ARLNA. On Feb. 5, 1935, five young women, all college graduates, registered for the new course. In June 1935, Huffman conducted the first official survey of the program and the College was notified on July 24 that it had received full approval. It was the first baccalaureate degree program in existence for this fledgling health profession. In the 1935 St. Scholastica bulletin it was listed in the table of contents under Secretarial Science with 180-189 credits required for graduation and an average of “C” or better in all coursework. Required textbooks included a medical dictionary, “Standard Classified Nomenclature of Disease,” “Medical Shorthand-Gregg,” and “Hospital Case Records,” as well as “The Record Librarian,” written by Minnie Genevieve Morse, RRL. The purpose of the program was “to prepare young women for the scientific transcribing and handling of hospital and medical records and for assistance in medical research.”

In 1935 there were four graduates of the Record Librarian Program: Mary Evelyn Rapin, Berenice LaLiberte, Jessica Lounsberry, and Ivy Rose Hubert.
They took a national registration examination that had to be written in ink or typewritten and took three and one-half hours to complete. Sample questions included: In making a case summary, what items of the laboratory report are most essential for inclusion? What information is included in a really valuable operative report?

All College students were told that “simplicity is always elegant and in good taste; therefore simplicity should guide the college girl in her choice of dress, and the charm of modesty should be her one distinctive ornament.” The students in the Record Librarian Program were required to wear a white uniform, white shoes and white stockings.

Sister Patricia Thibadeau served as both superintendent and director of the program. In 1936 Mary Gearn, an employee of St. Mary’s Hospital since 1929, was approved by the ARLNA as the first instructor. The College bulletin revealed that the program became a part of Division V along with history, sociology and preparation for social service, economics, commercial education, and secretarial training. Tuition was listed as $10 per month, not including room and board. In 1936 the program graduated Judith Chadwick, Catherine Dwyer, Olive Johnson, Rita Ross, and Catherine Vince.

The program quickly grew in popularity, and the College decided to limit the number of students accepted in the program to 10. The 1937-38 catalog was the first to publish the purpose of the program – “to prepare young women for the scientific transcribing and handling of hospital and medical records and for assistance in medical research.” Students at that time stood in the doorway of the operation room and took dictation in shorthand while the surgeon closed the operative wound.
Sister Loretta Sheehan, who apprenticed under the guidance of Sister Patricia Thibadeau, completed the program in 1937. From 1937 – 1948 she served as associate record librarian at St. Mary’s Hospital and medical record instructor at the College. Sister Loretta produced an annual publication entitled the “Bells of St. Mary’s” and sent it to all program graduates. In the first issue (1938), she introduced a new “terminology of operations” called the Classified Nomenclature of Operations of the New York Hospitals and she announced that the national association had changed its name to the American Association of Medical Record Librarians (AAMRL), which had over 800 members.

Stanbrook Hall, Rockhurst Auditorium, Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel, the College Library, and two connecting cloister walks were constructed in 1938.

The medical record curriculum was modified in 1939 to include newspaper reporting and writing, accounting, philosophy, advanced writing, report writing, and hospital administration.
In the Decades that Followed...

The Forties...

In the early 1940s, plans were considered that would create a five-year program in medical record science: four years of college work plus a nine-month internship. The theory behind this proposal was that students would be a little older before going out into professional practice. This program was never put into place in its entirety, but a four-year curriculum was instituted in 1943.

Student activities included reading “Joy of Living” by Dr. Franklin H. Martin and writing a 2,500-word term paper on any phase of medical record work. A comprehensive examination was administered to seniors as a requirement for graduation.

In 1940 the total college enrollment was 434 and the program graduated eight students. Mary Gearn left the faculty and Catherine Dwyer took her place.

In the 1940-41 annual report of the program, the following was included: “The theory of record keeping was improved and made a full three-point semester lecture course. Time in X-ray and admissions was cut from one month to two weeks, giving two months to surgery because of the relative importance of the service to the actual duties of most of our graduates.” The annual report of the program also stated that “students wrote a 12-minute skit entitled ‘National Defense of the Patient’ which was presented at a combined meeting of the Minnesota Hospital Association and allied groups in St. Paul.” In addition, “refresher courses were given during the year to three record librarians – two courses for three weeks each and one for a month.”

In 1942 the program became part of the Department of Economics and Business Education in the Division of Social Sciences.

Speech, medical terminology, medical shorthand, medical record keeping, as well as organization and management were added to the curriculum. Students divided their time between the hospital and the college classroom: 10 hours and 14 hours respectively each week. Tuition was $37.50 per semester or $75 per year. Resident students were required to spend the third weekend of each month on campus. This provided an opportunity for all-College social events and for parties and club meetings.
Sister Loretta’s master’s thesis survey revealed that graduates of the program felt they received the most value from their courses in medical terminology, theory of medical record keeping, typewriting, and general and medical shorthand. The survey revealed that German III and IV and principles of economics were perceived as the least valuable coursework. The graduates recommended courses in personnel management, chemistry, home economics, music, and art.

Catherine Dwyer resigned in 1945 and Alice Gaida became an instructor, followed by Betty Krafe Belknap. Loyola Voelker joined the faculty in 1946. During this year, fundamentals of medical science was added to the curriculum.
In February 1947 the medical record students were hostesses at a tea honoring Dr. Malcolm T. MacEachern, director of hospital activities at the American College of Surgeons, and, in a special sense, the “father” of the medical record profession. He had been instrumental in guiding the first medical record librarians of the nation to develop a professional association in the late 1920s. His book “Hospital Organization and Management” was a standard textbook in the medical record curriculum for many years.

On Jan. 7, 1948, Sister Patricia Thibadeau died. In her honor, the House of Delegates of the AAMRL voted to establish the annual Sister Patricia Memorial Lecture* as a part of the association’s annual meeting program. Upon Sister Patricia’s death, Sister Loretta Sheehan became the administrator of St. Mary’s Hospital. She continued in that post until 1955.

In 1948 Loyola Voelker left the program and Jean Bergsalk Daily joined the faculty, followed by Laura Anne Biglow. The program became part of the Division of Service Arts.

*This special recognition of Sister Patricia’s role in establishing the professional field of medical records and its professional association continued within the national association’s annual meeting program until approximately 2003.

The Fifties...

In 1950 the total College enrollment was 402 and the program graduated 17 students.

Patricia Pierce became director of the program in 1949 and assumed responsibility for the Medical Record Department at St. Mary’s Hospital in 1950. She remained in this dual role until 1956.
During the summers of 1950, 1951 and 1952, eight-week refresher courses in medical records were offered to provide the academic knowledge necessary to prepare practicing medical record librarians to pass the registration examination. Effective in 1954, eligibility to take the examination included having a degree or diploma in medical record science. According to the Duluth News Tribune (July 6, 1952), the refresher course was also a first: “It is the only such course offered anywhere in the United States.”

The second medical record alumni questionnaire was sent out in 1952 to graduates from 1941-1951. Of the students responding:

- 43% had been resident students and 57% non-resident.
- 80% chose medical records as a major because they thought the work promised to be interesting.
- 88% were members in a professional association.
- 45% held office in an association.
- 12% had written articles for professional magazines.
- 53% stated they liked their work very much.
- 41% stated they “have opportunity to do good to others.”
- 41% expressed that they “had reasonable freedom in their work.”
- 43% “have opportunity to develop initiatives.”
- 51% were married.
- 53% had earned a starting salary of less than $2,500 annually; the majority were now at $2,500 – $3,500; 9% percent were at $3,500 – $4,500; 6% were at $4,500 – $5,500; and 2% were at $5,500 – $6,500 annually.
In 1952 the AAMRL eliminated the requirement for shorthand in schools for medical record librarians; so it was removed from the College’s coursework. At the same time, machine transcription and a new course in principles of management were added to the curriculum.

The student medical record organization, Sigma Mu Rho, was first listed in the College catalog in 1955-57. It had been preceded by the Medical Record Club, which began in the early 1950s. College tuition was $150 annually.

Sister Loretta Sheehan left her position as administrator of St. Mary’s Hospital in 1955 and became the chief medical record librarian at the hospital as well as the director of the Medical Record Library Science program at the College in 1956. A class in human growth and development was added to the curriculum, as well as a course in hospital organization and medical terminology II.

Senior students spent summer and fall semesters at St. Mary’s Hospital working in the department and taking classes on location there. They returned to campus for their final semester of courses before graduation.

In 1959 the first of many department name changes to come was made: the Department of Medical Record Library Science became the Department of Medical Record Science. On Oct. 17, 1959, medical record alumni celebrated the 25th anniversary of the inception of the program.
The Sixties...

In 1960 the total College enrollment was 440 and the program graduated 11 students. Patricia Hall began as an instructor in the program, serving in this role until 1963. The October 1961 Journal of the AAMRL featured St. Scholastica, noting that in their senior years, resident students moved to Our Lady of Victory Hall adjacent to St. Mary’s Hospital. It read, “[the student] is a white-uniformed embryo-professional, absorbing, even as she is being taught, the ideas, the attitudes and the responsibilities of the members of a health care team.”

From 1962 to 1964 students began spending two weeks during the summer between their junior and senior years in affiliation with a hospital with a large outpatient department outside Duluth. Fundamentals of medical science and essentials of clinical medicine were added to the curriculum. The department became an academic unit within the Division of Health Sciences.

Somers Hall opened in 1964 and tuition was $650 annually.

On Feb. 25, 1965, Sister Loretta Sheehan died and Sister Kathleen Hofer assumed the interim position as director of the program. She invited nine medical record librarians from all over the country to conduct seminars in Medical Record Administration for senior students each Saturday during spring quarter to complete their final coursework. Those individuals were:

Mary Colbert, Children’s Hospital, St. Paul
Patricia Pierce, Glenwood Hills Hospital, Minneapolis, and Mercy Hospital, Anoka
Mary Converse, American Hospital Association, Chicago
Mary J. Reding, Air Force Central Office, Washington, D.C.
Mary Lacy McKenzie, Grant Hospital, Chicago
Marjorie Quandt, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C.
Bertha Pfenninger, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Doris Gleason, Medical Record Research Bureau, Chicago
Laura Anne Biglow, AAMRL, Chicago

At the time of Sister Loretta’s funeral, a group of alumni in attendance decided to establish a scholarship in her name. An alumni committee was established to administer the funds associated with the Sister Loretta Scholarship Program. The first members of this alumni committee were: Doris Gleason ’38,
Laura Anne Biglow ’41, Patricia Pierce ’44, Mary Lacy ’54, and Jolene Nyburg Hurst ’59. In 1967 the first recipient of the Sister Loretta Leadership Award, a scholarship based on leadership, was Shirley Parviainen Eichenwald.

Mary Lacy McKenzie was the chair of the Medical Record Science program from 1965-1967 while Sister Kathleen Hofer was in graduate school. Sister Kathleen reassumed the chair’s position in 1967 and remained there until 1971 when she became chair of the Health Science Division. Sister Samuel Barrickman (Kay Frank) was instructor in 1967-1968, Jackie Lee in 1968-1969, and Patricia English became an instructor in 1969.

In fall 1968 two new courses were added to the curriculum: automatic data processing and introduction to health care. In the late 1960s students were required to earn a minor; psychology, biology, sociology or chemistry were encouraged. The curriculum now consisted of medical record science, medical terminology I and II, statistics, introduction to health care, legal aspects, organization and management, introduction to automatic data processing, essentials of office management, problems in medical record administration, essentials of clinical medicine I and II, problems lab, and directed practice. Senior students spent four hours a day for two quarters in a clinical at St. Mary’s Hospital. In addition, students had to have 21 quarter credits in a foreign language requirement to meet prior to graduation.

In 1969 the Science Building was completed and the College officially became coeducational. A summer refresher course for registered record librarians was held with 12 alumni and five other individuals in attendance.
The Seventies...

The late 60s and 70s brought many changes in student life. Gone were mandatory hats and white gloves for social events, mandatory convocation attendance, the Alpha Chi lounge, the fourth floor Tower Hall smoker (which had replaced the warming house and the stone hut by the creek), gowns and “dress-up” for Thursday dinners, signing in with the dean, use of the formal parlors, the Bishop’s banquet and the Maypole dance. No longer were field hockey, western culture and metaphysics required for graduation. Students could wear slacks off campus and then on campus, too; could have male visitation in their rooms, and late hours were extended. Nuns changed from full habits into modified habits and lay clothes. The College was now coeducational and a hockey program was instituted.

In 1970 total College enrollment was 824 and the program graduated 20 students. Tuition was $2,000 annually.

In 1970 the AAMRL changed its name to the American Medical Record Association (AMRA) and began requiring that all medical record administration programs be baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate programs. The professional title was changed from Medical Record Librarian to Medical Record Administrator and the department’s name was changed to Medical Record Administration.

Patricia Pierce returned to the program as chair in 1971. While Patricia Pierce was completing her graduate degree (1972-1973), Patricia English served as interim chair and Linda Roske Kloss served as instructor in the program. The curriculum now included three quarters of anatomy and physiology. Construction of the Groves (modular housing units) and the Pines apartment building was completed during this time. And, the Winton Plan was instituted: a curriculum structure that included four-credit substantial courses, tutorials, and direct action projects, which offered full-time off-campus learning experiences for all students for one quarter. Within the medical record administration program, directed practice was changed from a single three-week summer affiliation to a five-week experience in a community hospital followed by a three-week affiliation in a large medical center during the winter quarter of the senior year.

In fall 1973 the fundamentals of medical science course was changed to pathophysiology; the organization and management course was changed to
management in healthcare facilities; and two courses were added to the senior year: systems and communication science and systems analysis and design.

Shirley Eichenwald joined the department in 1974 to lead a curriculum project financed by a United States Public Health Service (USPHS) grant and became the assistant director in 1976. The department established a faculty-student committee with elected representatives from each of the classes to provide a regular forum for discussion and resolution of any concerns, problems or impending changes. Patricia English resigned in 1975 to return to professional practice in Lancaster, PA, and she returned to the faculty in 1978. In the interim years, Kathleen McBride LaTour (1975-1977), Alice Frechette (1978) and Rynda Neff Carlis (1977-1978) served as faculty.

As a result of the curriculum project which began in 1974, many changes were introduced in the program during the 1976 academic year and the department name was changed to Health Information Administration. The professional curriculum now began during the sophomore year. The professional course requirements were:

- Introduction to Health Care
- Documentation of Health Information
- Medical Terminology
- Health Terminology and Word Processing
- Health Information Systems I: Planning and Organization
- Storage and Retrieval of Health Information
- Analysis and Evaluation of Health Information
- Pathophysiology
- Health Law
- Health Information Systems II: Controlling and Directing
- Direct Action Project (DAP)
- Management of Health Care Facilities
- Health Care Systems: Issues and Perspectives
- The Teaching Process for Health Professions
- Senior Seminar

The purpose of the program was described as educating “professionals who are responsible for managing a system for acquiring, analyzing, storing, retrieving, communicating, and controlling patient data.” The first two male graduates from the program were Mike Behne and Dave Lundeen.
As a member of the curriculum project, Sister Patricia Imdieke joined the department in 1975-1976 to develop a plan for adding audiovisual and computer instructional aids into the curriculum. In 1976 space was renovated to provide the department with a resource center and conference room. Under another USPHS grant, from 1977-1979, Elizabeth Myking Tauer developed audiovisual materials and a computerized database for instructional use.

In 1977 the criteria for awarding the Sister Loretta Scholarship was changed to establish two distinct awards: the Sister Loretta Scholarship Award, which was given to a junior student, and the Sister Loretta Leadership Award, which was given to a senior student. In that year the Sister Loretta Leadership Award went to two senior students: Kathleen Huttel Johnson and Mary Holmes Koepke; the Sister Loretta Scholarship Award went to two junior students: Paulette Jesme Wiesen and Debra Kempi.

Sigma Mu Rho’s name was changed to the Student Medical Record Association (SMRA) in 1978. In 1979 an external advisory committee was established for the department. The first advisory committee chair was Mary Clark Pavoni and members were Susan Streed Schulz, Diane Neifeld Larson, Marianne Mesich Allen, Suzanne Fry Nelson, Linda Roske Kloss, Donna Cummins Ryan, and Heidi Thompson.

Rockhurst Auditorium was destroyed by fire in 1977. The Miles Reif Recreation Center opened in 1979. The old gymnasium now became the Little Theatre and construction began on the Benedictine Health Center, a 120-bed skilled and intermediate care facility. It was completed in 1980.
By 1980 the Winton Plan had been dropped and replaced by a general education program that required 10 competencies of each graduate in the areas of communication and intellectual skills, value awareness, awareness of natural and cultural environment, professional responsibility, and physical well-being. Health data and information management and health statistics were added to the health information administration curriculum.

In 1980 the total College enrollment was 1,115 and the program graduated 14 students. Tuition was $4,977 annually.

An alumni survey revealed that 82 percent of the Medical Records graduates were working (71 percent in hospitals), 2 percent had retired, 55 percent married, and the majority lived in the North Central region of the United States. Seventy-two percent rated their career satisfaction as “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”

In June 1981 the first students were enrolled in the Progression Program for Accredited Record Technicians (ARTs). This four-year program consisting of three-week summer modules and independent off-campus study was developed by Kathleen McBride LaTour with the assistance of Alice Frechette and Elizabeth Johnson Williams under a USPHS grant (1978-1980). The first students enrolled in this program were:

- Karen Brown Youman, Indiana
- Jo Davis, Minnesota
- Ardelle Eidenschink Wentworth, Minnesota
- Alexandra Fedorachak Gardecki, Pennsylvania
- Elma Kitch, Indiana
- Marcia Loftus, Oregon
- Beverly McKenzie, Wisconsin
- Linda McDowell McComb, Mississippi
- Sandy Mesich, Illinois
- Carol Olson, Arizona
- Carol Osten, Wisconsin
- Charity Parroco Miller, Kentucky
- Jan Spoden, Minnesota
The Progression Program had grown to an enrollment of 35 students by summer 1983; Kathleen LaTour joined the faculty as Progression Program coordinator and instructor.

A survey of graduates just two years following their graduation revealed that 72 percent were employed in hospitals, 95 percent employed full-time with a median salary between $16,000 and $17,999, and 10 percent were working on a master's degree. Their career satisfaction was 3.8 on a scale 1-5. They encouraged increased curricular emphasis on coding, quality assessment, computer applications and system analysis, work measurement or sampling, job evaluation, and ambulatory care records.

A course in quality assessment was added to the curriculum, a separate course in classification of health data was designed, which included instruction in Diagnosis Related Groups (DRGs), and a course in managing human resources replaced the more general management in healthcare facilities.

In 1984 the American Medical Record Association held its Annual Meeting and Convention at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Patricia Pierce received the Association’s Distinguished Member Award and Robert (Bob) Brenning, a College faculty colleague, delivered the Sister Patricia Memorial Lecture. Pierce’s commendation read: “Perhaps once in a decade, a profession is blessed with a person of vision, a person who boldly and persistently challenges peers to study the future and then prepare for change. The medical record profession today recognizes such a person, Patricia J. Pierce, RRA, and gratefully acknowledges her accomplishments.” In particular, she was recognized for her vision for the evolution of our profession captured
in a 1973 editorial published in the association’s journal, “The Medical Record Profession of 1985 – To Lead, To Follow, To Perish?” At the conclusion of the annual meeting and convention, nearly 200 alumni from across the nation made the trip to Duluth on Oct. 26 to attend a special 50th anniversary event on campus.

Over those 50 years, the College had grown from two on-campus buildings (Tower Hall and the little Gymnasium) to a cluster of dormitories, a recreation facility, a science building, and a long-term care facility. Enrollment had increased from a few hundred to over 1,300. New programs in Dietetics, Physical Therapy, Management, Communications and Public Relations, Computer Information Systems, Health Services Management, Sports and Recreation Management, Library Media, Indian Studies, and Gerontology had been established. Master’s programs in Individualized Instruction and Psychology of Aging had been developed.

Following the celebration of the program’s 50th anniversary, Patricia Pierce retired. Shirley Eichenwald became the program director and in 1985 Vicki Michaloski Zeman joined the faculty.
A major renovation on campus involved the college library and Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel – which essentially switched spaces, creating both a beautiful contemporary chapel space with entry on the first floor level and a much needed three-story space to accommodate an expanded library to serve the growing college enrollment. Great attention was given to preserve the beautiful stained glass windows of the chapel and many of its architectural features.

In 1988 the Sister Loretta Scholarship Committee made the decision to give a scholarship to both a traditional and Progression student. Germaine Washburn was the first Progression student recipient in 1989.

The Nineties...

In the early 1990s the total College enrollment was nearly 2,000 students and the program graduated 21 students. Tuition was $12,459 annually.

After receiving the department's annual alumni letter in 1990, alumnus Phyllis Sunder Jenson wrote this response: “I am happy to read that you consider the work of predecessors such as Sister Loretta to be of continued value. When I accepted the first annual Distinguished Member Award from the Nebraska Medical Record Association in 1985, I accepted it publicly and in my heart for Sister Loretta, for she did more than teach the necessary skills; she taught pride in the medical record field and loyalty to it. She taught us that we owed our very best to the field, the best of ourselves in time and effort and dedication. She expected that of us, and she demanded that of herself.”

In 1991 the Priory built a new residence hall for the Sisters. The Home Management House and the bowling alley were torn down. Former cloister areas in Tower Hall were renovated into new faculty office and classrooms. College residence halls and garages were built. In 1993 an extension was constructed to Somers Hall providing suites for students. The same year, the Mitchell Auditorium and a new student union were built.

The American Medical Records Association changed its name to the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) in 1991; in 1992 the student association at the College followed suit, changing its name from the Student Medical Record Association (SMRA) to the Student Health Information Management Association (SHIMA) and the department changed its name to Health Information Management, as well.
The College’s general education curriculum was changed in 1992. It constituted one-third of the total credits required for graduation and included area requirements, a first-year program, a transfer seminar, and a senior seminar.

Shirley Eichenwald left the College in November 1992 to become the director of education and accreditation at AHIMA. Kathleen LaTour became the program director. In 1994 Teresa Marok Ganser joined the faculty. Other faculty are Patricia English and Vicki Michaloski Vruno.

In 1993 a graduate survey was done by Tracy Janentta, a senior student in the program. Ninety-five percent of the respondents were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with their career in health information management. The most common salary range was $30,000 – $39,000, with several alumni making over $90,000 annually.

The curriculum continued to reflect changes in the profession: courses in health data management, CPT coding, computerized health information systems, and finance concepts for health information management had been added. The program occupied five offices, two resource centers and a conference room on the third floor of Tower Hall.

In 1994, at the same time as the department prepared to recognize its 60th anniversary, plans were initiated to develop a Master of Arts degree in Health Information Management. An Allied Health Project Grant proposal submitted in 1995 was approved but not funded. However, President Dan Pilon; Vice President for Academic Affairs Larry Goodwin; and Dean of Graduate Studies Chandra Mehrotra continued to support the department’s plan to develop an MA program. In December 1995 Kathy LaTour presented a “Proposal for a Graduate Program in HIM” to the College’s Curriculum Committee. It was approved and plans were made to initiate the program in summer 1997. The initial 54 quarter-credit curriculum required four summer sessions on campus: three weeks, two weeks, two weeks and three weeks respectively. The initial tuition was $295 per quarter credit; a total program cost of $16,930.

In March 1997 Shirley Eichenwald returned to the College as coordinator of the new graduate program. She began preparations for the first class of graduate program students in Health Information Management to begin their studies on campus in June 1997. The faculty for the 1997-1998 course schedule were Deborah Kohn, Margret Amatayakul, Robert Hartl, Teresa Ganser, Kathy LaTour, and Shirley Eichenwald Maki. Since that time, the graduate program has successfully integrated into the graduate faculty visiting professors who contribute their specialized expertise and real-world experience to a dynamic and robust curriculum.
The first class of graduate students came from Arkansas, California, Canada, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Wisconsin, Tennessee, and Texas.

The graduate program outcomes at that time state that graduates would be able to:

- Apply advanced knowledge and skills in healthcare data and information management;
- Evaluate, select and implement information technologies to manage healthcare data resources;
- Leverage healthcare information technologies to drive integrated clinical and administrative decision-making, strategic planning and outcomes management;
- Take the leadership role in establishing an organizational culture that embraces the ethical use of confidential information and information technologies; and
- Assume increasingly challenging leadership and administrative positions in complex provider organizations and related entities in the healthcare arena.

The scholarships available to students were expanded in 1999 with the establishment of the Sue Watkins Scholarship for Progression Program students and the Pat Pierce Memorial Scholarship for students in the master’s program.

In fall 1999 the College converted the academic calendar for all programs – undergraduate and graduate – from quarters to a semester-based system. In conjunction with this change in the academic calendar, the graduate program curriculum schedule was changed to four two-week summer sessions on campus with one online or distance-study course each fall and spring semester between summer sessions.
In the New Millennium...

In 2000 the total College enrollment was 2,062. The department graduated 15 students from its undergraduate program and (for the first time) 15 students from the graduate program. The first students to graduate with the MA in Health Information Management were: Valerie Bond, Rita Bowen, Jill Burt, Kathy Callan, Sally Gibbs, Kimbra Johnson, Sondra Johnson, Madonna LeBlanc, Cheryl Martin, Karyn Mikel, Deborah Nieves, Christine Rooker, Suzanne Spears, Letha Stewart, and David Westlake.

In fall 2001 the MA in HIM Program became the first “AHIMA approved” graduate program in the nation by successfully meeting AHIMA’s newly adopted model curriculum for graduate programs.

“Medical Record Management” (aka “Huffman”) which had been “the bible” for academic programs in medical records and health information administration for decades went out of publication in the early 2000s. Subsequently, “Health Information Management: Concepts, Principles and Practices” was published in 2002 by AHIMA as the basic textbook for baccalaureate level curriculum. It was written specifically to support the association’s new model curriculum for Health Information Management programs. The coeditors of this textbook were Kathleen M. LaTour and Shirley A. Eichenwald. In addition to LaTour and Eichenwald, several program alumni contributed chapters to this first edition: Sandy Fuller, Linda Kloss, Elizabeth Layman, Madonna LeBlanc, Pat Scidl, and Vicki Zeman. In addition our graduate program visiting professors contributed chapters: Margret Amatayakul, Susan Fenton, Deborah Kohn, Lynda Russell, David Swenson and Kam Shams, as well as several other admired professional colleagues from across the nation.
When first published, the textbook was described in AHIMA Resources newsletter in this way: “Not since Edna Huffman’s classic text has there been such a definitive reference book for the field of Health Information Management.” The third edition of this textbook scheduled for publication in spring 2009 has two additional alumni as chapter authors: Amy Watters and Pamela Oachs.

In 2008 Shirley Eichenwald Maki coauthored a textbook with a fellow educator and professional colleague from Arizona, Bonnie Petterson: “Using the Electronic Health Record in the Physician Office Practice,” published by Delmar Cengage. Janelle Wapola developed the EHR software exercises which accompanied the textbook.

In March 2002 the College officially announced four new graduate-level certificate programs offered through the HIIM department: Health Informatics, Nursing Informatics, Healthcare Data Privacy and Security Management, and Project Management. Each was designed to be completed in three academic terms or less and to be a pathway into the master’s program if the certificate program student desired to transition into it. In a press release announcing the certificates, President Larry Goodwin stated: “This initiative is the latest in a long tradition of innovation from our HIIM Department.” At the same time, to reflect this broader range of academic curricula now offered through the department and the focus on “health informatics” as an emerging academic discipline, its name was changed to the Department of Healthcare Informatics and Information Management.

In summer 2002 the department moved from its long-time location on the third floor of Tower Hall to the first floor of the Science Building. While it was not a transition that was entirely welcomed by the faculty at that time, it was not long before the space and the features associated with the new department location were recognized and appreciated by all.

In July 2002 the College received word that it had been approved for a U.S. Department of Education Title III grant in the amount of $1.8 million to initiate a five-year project focused on developing and implementing an electronic health record system as a teaching or learning tool in all of the College’s health professions programs. In fall 2002 Shirley Eichenwald Maki became the project director for this effort, later dubbed “The ATHENS Project” – Advancing Technology in Healthcare Education Now at St. Scholastica. At that time Pamela Oachs assumed the position as coordinator of the HIM graduate program. Over the next five years (October 2002 through June 2008), Shirley Eichenwald Maki and Janelle Wapola (who was hired at the ATHENS Project technology lead in February 2003) worked with faculty leads representing each of the health professions’ programs at the
College to create and implement a remote-hosted electronic health record system (Cerner Corporations Millennium Suite PowerOffice and PowerChart applications) as a teaching and learning tool in each program's curricula. Madonna LeBlanc served as the faculty lead from the HIIM Department throughout this project period.

By June 2006 the graduate program curriculum model had transitioned from a 36-credit core program to a 39-credit program with 13 core courses coupled with a 3-course concentration selected by the student. The available concentrations for students in the Master of Arts program are: Electronic Health Record Strategies, Healthcare Management, Computer Information Systems, and Revenue Management. This curriculum modification was made to address the needs of a student population that was growing in professional diversity and to incorporate more interdisciplinary collaboration. In addition, new graduate-level certificate programs were also developed to provide healthcare professionals an avenue for continuing education in the domains of Healthcare Informatics, Nursing Informatics, EHR Strategies, Project Management, and Revenue Management.

It was a special day when the department announced in September 2006 that according to the fall semester headcount of 116 students, the master's program had become the largest graduate program offered by the College. Since each student in the MA program must complete a Final Applied Project (FAP) and since each FAP requires an advisor who works closely to support the graduate student through this academic effort, over the years the HIIM Department has sought out support from many HIM professionals to serve in this role. This department has also selected others to serve as second readers of the FAP Report. The department acknowledges their service with great appreciation for the part they have played and continue to play in bringing each student’s graduate program to a successful conclusion.

Gwen Smith joined the department in June 2005 as Distance Learning Program manager. On July 1, 2009, her position was changed to online student advisor in conjunction with the College’s decision to initiate a major growth strategy involving the HIIM Department’s distance-based undergraduate, graduate and graduate certificate programs.

Since 2005 the department has been involved with personal health record (PHR) activities, beginning with a Minnesota Community Foundation grant which engaged both HIM and nursing students in using CapMed’s PHR (a portable USB media) application, the incorporation of AHIMA’s PHR advocacy campaign into the sophomore level curriculum, and a 3M Vision Grant (2006-2009), which engaged HIM students and faculty in the selection
and implementation of PHRs for three unique vulnerable populations: developmentally disabled, elderly and uninsured.

In September 2006 Amy Watters became the third coordinator of the HIM graduate program when Pam Oaks moved into a full-time teaching position with both undergraduate and graduate-level instructional responsibilities.

As the ATHENS Project grant period was coming to conclusion, Janelle Wapola took on a 50 percent teaching load within the department. In spring 2008 she transitioned into a full-time faculty position within the department. At the same time, she assumed the department’s faculty lead role to continue the process of embedding the academic EHR system in the curriculum.

The College held its first Homecoming with football in October 2008. One of the kick-off events of the weekend was “The Swanny” – a 2K race which recognized in a very special way Gladys Swanson, the renowned physical education professor and athletic director at the College from 1931 – 1968, who was also famous for telling all those girls who struggled to complete her demanding PE sessions, “Just finish!”

The HIIM department and SHIMA joined in the inaugural Homecoming parade on campus. Over 4,000 people attended the football game, which was played at Griggs Field on the campus of the University of Minnesota – Duluth. While the first Saints football season was not highly successful in terms of
games won, it certainly did heighten campus spirit, which extended to all of the College’s athletic teams over the entire academic year. The College now has the following athletic programs:

- Men: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, hockey, Nordic skiing, soccer, tennis, and track and field.
- Women: basketball, cross country, Nordic skiing, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field and volleyball; and hockey begins in 2010.

The athletic department measures its success by the academic, as well as the athletic, performance of its athletes. In 2007 the program won the Jostens Cup, a national award for the community service performed by the College’s athletes.

College enrollment exceeded 3,000 in 2004 and grew to over 3,500 in the 2008-2009 academic year. Student-to-faculty ratio is 14:1. Average class size is 22. Total enrollment in HIM programs is 120 undergraduate (on-campus and online) and 110 graduate. Undergraduate tuition is $26,324.

The on-campus undergraduate HIM program continues to graduate an average of 20 new HIM professionals each academic year. Faculty continually upgrade a curriculum that embodies the expanding HIM body of knowledge and the new competencies required of HIM professionals who are serving a
healthcare industry being transformed by electronic health data and information systems. The department now offers a healthcare concentration for majors in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) program. The HIM curriculum focuses heavily on the clinical documentation standards, clinical data sets and coding, and classification systems required to support the clinical, administrative and legal needs of a healthcare organization or agency; the impact of information technology on collecting, securing and reporting patient data and information for an increasingly wide variety of legitimate users of this information, including the patient as a user; and the role of health information management professionals in selecting and successfully implementing electronic health record systems.

In addition, HIM students commonly minor or double-major in CIS. The purpose of the program is described as “providing students with professional knowledge necessary to assume management responsibility for health records and health information systems in a variety of health-related settings, including hospitals, clinics, long-term care, consulting firms, government agencies, insurance companies, and software vendors.”

HIM undergraduate students continue to complete internships and seek employment after graduation in healthcare facilities, healthcare-related organizations and associations across the nation. The department greatly appreciates the strong support of HIM alumni and other HIM professionals who serve as guest speakers, clinical site supervisors and professional mentors. Their contribution to the education of the students is “priceless!”

This curriculum prepares graduates for an expanding variety of professional positions in health information services, quality management, revenue cycle management, clinical data analysis, compliance management, and EHR training and implementation roles, to name just a few. For example, the 2008 undergraduate program graduates found their first professional positions with these types of titles: supervisor or manager in health information services, health information specialist, electronic medical record systems specialist, clinical systems analyst, and manager of registration services.

In 2009 the online undergraduate program expanded to include “two blueprints” for completion of a bachelor’s degree in HIM: one for individuals who enter with little or no HIM education, and one for individuals who are Registered Health Information Technicians (RHIT) and wish to further their education in HIM (known in the past as the RHIT to RHIA Progression program).

A recent graduate of this online undergraduate program, Valerie Nelson, wrote: “Because of my education from St. Scholastica in the online HIIM
Progression program, I met the qualifications of my dream job and was hired as a quality assurance analyst.”

The relationship between the HIIM department and the CIS department has grown closer at the graduate level as well, and is clearly evident in the new Dual HIM/IT Leadership Master’s Degree program, which began accepting students in 2009. The Dual HIM/IT Leadership program is described as one that “prepares industry professionals to facilitate the transition, implementation and management of health information systems, helping them lead their organization in the future of health care.” The program incorporates six core courses from the HIM graduate curriculum: Technology Applications in Healthcare, Development of Computerized Health Information, Database Methods in Healthcare, Assessing Clinical Outcomes, Decision-Support Systems and Medical Vocabularies and Classification Systems. It also incorporates eight core courses from the CIS graduate curriculum: Leadership Communications, IT Strategy and Governance, Data Warehouse and Mining, Transforming the Organization, IT Ethics and Security, IT Project Management, Managing Technical Teams, and Enterprise Systems. In addition, students take a Strategic Management course and three courses that lead to the successful completion of a Final Applied Project.

Peggy Paulson, a recent graduate of the Master’s program, wrote: “I’ve just accepted the position of director of research operations in the Division of Biomedical Informatics at the Mayo Clinic. Without your help in completing the Master of Arts in HIM, this would not have been possible!”

In 2009 the College added the Bachelor of Science degree to its degree offerings and also received the official word from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education that its proposal to offer Master of Science degrees had been approved. As a result, the department sought from the College and received approval to switch from the B.A. to B.S. and the M.A. to M.S. as the degrees associated with completion of these HIM programs respectively. Undergraduate students in 2009 had the option of either the B.A. or B.S. degree; beginning in 2009-2010 the B.S. and M.S. are the established HIM program degrees.

In spring 2008 the department began planning its 75th Anniversary Celebration throughout 2009. The department faculty and staff were joined by a group of HIM alumni who supported the planning effort. Special activities include an HIM 75th Anniversary feature article in the winter issue of the Times magazine, a celebration Web page, and social activities associated with the Minnesota, Wisconsin and California state HIMA meetings in May and June 2009 respectively, as well as at the AHIMA reception held in conjunction
with the HIMSS Spring Conference in Chicago. The St. Scholastica Alumni Reunion held on campus in June 2009 featured special HIM 75th Anniversary events and the HIM Reception at the AHIMA Annual Conference in Grapevine (Dallas) Texas in October 2009 focuses on this special time in our program history.

The HIM department faculty continue the legacy of strong leadership passed on by those who started and sustained this academic program over the past 75 years. They serve in regional, state and national professional association positions, and engage in community-based, state and national initiatives related to personal health records education and implementations, electronic health record certification, electronic health records policy and research activities, and regional health information exchange efforts.

In spring 2009 the College established a strategic business plan growing the online programs for HIM bachelor’s and HIM master’s programs. As a result, the remainder of 2009 promises to offer many opportunities for online course development and staffing changes to support increasing enrollments, in addition to ongoing curriculum revisions and additions to address the evolving body of knowledge required of HIM professionals.

Sister Patricia Thibadeau was most certainly a pioneer – forward looking and innovative in her time. There is little doubt that she, Sister Loretta Sheehan, and Pat Pierce – former program directors who are no longer here to celebrate with us in person – would be proud of the way this program and its alumni have continued to stay true to the fundamentals of this profession and
also transform themselves to meet the ever-changing demands placed on the management of healthcare data and information. As we celebrate this program’s 75th Anniversary, we are reminded that from 1934 to the present, the nation’s Health Information Management profession has been served by the well-educated and dedicated graduates from this pioneering program – now numbering over 1,100. This program has remained continuously accredited over its 75-year history and has distinguished itself as a leader in HIM education. It has been characterized by an admiring health professions’ recruiter as the “Harvard” of HIM.

It is certainly fitting that we pause for a moment in this year of 2009 to remember our legacy and celebrate our future!

**Statistically Speaking...**

**Department Titles Over the Decades**
- 1934 School of Medical Record Librarians
- 1935 Department of Medical Record Library Science
- 1959 Department of Medical Record Science
- 1970 Department of Medical Record Administration
- 1976 Department of Health Information Administration
- 1992 Department of Health Information Management
- 2002 Department of Healthcare Informatics and Information Management

**Program Directors Over the Decades**
- 1934-87 Sister M. Patricia Thibadeau
- 1937-48 Sister Loretta Sheehan
- 1948-49 (1st semester) Jean Bergfalk Dailey
- 1948-49 (2nd semester) Laura A. Biglow
- 1949-56 Patricia J. Pierce
- 1956-65 (1st semester) Sister Loretta Sheehan
- 1956-65 (2nd semester) Sister Kathleen Hofer
- 1965-67 Mary Lacy McKenzie
- 1967-71 Sister Kathleen Hofer
- 1972-73 Patricia R. English (Acting)
- 1973-84 Patricia J. Pierce
- 1984-92 Shirley A. Eichenwald
- 1992-present Kathleen M. LaTour*

*During spring semester 2009, Pamela Oachs served as interim chair while Kathy LaTour was on sabbatical.
Progression Program Advisors/Coordinators

Graduate Program Coordinators
1997-2002  Shirley Eichenwald Maki  2006-present  Amy Watters
2002-2006  Pamela Jurasin Oachs

Current Department Support Staff
Administrative Assistant:  Nancy Grego  Student Support:  Ashley Durham

Current Undergraduate Faculty
Kathleen McBride LaTour  Shirley Eichenwald Maki  Janelle Schminski Wapola
Madonna LeBlanc  Pamela Jurasin Oachs  Vicki Michaloski Zeman

Past Full-Time Undergraduate Faculty
Sister Samual Barrickman (Kay Frank)  Patricia Ruce Hall
Betty Kraftve Belknap  Sister Patricia Imdieke
Rynda Neff Carlis  Mary Mildred Gears Johnson
Catherine Dwyer  Linda Roske Kloss
Patricia R. English  Ida Mae Lee
Alice Frechette  Jacqueline Lee
Alice Gaida  Kay Scanlon
Teresa Marok Ganser  M. Loyola Voelker

Current Graduate Faculty
Kathleen McBride LaTour  Pamela Jurasin Oachs
Shirley Eichenwald Maki  Amy Watters

Current Visiting (Adjunct) Professors – Graduate Program
Margret Amatayakul  Nancy Heath  Colleen Malmgren
Jeff Brooks  Merida and Russell Johns  Stephanie Marshall
Penny Dieryck  Eric Klavetter  Susan McClernon
Elizabeth Fait  Scott Lee-Eichenwald  Jeanne Solberg
Kathy Giannangelo

Past Visiting (Adjunct) Professors – Graduate Program
Richard Carlson  Maida Herbst  George Smith
Barbara Edwards  Beth Just  Carol Spielman
Susan Fenton  Deborah Kohn  David Surges
Teresa Ganser  Randal McDonald  David Swenson
Karen Geegan  Lynda Russell  Tom Walsh
Tom Gibbons  Patricia (Wellbrock) Seidl  Myrna Wells-Ulland
Robert Hartl  Kamruddin Shams
Most Current Clinical Internship Sites

Arizona
• Banner Gateway Medical Center Gilbert, AZ
• Phoenix Memorial Hospital Phoenix, AZ
• Scottsdale Healthcare Scottsdale, AZ
• St. Joseph’s Hospital Phoenix, AZ

California
• Queen of the Valley – St. Joseph’s System Napa, CA
• Stanford University Medical Center Palo Alto, CA
• Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Centers San Diego, CA
• Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Los Angeles, CA
• Irvine Regional Hospital & Medical Center Irvine, CA
• Stanford Hospital & Clinics Stanford, CA
• Stanford University Medical Center Stanford, CA

Colorado
• Valley View Hospital Glenwood Springs, CO
• University of Colorado Hospitals Denver, CO

Florida
• Avatar International Inc. Sanford, FL
• Morton Plant Hospital Clearwater, FL
• Lee Memorial Hospital Fort Myers, FL
• Orlando Regional Medical Center Orlando, FL
• Sarasota Memorial Hospital Sarasota, FL
• Tampa General Healthcare Tampa, FL

Georgia
• Northside Hospital – Atlanta Atlanta, GA

Hawaii
• Wilcox Memorial Hospital Li Hue, HI
• Hawaii Pacific Health Honolulu, HI
• Straub Clinic Hospital Honolulu, HI

Illinois
• AHIMA Chicago, IL
• St. Francis Medical Center Decision Support Peoria, IL
• Rockford Health System Rockford, IL

Iowa
• University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics Iowa City, IA

Maine
• Maine Medical Center Portland, ME
Maryland
• Johns Hopkins Medical Institute
  Baltimore, MD
• National Institutes of Health
  Bethesda, MD

Massachusetts
• South Shore Hospital
  South Weymouth, MA

Minnesota
• Allina Hospitals and Clinics
  Buffalo, MN
• Allina Commons at Midtown Exchange
  Minneapolis, MN
• Children’s Health Care Hospital
  Minneapolis, MN
• Cloquet Memorial Hospital
  Cloquet, MN
• Community Health Information Collaborative
  Duluth, MN
• Cuyuna Regional Medical Center
  Crosby, MN
• Fairview Lakes Regional Medical Center
  Wyoming, MN
• Fairview Ridges
  Burnsville, MN
• Fairview Southdale Hospital
  Edina, MN
• Fairview University Medical Center
  Minneapolis, MN
• Gillette Children’s Specialty Health Care
  St. Paul, MN
• Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital
  Grand Rapids, MN
• HealthEast
  St. Paul, MN
• Immanuel – St. Joseph’s Hospital
  Mankato, MN
• Kanabec Hospital
  Mora, MN
• Lakeview Medical Center
  Stillwater, MN
• LSS Data Systems
  Minnetonka, MN
• Mercy Hospital and Care Center
  Moose Lake, MN
• Methodist Hospital
  Minneapolis, MN
• Miller-Dwan Medical Center
  Duluth, MN
• North Country Health System
  Bemidji, MN
• Northwest Medical Center, Altru Northwest Clinic
  Thief River Falls, MN
• Pine Medical Center
  Sandstone, MN
• St. Cloud Hospital
  St. Cloud, MN
• St. Joseph’s Medical Center
  Brainerd, MN
• St. Luke’s Hospital Medical Center
  Duluth, MN
• St. Mary’s Medical Center
  Duluth, MN
• SISU Medical Solutions
  Duluth, MN
• United Hospital District
  Blue Earth, MN
• University Medical Center – Mesabi
  Hibbing, MN
• ALLINA – Electronic Health Record Project
  Minneapolis, MN
• ALLINA – IS
  Minneapolis, MN
• Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN Healthcare Informatics
  Eagan, MN
• Children & Family Services Department
  Minneapolis, MN
• Duluth Clinic – SMDC
  Duluth, MN
• Duluth Clinic Outpatient Registration
  Duluth, MN
• Duluth Family Practice Center
  Duluth, MN
• Fairview Health Services
  Minneapolis, MN
• Fairview Health Systems Central Business Office
  Minneapolis, MN

32 Statistics
• Fairview Northland Clinics – Zimmerman
  Zimmerman, MN
• Fairview Northland Medical Center
  Princeton, MN
• Fairview University Medical Center Central
  Business Office
  Minneapolis, MN
• Federal Bureau of Prisons – Medical Center
  Rochester, MN
• Home Health Care Services – SMDC
  Duluth, MN
• Human Development Center
  Duluth, MN
• Ingenix
  Eden Prairie, MN
• Jones-Harrison Residence
  Minneapolis, MN
• Lake Superior Community Health Center
  Duluth, MN
• Lake Superior Credentials & Verification Service
  Duluth, MN
• Cancer Registry
  Minnetonka, MN
• LSS Data Systems
  Minnetonka, MN
• Medica – HEDIS
  St. Paul, MN
• Minnesota Department of Health Injury and Violence Prevention Program
  Moose Lake, MN
• MN Sex Offender Program
  Moose Lake, MN
• Moose Lake Correctional Facility
  Minneapolis, MN
• National Marrow Donor Program
  Duluth, MN
• Polinsky Rehabilitation Center
  Duluth, MN
• ScanHealth
  St. Louis Park, MN
• Sholom Home West
  Duluth, MN
• SMDC Quality Management
  Duluth, MN
• St. Luke’s Home Care
  Duluth, MN
• St. Luke’s Hospital – Trauma Registry
  Duluth, MN
• Hennepin County Medical Center
  Minneapolis, MN
• North Memorial Medical Center
  Robbinsdale, MN
• Regions Hospital Medical Records
  St. Paul, MN
• St. Luke’s Hospital – Quality Management
  Duluth, MN
• St. Paul Department of Health
  St. Paul, MN
• St. Paul Health Clinic
  St. Paul, MN
• St. Paul – Ramsey Public Health
  St. Paul, MN
• Superior Health Medical Group
  Duluth, MN
• United Health Care
  Duluth, MN
• Unity Hospital – Oncology Data Services
  Fridley, MN
• Abbott-Northwestern Hospital
  Minneapolis, MN
• University of Minnesota Physicians
  Minneapolis, MN
• VA Medical Center
  Minneapolis, MN

Montana
• Kallispell Regional Medical Center
  Kallispell, MT

Nebraska
• St. Elizabeth’s Regional Medical Center
  Lincoln, NE

New Mexico
• Albuquerque Regional Medical Center
  Albuquerque, NM
• University of New Mexico Hospital
  Albuquerque, NM
Ohio
- Miami Valley Hospital Dayton, OH

Oregon
- Oregon Health Sciences University Portland, OR
- Sacred Heart Medical Center Eugene, OR
- Providence Medford Medical Center Medford, OR

Pennsylvania
- Holy Spirit Hospital Camp Hill, PA
- Lancaster General Hospital Lancaster, PA

South Dakota
- McKennan Hospital Sioux Falls, SD

Tennessee
- St. Francis Hospital Memphis, TN
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Memphis, TN
- Centennial Medical Center – Nashville Nashville, TN

Texas
- Baylor University Medical Center Dallas, TX
- Harlingen Medical Center Harlingen, TX

Washington
- Harborview Medical Center Seattle, WA
- NorthGate Executive Center Seattle, WA
- Sacred Heart Medical Center Spokane, WA
- University of Washington Medical Center Seattle, WA
- Children’s Hospital and Medical Center Seattle, WA

Wisconsin
- Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center La Crosse, WI
- Hudson Hospital Hudson, WI
- Luther Hospital Eau Claire, WI
- Mercy Medical Center Oshkosh, WI
- Sacred Heart Hospital Eau Claire, WI
- St. Mary’s Hospital Medical Center Madison, WI
- St. Mary’s Hospital of Superior Superior, WI
- Beverly Health & Rehabilitative Center Superior, WI
- Golden Living Center – Superior Superior, WI
- Mendota Mental Health Institute Madison, WI
- NW Wisconsin Home Care Eau Claire, W
- Marshfield Clinic Marshfield, WI
- Meriter Hospital Madison, WI
- St. Luke’s Medical Center Milwaukee, WI
- St. Vincent Hospital Green Bay, WI
- University of Wisconsin Hospitals & Clinics Madison, WI
### First Program Advisory Committee

- Mary Clark Pavoni, chairperson
- Susan Streed Schulz
- Diane Neitfeld Larson
- Marianne Mesich Allen
- Susan Fry Nelson
- Linda Roske Kloss
- Donna Cammins Ryan
- Heidi Thompson
- Patricia J. Pierce, ex-officio
- Shirley Parviainen Eichenwald, ex-officio
- Sr. Kathleen Hofer, ex-officio
- Patricia R. English, ex-officio

### Current Program Advisory Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diane Larson, RHIA</td>
<td>Director, Medical Records and Privacy Officer</td>
<td>St. Luke’s Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Spielman, RHIA</td>
<td>Analyst, Payor and Provider Research SMDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Johnson, RHIA</td>
<td>Director, Quality Management</td>
<td>St. Luke’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Dougherty, RHIA</td>
<td>Director, Practice Leadership</td>
<td>AHIMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Holmgren, RHIA</td>
<td>Director of Admin. and Screening/Case Mgt.</td>
<td>St. Paul Ramsey County Dept. of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danika Brinda</td>
<td>Manager Revenue Cycle Improvements</td>
<td>Allina Hospitals &amp; Clinics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Harris</td>
<td>Sr. Analyst, Healthcare Informatics</td>
<td>Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia Johnson</td>
<td>Director of HIS/Quality</td>
<td>Pine Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Kerr</td>
<td>Manager, HIS</td>
<td>Pine Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Koski</td>
<td>Project Mgr/Clinical Analyst</td>
<td>SISU Medical Solutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phyllis Bruno, RHIA</td>
<td>HIS Manager</td>
<td>Duluth Family Practice Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean MacDonell, RHIA</td>
<td>HIM Hospital Operations Director</td>
<td>Allina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trina Lower, RHIA</td>
<td>Director of Quality and HIS</td>
<td>Mercy Hospital &amp; Healthcare Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Smith, RHIA</td>
<td>Payor and Provider Research Analyst SMDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Powell, RHIA</td>
<td>Product Manager</td>
<td>QuadraMed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Torri Schramm, RHIA</td>
<td>Hospital Coding Manager</td>
<td>SMDC Health System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanne Solberg</td>
<td>Sr. Director, Clinical Capital Programs</td>
<td>United Health Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Witzke</td>
<td>Clinical Systems Analyst</td>
<td>Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooke Palkie</td>
<td>Academic EHR Coordinator/Educator</td>
<td>Center for Healthcare Innovation</td>
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<td>The College of St. Scholastica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Karjala</td>
<td>UISC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Jensen Nursing Home</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Sister Loretta Sheehan Scholarship Alumni Committee
(Advisory Committee to Sister Loretta Scholarship Fund)
Doris Gleason, Chair                  Mary Lacy
Laura Anne Biglow                  Jolene Nyburg Hurst
Patricia Pierce

Current Sister Loretta Scholarship Alumni Committee
Beth Haenke Just, Chair                  Catherine Hansen
Marianne Mesich Allen                Lois Hitchcock
Rita Bowen                          Monica Pappas
Elaine Dunda                       Stacy Sochacki
Lynn Ehrmantraut                   Marie Stangl
Sandra Fuller                     Amber Swor Johnson
Patricia Gastonguay                Carol Weishar

St. Scholastica HIM Alumni – AHIMA Fellows as of October 2008
Janice Crocker                       Kathleen LaTour
Shirley Eichenwald Maki            Elizabeth Layman
Sandra Fuller                      Mary Mike Pavoni
Linda Kloss                          Patricia Shaw

Graduate Serving as President of AAMRL/AMRA/AHIMA
1944-45    Sister M. Patricia Thibadeau  1971-72    Lorraine G. Gay
1950-51    Doris Gleason                   1973-74    Mary Lacy McKenzie
1962-63    Marjorie R. Quandt              1977-78    Sister Kathleen Hofer
1963-64    M. Loyola Voelker                1984-85    Linda Roske Kloss
1965-66    Mary E. Converse                 1986-87    Shirley Parviainen Eichenwald
1967-68    Patricia J. Pierce              2010       Rita Bowen

Graduate Recipients of AMRA/AHIMA Award Recognitions
1979     Doris Gleason                      Distinguished Member Award
1982     Olive Johnson                     Distinguished Member Award
1983     Laura Ann Biglow                  Distinguished Member Award
1984     Patricia Pierce                   Distinguished Member Award
1997     Monica Pappas DeVitt             Visionary Award
1998     Shirley Eichenwald               Distinguished Member Award
2003     Mary Pavoni                       Volunteer Award
2004     Kathleen LaTour and Shirley Eichenwald Maki   Legacy Award
2004     Sue Watkins                      Mentor Award
2005     Rita Bowen                       Mentor Award
2007     Elizabeth Layman                  Legacy Award
**Sister Loretta Sheehan Leadership Award Recipients**

**Note:** From 1967-1977 the Leadership Award and Scholarship constituted a monetary award. In 1977 the non-monetary Leadership Award was designated for a graduating student or students exhibiting leadership potential in the field, and the Scholarship was designated for a junior student or students to use toward senior year expenses. In 1989, a Progression Scholarship was initiated and in 1999 the Patricia J. Pierce Memorial Graduate Scholarship and the Sue Watkins Scholarship for Progression Program students were added.

**Leadership/Scholarship: Traditional (combined)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Shirley Parviainen Eichenwald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Judith Lemmerman Monson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Rynda Neff Carlis</td>
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- 2002 Suzy Dingmann
- 2003 Katie Engesser
- 2004 No award given
- 2005 Mary Lunke and Aleah Reinke
- 2006 Greta Giërsdorf and Amanda Niemala
- 2007 Angela Heytons and Ashley Radant
- 2008 Mary Windsow and Jayna Broadston
- 2009 Maggie Blechinger and Angel Ruhnke
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**MA Program Graduates**

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Stacy Sochacki ’71
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Pat Wellbrock Seidl ’77
Karen Brown Youmans ’84
Linda Roske Kloss ’68
Jennifer Husen Sundby ’96
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