IMIA Working Group Conferences

Two of IMIA’s Working Groups Will Be Holding Events in November

The Human Factors Engineering in Health Informatics Working Group (WG) will be holding a symposium at the Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa in the Sonoma Valley, California, USA on November 12–13, 2009, just prior to the Annual AMIA Symposium in San Francisco. Keynote speakers include Vimla Patel (on “Human factors engineering in health informatics – future challenges”) and Dag Svanæs (“Standards on usability and their relevance to health informatics”). The symposium will also highlight academic papers and round table discussions, and a Thursday evening visit to a local winery. The event will be organized in co-operation with the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York. Comprehensive information on meeting registration, abstract submission, hotel reservation and links to the meeting venue website is available on the event website: http://msm.edu:8080/HFE2009/main.html

The Security in Health Information Systems (SiHIS) WG will be holding a working conference on the theme “Trustworthiness of health information … Issues in security and system management for patient safety”. The event, on November 21–24, 2009, will be held as part of the CoMHI2009 activities, at the International Conference Center, Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima, Japan. The workshop asks the question “To what degree are OECD 8 principles reflected in patient information systems?” SiHIS – Security in Health Information Systems – has a long history of working conferences, and this event clearly addresses the need to tackle how to use and protect patient information, from the perspectives of medical doctors, nurses, pharmacists, specialists of social medicine, and system engineers. The focus is the current contribution of ICT (Information Communication Technology) to patient-centered healthcare based on “individual-participatory outline”, and seeking a new solution to reach an idealistic society where each individual can trust health information, understand responsibility in the use of the information, and move “beyond the paternalism”. Articles accepted to this working conference will be published.

MIE2011 and Other EFMI Events, 2010–11

MIE2011, the 23rd international conference of EFMI, the European Federation for Medical Informatics, will be held in Oslo and Akerhus in Norway, and organized by the Norwegian Society for Medical Informatics. MIE2011 will be held on August 28–31, 2011, with the theme “User centred in a networked clinical reality”. Further information will become available on the conference website at http://www.mie2011.org, or through the mailing list.

The 2009 Special Topic Conference (STC) of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) will take place in Antalya, Turkey on November 12–15, 2009 at the Xanadu Resort Hotel (http://www.xanaduresort.com.tr/). The event is being held in conjunction with the TurkMIA MI ’09 event of the Turkish Medical Informatics Association (http://www.turkmia.org), and will also co-organized by members of the EFMI Electronic Health Record (EHR), Disabled and Rehabilitation (IDR), and Personal Portable Devices (PPD) Working Groups. The conference theme will be “Travel Health Informatics & Telehealth”, and full information will be on the conference website at http://www.turkmia.org/stc2009/en/

The 2010 Special Topic Conference (STC) of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) will take place in Reykjavik, Iceland on June 2–4, 2010. The event has the theme “Seamless care – safe care. The challenges of interoperability and patient safety in health care”.

Further information is at http://www.sky.is/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1627&Itemid=72

The conference is held with the endorsement of The Ministry of Health, the Directorate of Health and the University of Iceland; the venue will be the University Center – Háskólagar at The University of Iceland in central Reykjavik.

The 2011 Special Topic Conference (STC) of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) will be in Ptuj, Slovenia. The event will be held on April 13–14, 2011, with the theme “E-health over borders without boundaries”, and further details will become available on the website at http://www.stc2011.org

IMIA Board and General Assembly Meetings 2009; Hiroshima, Japan

The IMIA Board and General Assembly will meet at the International Conference Center, Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima, Japan in November 2009 as part of the Collaborative Meetings on Health Informatics week, CoMHI in Hiroshima 2009 (http://home.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/~humind1/comhi2009/). The IMIA Board meeting will take place on November 24, 2009 and the IMIA General Assembly meeting on November 25, 2009.

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HIMSS10 and IMIA Collaboration

The next Annual HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society – http://www.himss.org) Conference and Exhibition (http://www.himssconference.org/) will be HIMSS10, taking place in Atlanta, Georgia, USA on March 1–4, 2010. Registration for the event is now open, and the initial list of keynote speakers has been announced via the HIMSS10 website. Among the keynotes will be Chesley B. “Sully” Sullenberger, III (Pilot, US Airways Founder and CEO, Safety Reliability Methods) and Dr. Sanjay Gupta (Senior Medical Correspondent, CNN). IMIA is a collaborating organization for the HIMSS10 event, and will have a presence in the exhibition.

Nursing Informatics Definition Updated

The definition of nursing informatics used by IMIA-NI, the IMIA Special Interest Group on Nursing Informatics (www.imiani.org), was updated at their meeting held during NI2009 in Helsinki, Finland. This was the first update since 1998. IMIA-NI states that “Nursing Informatics science and practice integrates nursing, its information and knowledge and their management with information and communication technologies to promote the health of people, families and communities worldwide.” All members are encouraged to use this definition, in preference to others, especially in anything they are writing about nursing informatics. Full information about IMIA-NI can be found on their website at http://www.imiani.org

The next IMIA-NI Congress will be held in Montreal, Canada on June 23–27, 2012 – http://www.ni2012.org

JAMIA – New Publisher and RSS Feeds

AMIA has announced that the BMJ Group has been selected to publish JAMIA (the Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association), beginning with the January/February 2010 issue. JAMIA is now in its sixteenth year, and is consistently cited as one of the top journals in the biomedical informatics field. They will be introducing a range of interactive features to meet the needs of our members. Dr. Ted Shortliffe, AMIA President and CEO, said: “The BMJ Group was chosen as our publishing partner because they have a superb reputation and we know we can depend on them to deliver a quality publication consistently. They have pioneered many online innovations in electronic publishing.” JAMIA (http://www.jamia.org) currently has several RSS feeds that you can subscribe to, including current and recent issues and pre-prints. The full list is at http://www.jamia.org/rss/

TIGER Nursing Informatics Final Report

The TIGER Informatics Competencies Collaborative (TICC) has announced the release of the TICC final report which recommends comprehensive, specific, standards-based informatics competencies for all practising nurses and graduating nursing students. The report can be downloaded from http://tigercompetencies.pbworks.com/FrontPage (or directly at http://tigercompetencies.pbworks.com/f/TICC_Final.pdf) For more information on the TIGER initiative please visit http://www.tigersummit.com/. The Technology Informatics Guiding Educational Reform (TIGER) Initiative aims to enable practicing nurses and nursing students to fully engage in the unfolding digital electronic era in healthcare. The purpose of the initiative is to identify information/knowledge management best practices and effective technology capabilities for nurses.

AHIMA Opens Brussels Office

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) has announced the official opening of a global services office in Brussels. AHIMA says the move will enable it to establish itself as “the first multinational membership association serving health information management professionals on a global scale”. 

Hospitals Using Social Networking Applications

There is currently much debate about whether social networking tools, such as Twitter, have any real value. However, increasing numbers of hospitals – especially in the USA – are using Twitter, blogs, YouTube, Facebook, etc. for a range of reasons, including to interact with patients.

Some useful lists/resources to follow local healthcare providers and explore why they are using these tools include:
- Hospital Social Network List – U.S. Hospitals that use Social Networking tools – http://ebennett.org/hsnl/
- UK and Ireland hospitals – http://hospitalseu.wordpress.com/2009/06/30/ukandireland/

IMIA News Website

IMIA's blog-based news website was launched in June 2009. This is part of the longer term development of services for IMIA, its members, and the global health and biomedical informatics community, as outlined in the IMIA Strategic Plan. The site is at http://imianews.wordpress.com and will continue to develop over the rest of the year in response to feedback, in particular suggestions for additional features, and modes of interaction.

The site continues to receive a healthy number of visits, and an increasing number of people are subscribing to receive e-mail and RSS feed updates. For all comments, and for submitting news items, please contact IMIA at: news@imia-services.org

Medinfo2010

The Medinfo2010 Local Organising Committee (LOC) and Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) are continuing their hard work to ensure a successful 13th International Congress on Medical Informatics (Medinfo2010) in Cape Town, South Africa on September 12–15, 2010. This will be the first time Medinfo is held in Africa. It promises to boost exposure to grassroots healthcare delivery and the underpinning health information systems. This will open the door to new academic partnerships into the future and help to nurture a new breed of health informaticians.

The event website now has information on registration and booking accommodation, and will have further information added on keynote speakers and programme details as they develop. Bookmark the website at http://www.medinfo2010.org/

Medinfo2010 also has a Twitter stream (http://twitter.com/medinfo2010) and will be announcing other forms of interaction in due course.

APAMI 2009

APAMI 2009 is the sixth conference of the Asia-Pacific Medical Informatics Association. It will be held on November 21–24 in Hiroshima, Japan – the conference website is now live at http://www.mi.hama-med.ac.jp/apami/

The website also contains useful travel information to help those planning their trips to Hiroshima for APAMI 2009, the IMIA Board and General Assembly meetings, and the other activities being held under the umbrella of CoMHI in Hiroshima 2009 (http://home.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/~humind1/comhi2009/index.html).

Medinfo2013

Following the decision of the IMIA General Assembly at its meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden in May 2008, Medinfo2013 will be held in Europe. Shortlisted bids will be invited to present, and a decision made by vote, at the IMIA General Assembly meeting in Hiroshima, Japan on November 25, 2009.

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