

# Management Engineering & Process Improvement Community



eNewsletter



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **HIMSS Virtual Conference & Expo Management Engineering & Process Improvement Community Lounge**

- Nov. 19 - 20, 2008
- [www.himssvirtual.org](http://www.himssvirtual.org)

### **ME-PI Community Meetings**

- General Meetings @ 12 pm ET  
Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Jan. 15
- Executive Dashboard @ 3 pm ET  
Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16

### **SHS Health Care Seminars**

- Project Management and Analytics: The Management Engineer's Toolkit | Oct. 22 - 24, 2008
- Lean Six Sigma in Health Care and Administration | Nov 17 - 19, 2008
- Six Sigma Green Belt for Health Care Online Certificate Program | Feb 23, 2009
- Patient Access and Flow Through the Acute Care Hospital | Feb 26 - 27, 2009
- Acute Care Labor Management Concepts | Apr 29 - May 01, 2009

## Message from the Chair

Welcome to the new HIMSS ME-PI “Community”, geared specifically towards professionals with an interest in applying engineering principles to streamline business processes and practices in healthcare. The industry is ready for positive change and improvement, and our profession is one which can contribute in many areas. While I want to thank all of you engineers out there for your long-term dedication, I also know that many of you may not be an industrial or process engineer. Some of you simply have an appreciation for how analytic methods can help your organization.

To everyone, I want to express my sincere thanks for getting involved and joining us in our vision of spreading process improvement throughout the healthcare delivery system. Broad participation, from IT to physicians to engineering, will make us increasingly relevant and important as we further integrate ME practices much more broadly than in the past!

As we continue to grow and evolve within HIMSS, our team is becoming known for doing interesting and innovative things not found in other committees or task forces. Specifically this year, you will see that we will continue to strengthen our focus on *educating* and informing members of the latest topics and tools for improving healthcare performance. Through our educational sessions, webinars, and white papers, we hope to showcase what some of our members are doing that is a best practice for others to follow. In addition, our goal is to become a clearinghouse for tools and techniques for improving management systems, and during the year we will focus on many of these. We also hope to build stronger alliances internally within HIMSS, and externally with other organizations, to further strengthen the ME-PI mission and purpose. This mission requires your help and active participation. Please get involved in one of our work groups, and help them achieve their plans for the year. We look forward to your participation this year! If you would like to talk about anything, or share your thoughts or concerns, feel free to call me or send me an e-mail.

[Jim Langabeer, FHIMSS](#)

Chairman, ME-PI Community

## Call for Volunteers

Are you interested in participating in a ME-PI Workgroup? – See Below for Contacts

### Workgroups

The ME-PI Community is comprised of several interesting work groups. Each is described below. If you are interested in joining any one or more of these teams, please contact the corresponding chair.

#### **Advocacy Work Group**

Serves to raise awareness of legislative and regulatory issues important to the management systems constituency by providing tools and resources. **Chair:** [Steve Earle, FHIMSS](#)

#### **Communication Work Group**

Prepares communication for outreach to HIMSS members including this electronic newsletter. **Chair:** [Brenda Mollohan](#)

#### **Education Work Group**

Develops educational sessions of interest to the ME-PI Community on a quarterly basis, while also providing 25-minute educational updates at the regularly scheduled meetings of the ME-PI Community of Practice.

**Chair:** [Mary Ellen Bucco](#)

#### **Executive Dashboard Work Group**

Identifies key operational needs within the area of executive dashboard, metrics, and data warehouses to develop white papers and education materials for open dissemination.

**Chair:** [Cindy McKinney, MBA, FHIMSS](#)

#### **Hot Topics Work Group**

Identifies topics of importance to the HIMSS membership and works to address those issues. **Chair:** [Sandy McDowell](#)

#### **Liaison Work Group**

Purpose: The purpose of this work group is to identify and establish collaborative relationships with non-profit organizations that closely align with management systems thinking, ensuring outreach to be internal HIMSS steering committees as well as external groups. **Chair:** [Ray Hess](#)

#### **Nurse Staff Ratios Work Group**

Is a joint work group between the HIMSS Nursing Informatics Community and the ME-PI Community that focuses on engineering safe staffing plans at the bedside.

**Chair:** [Frank Overfelt, FHIMSS](#)

#### **Performance Normalization Work Group**

Analyzes various approaches utilized by the public and investment communities to gauge the performance of healthcare entities. This group will propose an indicator that could be used to represent a synopsis of traditional quality measures, performance, satisfaction and outcome metrics, and financial ratio's across the "for profit" and "not for profit" spectrum.

**Chair:** [Lou Galterio, MBA, CPHIMS, FHIMSS](#)

#### **Tools and Topics Work Group**

Creates resources for use by management engineering and process improvement professionals to solve a variety of needs.

**Co-Chairs:** [Randy O'Steen,](#)  
[Pauline Hogan, FHIMSS](#)

### Executive Dashboard Workgroup

The Executive Dashboard Workgroup met on September 19, 2008 to develop their goals for this year. As usual, the workgroup members developed an aggressive slate of activities - all focused on education. Two of our key deliverables this year include:

1. ***Executive Dashboard Education Series***

This series will provide education from the conceptual thought of a dashboard to the full execution of the dashboard.

2. ***“Executive Dashboard” Tools Paper***

Last year we focused on the beginning efforts of this paper. Our goal this year is to refine the previous effort and share with all HIMSS members by October 31, 2008.

Additional content areas will be developed throughout the year with the final paper being released in June 2009.

We always welcome new members to this work group. However, if you join us, be prepared to do some work!! This team remains energetic and shoots high for what they want to accomplish. Please feel free to call or e-mail me with any questions (mckinnec@us.ibm.com or 816-289-0356). Our next meeting will be October 17, 2008 at 2:00 CT/3:00 ET. I hope you join us!

[Cindy McKinney](#)

### Education Workgroup

We have identified the topics for the *Management Engineering and Process Improvement Community Lounge* at the HIMSS Virtual Conference & Expo November 19-20.

Here are some of the topics everyone will be talking about in the Management Engineering and Process Improvement Community Lounge.

1. Using Lean to Measure Throughput in the Organization: Where to start?
2. Six Sigma and Healthcare: Lessons Learned from the Trenches
3. Executive Dashboards: Visually Communicating the Performance of the Organization
4. Embedding Quality in the Process: How Organizations Do It
5. Management Engineers: Raising Our Identity in the Industry
6. Modeling in Healthcare
7. Performance Management

We will need volunteers to act as moderators so please contact me if you have an interest in helping. [Mary Ellen Bucco](#)