

### A Conference in our Own Back Yard

As everyone has probably heard by now, the 2010 HIMSS National Conference will be held March 1-4 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. For most of us South Carolinians, the drive wouldn't be more than a quick five hours. Car pooling can make this a real cost saver on your travel budget.

With all of the healthcare hype up in Washington, I'm sure this year's conference will be both interesting and exciting. The SC Chapter Board of Directors are working with several neighboring states to hopefully hold a Southern chapter reception. Registration is open and hotel rooms are going fast. For more information, go to [www.himssconference.org](http://www.himssconference.org).

### ~ Keynote Speakers ~



**Dan Hesse**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sprint Nextel Corporation



**David Blumenthal, MD, MPP**  
National Coordinator for Health  
Information Technology  
Dept. of Health & Human Services



**Sanjay Gupta, MD**  
Senior Medical  
Correspondent, CNN



**Harry Markopolos**  
Fraud Investigator



**Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger, III**  
Pilot, US Airways  
Founder and CEO, Safety  
Reliability Methods

### Ambassador's Corner

Welcome to the Ambassador's Corner! On an ongoing basis the SC HIMSS Ambassadors will be using this space to report out to our SC members on the goings on in their regions. If you've read this far, you probably have three questions: "what's an 'Ambassador' (and why do I care)", "what's a 'region'", and "who is my Ambassador?"

**What we are.** We're your liaison to the SC HIMSS organization and Board. We are members of the Board, and can provide member input to that group (issues you may wish to raise, ideas about how to better the organization and better serve the membership, etc.). We are also a team that will reach out regularly to the membership, eliciting input, providing information about upcoming events, and otherwise helping keep you informed.

**Three regions.** As South Carolina is larger than most European countries, we felt that providing "regional" resources to the membership would help with accessibility. The state is also too large and varied for a single person to try to keep tabs on all of the people, organizations and facilities engaged within SC HIMSS, so a regional focus allows for individuals in this role to dive deeper into what's going on in their region. Geographically, we're divided into Low Country / Pee Dee, Midlands, and Upstate and have an Ambassador serving each region. As these geographical areas are loosely defined, you can expect your Regional Ambassador to contact you to let you know who he or she is.

### South Carolina HIMSS

Presents

Tuesday, December 8th, 2009

10:00AM

A Webinar by our own Michelle Hager

### Protecting Against ARRA "Brain Drain"

**Innovative Consulting Group has a CIO client that has been working with his HR dept to develop a stimulus performance/retention bonus plan for key staff. The goal is to retain their critical IT people for the push to become a meaningful EHR user over the next 2 years. The concern is that vendors, consulting firms and other healthcare facilities will be heavily recruiting certain resources and losing key employees that could impact their ability to make the ARRA dates for funding dollars.**

\* See page 4 for login instructions.

## Regional Ambassadors

### We are here to help:

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**DAVID BALL** is the current SC HIMSS Low Country Senior Ambassador. He has been a member of HIMSS since 2002 and is Board Certified in Nurse Informatics. David has been an RN for 20 years in for profit and non profit hospitals, the VA, and the US Air Force. He is a Clinical Analyst for Patient Care Systems at the Medical University of South Carolina.

**BOB LAPORTE** is the current SC HIMSS LowCountry / PeeDee Junior Ambassador. He has been a healthcare IT professional for 20 years, working for hospitals, HIT vendors and consulting organizations during that time. He is currently Vice President of Application Management for Premier, Inc. an alliance of 2000+ not-for-profit hospitals.

**BERNARD SEABROOK** is the SC HIMSS Senior Ambassador for the Mid-Lands Region. He became an active SCHIMSS member in 2001. He is currently employed with Palmetto Health in Columbia South Carolina as a PACS Administrator. He has ten years of professional IT healthcare experience.

**MIKE RUSHING** is the current SC HIMSS Midlands Junior Ambassador. He has been a member of HIMSS since 2001 and has been an IT Healthcare professional for 14 years. Mike is an IT Manager for Palmetto Health providing leadership and guidance for the support and development of administrative and financial applications.

**BRAD HAGER** is your Upstate Ambassador for SC HIMSS. He has been with HIMSS for 2 years and brings along 19 years of Healthcare IT experience. Brad has been a Sr Project Manager for Clinical Upgrades since 2006 and with McKesson Provider Technologies since 2001. Previously Brad worked a couple of years in the UK with McKesson and the NHS to centralize 650 hospitals HR and Payroll systems. Before that some private consulting, outsourcing, and several years with Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center. Now in Simpsonville, SC (just outside Greenville) Brad and his wife Michelle and young son Ethan enjoy living in the Upstate with friends and family.

## Task Force ~ by Melissa Forinash

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I am writing on behalf of the HIMSS Chapters' Task Force as the designated Regional Liaison for your chapter. I am available to you as another resource for your chapters' needs over the coming year.

As you know, the Chapters Task Force is dedicated to helping chapters survive and thrive. As your regional liaison, I'm happy to help however I can. You'll probably be hearing from me periodically throughout the year, and please feel free to call / write anytime. Please let me know your thoughts or suggestions. My contact information is: forinash@musc.edu or call me 843-792-1002.

I wanted to take an opportunity to highlight some updates that might be helpful to SC HIMSS members.

- **Takin' HIT to the Streets** - Join other healthcare decision makers at The ARRA Era, a one-day conference (December 4th – Dallas & January 15th – Chicago) designed to help hospitals and health systems identify and qualify for funding opportunities from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Go to [www.himss.org/hitstreet](http://www.himss.org/hitstreet) for complete details.
- **HIMSS10** – Mark your calendars for the 2010 HIMSS Annual Conference & Exhibition, which will take place in Atlanta on March 1 – 4th. Learn more at [www.himssconference.com](http://www.himssconference.com). We want to encourage you to book your hotel and plan to attend the Chapter Leader Workshop on Sunday, February 28th from 2-4:30pm. You can register for the event today.
- **Young Professionals Resource Center** – HIMSS recently launched a new area of the web site as a one-stop-shop for Young Professional Members to gather information, tools and contacts particular to their industry area. Promote the Resource Center to your Chapter's Young Professional Members so they can easily get details on events scholarships, networking, education, career advancement, industry research and much more. Also check out the new HIMSS Student Brochure, which highlights the benefits Young Professional Membership!

## FROM THE HIMSS NATIONAL CALENDAR:

**DECEMBER 08, 2009**

SC Chapter Webinar  
Protecting Against ARRA "Brain Drain."

**JANUARY 15, 2010**

The ARRA Era Takin' HIT To The Streets.  
Chicago

**MARCH 01, 2010**

HIMSS 10 The Annual Conference  
Atlanta

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2010**

The ARRA Era Takin' HIT To The Streets.  
Las Vegas

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2010**

HIMSS IT Leadership Summit  
Rome

**If you have any announcements or interesting information you'd like to see in the winter newsletter, please email to Frank Scafidi at [fscafidi@georgetownhospitalsystem.org](mailto:fscafidi@georgetownhospitalsystem.org) by January 15, 2010**

## Survey

Your Chapter Board is interested in hearing from you in order to best serve you, our members. We have created a short online survey aimed at learning from you how the SC HIMSS Chapter can best support you and your goals as a member.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would follow this link <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3QCWYNB> and take 5 – 10 minutes to give us your insights.

The survey will be open for the next two weeks.

Thanks in advance for your participation!

**- The Board of SC HIMSS**

## THE PLACES WE'VE BEEN



**MUSC's Simulation Center**

**December 2008**



**Clemson University's Data Center**

**March 2009**

**Take the video tour...**

<http://www.clemson.edu/ccit/facilities/itc/videotour.html>



**Georgetown Hospital's New Data Center  
October 2009**



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## Webinar by our own Michelle Hager Protecting Against ARRA "Brain Drain"

**Use the following information to participate in this webinar:**

Start Time: 12/08/2009 10:00 AM  
URL: [https://admin.na5.acrobat.com/\\_a781911166/schimss/](https://admin.na5.acrobat.com/_a781911166/schimss/)  
Conference Number(s): 1-866-642-1665  
Participant Code: 472328

For more details on this and other SC HIMSS events visit our website at: <http://www.schimss.org>