

HIT Advisory Board Meeting

May 30, 2025

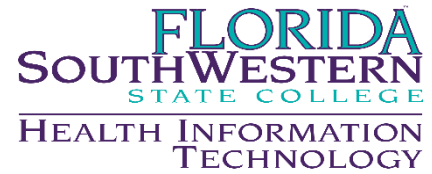
6:00 – 7:00 pm

Florida SouthWestern State College

8099 College Parkway

Fort Myers, FL 33919

Zoom - <https://fsw.zoom.us/j/87412938903?from=addon> (Remote)



AGENDA TOPICS

Welcome and Introductions!

Dr. Susan L Foster

- FSW Institutional Accreditation Update
- CAHIIM FEM Demonstration Program
 - Virtual Site Visit – June 4 and June 5
 - Courses mapping to Competencies and Performance Indicators
- HIT/MICB Program Updates
 - Program Applications
 - Enrollment and Retention
 - Capstones and Experiential Learning Activities
 - Employer Satisfaction Survey of Students
- Questions/Comments

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS!

Florida SouthWestern State College
Health Information Technology/MICB
Advisory Committee Meeting
May 30, 2025 Via Zoom

Attendees:

Dr. Susan L Foster – Program Director, HIT Program
Elizabeth Whitmer – Faculty
Kelly McLendon – CEO, McLendon LLC
Clark Chaffin – Director, Coding
Sharon Fitzgerald – Adjunct Instructor, HIT Program

Summary:

The meeting started with introductions and talks about possible student placements, then moved on to updates on program accreditation and curriculum changes at Florida SouthWestern State College. The group looked at student enrollment and certification progress, including plans for virtual internships and practical learning experiences. The discussion wrapped up with talks about AI integration in healthcare education, HIPAA compliance, and the creation of a new Cancer Data Management Associate's Degree program.

College Accreditation:

Susan updates the group on Florida SouthWestern State College's accreditation process, mentioning they are awaiting a decision from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). She discusses changes in program reporting, including the development of program outcomes that align with competencies. Susan also shares positive feedback from the HLC site visit team, highlighting the collaborative environment and strong student support at the college. Lastly, she mentions ongoing work with CAHIIM on the future education model since April 2024.

Program Accreditation:

Susan explains the future education model developed by CAHIIM, which is grounded in industry needs and task analysis. The model features 10 units for the associate program, with competencies and performance indicators based on Miller's Pyramid. The emphasis is on experiential and authentic learning experiences. Susan and Elizabeth are working to incorporate professional speakers into their courses to offer real-life insights. They are also adding reflection assignments to help students think critically about what they learn. Susan is currently mapping out outcomes and creating rubrics to assess student mastery of competencies, a new requirement that entails more administrative work.

Susan informs the team about an upcoming visit from external reviewers on Wednesday and Thursday of the following week. The reviewers will observe classes, examine

assignments, and speak with faculty, advisory board members, students, and graduates to assess the program's progress. Susan mentions that Kelly, an advisory board member, has agreed to participate in a one-hour interview on Wednesday evening, and she plans to reach out to more advisory board members. The visit is described as an informal check-in rather than a formal site review, aimed at ensuring the program is on track with implementing new competencies and performance indicators.

Students:

Susan provides an update on the student application process for the HIT and medical coding programs. She reports that 100 students applied, with 19 new students admitted for the academic year, and did not meet their goal of 20. The application process includes background checks and drug screenings, which sometimes cause applicants to drop out. Susan also mentions that they had six students graduate recently, and they've been given vouchers for the RHIT exam through foundation funding. She encourages the team to consider offering virtual internships or projects for students.

Susan also mentions that one student passed the RHIT exam, scoring above the national average in most domains. The program is now entirely virtual, with some courses conducted via Zoom, and students are spread across Florida. Elizabeth and Susan are implementing new textbooks and hands-on activities to improve student learning and prepare them for real-world scenarios beyond multiple-choice exams.

The group discusses the trend of students not taking certification exams, even when provided with vouchers. They note that many students only realize the importance of certification when it becomes a job requirement. The discussion then shifts to the increasing popularity of AAPC credentials, with some organizations now accepting AAPC certifications for inpatient coding positions. Clark mentions that while AAPC's CIC program is good, it may not provide the broader knowledge that AHIMA credentials offer. The group also observes that many coders prefer to work from home and focus solely on coding, potentially limiting their career growth opportunities.

New Program:

Susan is working with the State of Florida to create a Cancer Data Management Associate's Degree program, which would be the first of its kind in the state. The program aims to prepare students for roles as oncology data specialists and cancer registrars, aligning with recent federal recognition of these positions. Susan also plans to meet with the college's innovation and technology director to explore incorporating virtual reality and AI agents into healthcare education, potentially for scenarios like custodian of records in court or interactions with patients.

AI Governance:

Kelly discusses the importance of HIPAA compliance in healthcare AI systems. He explains that Microsoft Copilot is HIPAA-compliant out of the box, while ChatGPT requires custom configuration. Kelly suggests teaching students about AI governance, including how to ensure vendors are compliant and how to differentiate between AI-enabled and traditional computer-assisted coding. Susan adds that textbooks are not

keeping up with AI developments, so she created a module on AI basics for her health information systems course. The group agrees that focusing on AI governance is a good approach for their curriculum, as it aligns with their expertise in being data custodians.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectively submitted by:

Dr. Susan Foster, Director of Health Information Programs