

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

75th Anniversary

1934-2009

REMEMBERING OUR LEGACY

CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



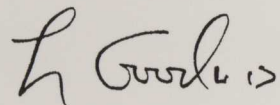
Dear friend of The College of St. Scholastica,

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

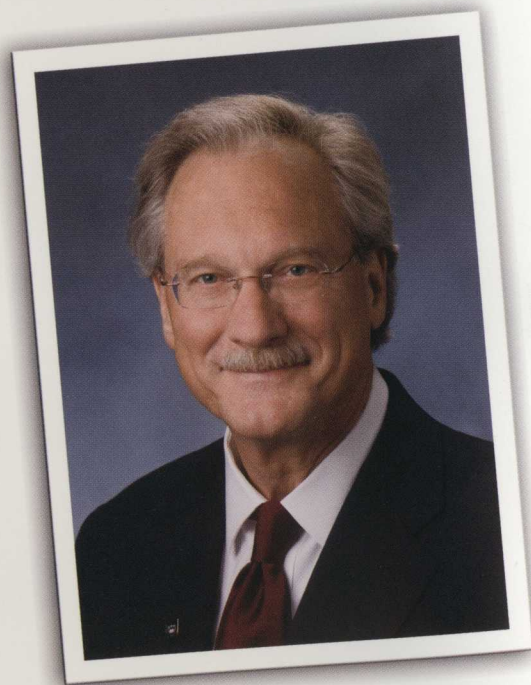
We can say with great pride that, as the first academic program in the nation to be recognized by the national professional association in 1934, we are among the founders of this profession. We have been a national leader ever since and remain so 75 years later.

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.



Medical Record Department at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth, MN