

# International Medical Informatics Association IMIA

WG1

Working Group 1: Information Science and Medical Education

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## Future Plans for IMIA WG1 for 1995 - 1998

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### Introduction

Health and medical informatics (HMI) education has meanwhile become an integral part of education and training e.g. for physicians, nurses and for administrators in the field of health care in a variety of countries all over the world.

In accordance with the aims of IMIA, its WG1 seeks to advance the knowledge of

- how informatics is taught in the education of health professionals around the world,
  - how in particular health and medical informatics is taught to students of computer science / informatics or
  - how it is taught within dedicated curricula in health and medical informatics.
- Under Prof. Denis Protti, Canada, as Chair of WG1 during the last 6 years, the working group had a successful period with a number of outstanding activities.

### Aims of IMIA WG1 for 1995 - 1998

In consideration of the aims of WG1, on the priorities of WG1 within the last years, and on the international needs in health and medical informatics education, it is suggested, that WG1 should concentrate on the following aims:

- (1) **Disseminate and exchange information on HMI programs and courses.**
  - WG1 should offer an international information exchange on programs and courses in HMI education, especially for academic programs to obtain a bachelor, master or doctoral degree. Besides the need for HMI education for medical students, WG1 should also consider other curricula for health care professionals, for computer scientists / informaticians with respect to HMI education and for dedicated curricula in HMI.

- WG1 should also offer an international information exchange on courses in HMI for continuing education, especially for continuing medical education.
- WG1 should be the forum to discuss on an international level structures of HMI programs and contents of HMI courses and of educational approaches how to successfully teach HMI topics.

- (2) **Promotion of the IMIA WG1 database at the University of Maryland.**

- WG1 should continue to promote and to contribute to the IMIA WG1 database on HMI programs and courses at the University of Maryland at Baltimore. This database should become the international knowledge source on HMI programs and courses.

- (3) **International recommendations on HMI programs and courses.**

- WG1 should work on recommendations for an international framework on HMI education. Special emphasis should be taken to support those countries, which have not yet introduced HMI courses.

- (4) **Support HMI courses and exchange of students and teachers.**

- WG1 should support international courses, summer schools etc. on HMI, including continuing education.
- Furthermore WG1 should support activities on international exchange of students and teachers on existing HMI programs and courses.

### Activities, Cooperation with other Working Groups

Activities in order to reach these aims will be discussed at the WG1 meeting at Vancouver. WG1 will also discuss the possibility of a future working conference.

WG1 wishes to cooperate with all IMIA working groups, as far as educational aspects are concerned. It is intended to have a close cooperation with the corresponding working groups in regional organisations of IMIA, such as Working Group 6 of the European Federation of Medical Informatics, dealing with training and education.

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