

The Academy's Working Group on Informatics and the Nursing Section Spring Program:
A Partnership for Showcasing Informatics Innovation

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For its second year, the Working Group on Informatics of the New York Academy of Medicine presented a program that drew participants from various professional groups including informaticists, administrators, faculty, nurses, physicians, and many others who use technology in their professional practice. On April 30, 2017, the Academy Event “Urban Health Informatics: Innovation Conference and Exhibit” was planned by the Working Group on Informatics and co-hosted by the Nursing Section of the Academy. The planners provided an opportunity to showcase innovation in the form of open dialogue with poster presenters, a brief overview of each accepted innovation abstract, an insightful and timely set of comments by a Chief Information Officer, Curtis Cole, MD, FACP, and a wide range of discussions held in a café style networking among like-minded professionals!



The HEALTH INFORMATICS WORK GROUP PLANNING COMMITTEE led by Edmund Pajarillo met routinely over the year to create as innovative a program as possible, given the nature of the disciplinary common threads. The decision to “showcase innovation” was a result of the prior year evaluation and the sense that there was ample amount and quality of new technologies being researched and brought to implementation throughout the New York metropolitan area from which to recruit. From the planners’ various perspectives, the team

assembled a “call for abstracts of innovation” that drew interest from all over the New York area hospital and technology programs, as well as from Chicago! [For a copy of the program, click here.](#)



The Academy’s library was filled with attendees – over 150 – who browsed and chatted with the “showcase” innovators. Projects ranged from kidney disease to new ways to communicate among team members, with varying direct and indirect clinical applications being described by the exhibitors: Mark S. Wolff, DDS, PhD from NYU College of Dentistry – “Dental EHR and Tobacco Cessation Guided Decision Support

Tool;” Andrew D. Boyd, MD from University of Illinois – “My Interventional Drug Eluting Stent Educational App (MyIDEA”); Mari Millery from Columbia University – “GetHealthy Heights.org”;

Andrew Dempsey and Danny Silk from NYU Tandon School of Engineering – “HealthHuddle”; Mohamad Salimi from Northwell Health Krasnoff Quality Management Institute & Northwell Health Division of Kidney Diseases and Hypertension – “Healthy Transitions: An Innovative Implementation of Health Care Technology Informatics for Managing Patients with Late Stage Kidney Disease”; Janos G. Hajagos, PhD from Stony Brook University – “Customized 30-Day Inpatient Readmission Models”; Meenakashi Gupta, MD from New York Eye & Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai – “Teleophthalmology Screening Program for Diabetic Retinopathy”; and Dustin Duane, BS and John Hui, MBA, from Twiage LLC – “Twiage Communication and Care Coordination Technology Platform.”



The evening culminated in a series of 7-minute briefings by the presenters on stage, and was followed by a provocative and timely set of observations and predictions by Curtis L. Cole, MD, FACP, who challenged the presenters and audience to think in terms of current technology trajectories in a world that is continuously changing – what tech can do for the future and what it can't. With a closing reflection and commentary, Dr. Cole's words made it clear to the planners and attendees that this kind of conversation needs to continue! The Working Group on Informatics attracted numerous new participants for future membership and planning. Look for another session next year to stay ahead of the proverbial innovation curve!

[For an exhibition slide-show, click here.](#)

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