Welcome to the Club!

The HIT/CIM Student Peer Club was just formed on June 25, 2011 when the first meeting of the founders took place. According to the club constitution, the purpose of the club is to provide an avenue for HIT/CIM students to network and support each other in their academic and career pursuits. Because the HIT/CIM programs are fully online, students have limited opportunities to meet and connect with other students. This club will use web-based technologies to create an online student community of support.

We need your help! We need articles for our monthly email newsletters. We also need to hear from you about what activities you would like to see the club do. Would you participate if we were on Facebook or using Twitter? If you have lots of ideas and would like to be more involved, are you willing to become an Advisory Committee member?

Email the club advisor, Gwyer Schuyler, with your ideas and if you are interested in becoming an Advisory Committee member: schuyler@sbcc.edu.

From the Club President’s Desk

Welcome to the new SBCC HIT/CIM Student Peer Club and the first edition of our newsletter! A little over a year ago, I registered with SBCC as a new transfer student and chose Health Information Technology as my new major. Interesting enough, I went back to school full time to obtain another degree after being out of school for many years. I knew very little about what health information technology was all about. I just knew that it was a great field to get into and the prospects for jobs were going to be much greater than other fields.

One of the first lessons I had to learn as a new HIT major was that classes were very difficult to get into, so I started out with some non-major classes and also filled some gaps with Cancer Information Management classes which were somewhat easier to get. At that time I also decided to double major in HIT and CIM. With persistence and with time, I gradually was able to get most of the classes that I wanted and now after three semesters, I’ve completed a total of 45 units towards my major and this is my final semester of classes. Despite all of the initial class registration hassles, I’ll still be graduating well ahead of my planned schedule.

I’ve learned a lot of helpful hints along the way which helped me get through this major successfully, and I look forward to sharing some of those ideas with you as we develop this newsletter and bring you interesting and helpful material from other students as well. That’s what this club is all about, helping other HIT, CIM and Medical Coding students with their SBCC school challenges. Since we’re a brand new club, we are going through a lot of “club construction and development” right now and we’re in the process of building this great club to where we want it to be. We have a lot of great ideas planned for the Club and I am sure you will find that joining the HIT/CIM Student Peer Club will be a rewarding experience.

Monte Handley
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From the Advisor’s Desk

Here we are in July and basically all HIT and CIM coding classes are already full for Fall. As the academic counselor for the HIT/CIM programs, my experience has been that as time passes, our classes are filling up earlier and earlier each semester. I struggle when prospective students contact me, saying that they want to start our program, but I have to tell them that our classes are full. Then we have the experience of an advanced student who has tried to get into a higher level course but it filled so fast that they couldn’t. I feel for each person who is trying to improve themselves through education. I wish we had enough seats for everyone.

I am hoping that this club will help students at all stages in their programs learn from each other. I am also hoping that as the advisor for the club and the academic counselor for the HIT/CIM programs, I can make myself more available through the activities of the club to support each of you reach your goal. I will use my newsletter column to answer commonly asked questions that I receive. I will write about college procedures and upcoming dates and deadlines as well as important academic planning tips. If you have a question or a topic that you think others would benefit from hearing about, email me at schuyler@sbcc.edu.

Gwyer