

The University of Melbourne Health Informatics Network - December 2007 update

CHIRS*

Our final CHIRS for 2007 is on Tuesday 4 December, and first CHIRS for 2008 will be the third Thursday in January, the 17th. We meet 5-6:30 PM in the lounge at University House. All welcome; contact one of the convenors (below) if you need directions. No need to RSVP. If a colleague / student / research partner is interested, please bring them along. In 2007 CHIRS has been sponsored by VerSI, the Victorian eResearch Strategic Initiative (<http://versi.edu.au>) or contact gabrielle.bright@versi.edu.au 8344 3768).

*Collaborative Health Informatics Research Social - rhymes with beers

Steering Committee news

The Health Informatics Steering Committee is pleased to announce that it has received extended funding by the Office of the Provost to operate as an inter-faculty and cross-disciplinary steering committee into 2009. Our aim over the next 18 months is to consolidate the University's reputation as a centre for knowledge exchange and a voice in public policy in the field of health informatics. Among our initiatives will be a series of industry roundtables building on the success of our Health Informatics Industry Workshop in August this year. The next Steering Committee Reference Group meeting is Monday 17 December. Please contact a Reference Group member with your ideas for 2008 health informatics activities at the University: Peter Harris, Liz Sonenberg, Teng Liaw, Loane Skene, Jim Black, Simon Milton, Kathleen Gray.

Media opportunity

Network members interested in developing a radio broadcast for a national lifestyles program based loosely on the theme "quality of health care versus privacy of health information" are invited to send a short expression of interest to health-informatics@unimelb.edu.au or talk with a Reference Group member.

ARC project

"Cross-Community Information Systems: Understanding Technology-Practice Fit in Healthcare", a project addressing unsolved issues of usability of e-health information systems across diverse stakeholder communities that need to coordinate to deliver the expected revolution in patient-centred health care, will run in the Department of Information Systems, 2008-2010, led by Robert Johnston.

NEHTA report

The National E-Health Transition Authority Annual Report 2006-2007 published 29 October is accessible at http://www.nehta.gov.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_details&gid=396&Itemid=139&catid=-2

HISA report

The Health Informatics Society of Australia's new vision for e-health, based on a national survey of health informaticians and industry specialists, is now available at <http://www.hisa.org.au/>

Calls for papers

Proposals are due 31 January for the World of Health IT Conference on the theme 'Connecting Leaders in Technology and Healthcare' to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, 4-6 November 2008. Details:

<http://cfp.worldofhealthit.org/2008/europe/call/>

Abstracts are due 1 February for the International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs, to be held in Linz, Austria, 9-11 July 2008. Details: www.icchp.org/

If you have news, ideas, or items of interest for the next HINet bulletin please contact us by 31 January (no bulletin in January). If you know of someone who would like to be on the mailing list, just let us know.

All the best for a healthy and happy 2008, from HI Network convenors...

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