

# Preview: AF Resolutions for Discussion

1. The Academic Forum approves in principle AMIA participation in accreditation of professional masters degree programs.
2. The Academic Forum endorses in principle that AMIA work jointly with CAHIIM to create this pathway.

# Accreditation: The Case for AMIA Engagement

- The field is changing: “Professional” masters programs in informatics are rapidly emerging
  - Think MPH vs. MS.
  - Professional programs are customarily accredited apart from the umbrella accreditation of their host universities.
- It’s already happening: CAHIIM is already accrediting health informatics programs
- Concerns about the process: Current CAHIIM accreditation emphasizes fairly narrow content conformance

# Timeline

- June 2012: Decision to explore accreditation taken after Academic Forum discussions in Minneapolis
  - Potential value of partnership with CAHIIM recognized
- Aug 2012: AMIA-CAHIIM Task Force formed
  - 5 members from each sponsoring organization
- Sept 2012: “AMIA side” conference call
- Oct 2012: Task force conference call
- Jan 2013: Face to face meeting in Chicago
- Feb-April 2013: Drafting of concept document
- May 2013: Preliminary discussion by AMIA Board

# “AMIA-Side” Members of Joint Task Force

- Chuck Friedman (chair)
- Kevin Fickenscher
- Bill Hersh
- John Holmes (also on CAHIIM Board)
- Judy Warren

Jeff Williamson participated as AMIA staff

Dominik Aronsky later added as a “Board Representative” in light of John Holmes’ conflict.

# “AMIA-Side” Principles Going Into the Joint Discussions

*Developed at September, 2012 conference call:*

- Focus on professional masters programs
- Create an identity for informatics program accreditation that clearly differentiates these programs from HIM programs
- Take a broad approach to defining scope of informatics programs
- Within that scope, focus on multiple indicators of program quality (outcomes, faculty, instructional methods, resources, student services, etc.)

# Key Elements of Current Proposal

- AMIA becomes a member of CAHIIM
  - Joining AHIMA as second member with co-equal status
- A separate “health informatics” accreditation commission is formed, creating the potential for revised standards and process

# AF Resolutions for Discussion

1. The Academic Forum approves in principle AMIA participation in accreditation of professional masters degree programs.
2. The Academic Forum endorses in principle that AMIA work jointly with CAHIIM to create this pathway.