



## Program Schedule for 2006

GA HIMSS Board



>Dear GA HIMSS Member

The year of 2005 has flown by with the holidays upon us as we face many challenges and opportunities in 2006. Your GA HIMSS chapter had many successes this year with successful meetings, growing membership, new board members, and many topics of our industry constantly changing to keep us on the edge of our seats, while continuing to maintain sanity in the daily responsibilities of our everyday jobs.

The combined board of last year and next year met late in the summer to coordinate, strategize and plan for a successful 2006 with Andrew Blackmon, new Board President, leading the way. During our planning meeting, we tentatively scheduled all of our chapter meetings through the end of summer 2006 with the following activities:

October 18, 2005 - RHIO presentation by Tracey Field.  
Over 35 attendees at the successful evening event at GA Tech.

### **2006**

- Jan 20** – Daytime meeting & tour of Dekalb Medical Center at Hillendale
- Feb 12-16** – National HIMSS Conference
- Feb 14** – Luncheon of Southeast HIMSS Members
- March 31** – Chapter Meeting
- April 21-22** – Georgia Tech Symposium
- June 9** – Election Announcement
- August 25** – All day event: Vendor Fair, Presentations, & Fun Activities

We hope you can attend and look forward to your participation.

In preparation of our late summer board meeting, the GA members of our chapter were asked to respond to a survey for us to understand your needs, interests and willingness to become active members of the GA HIMSS chapter. Below are highlights of that survey.

- 89 out of 629 members responded
- 63% had attended a meeting in past 2 years
- 31% had attended 1-4 meetings in past 2 years
- Top reasons for no attendance:
  - No Time
  - Topics Not Pertinent
  - Location
- Top 4 Participation Interests
  - Webinars
  - Special Interest Group Meetings
  - Teleconferences
  - Contributing articles for newsletter publication
- Top 10 Topics of interest:
  - HIPAA - Industry solutions
  - Technology - Planning & managing increased end user knowledge
  - Technology - Impact of Microsoft in healthcare
  - Organization - Bringing IT to the senior table
  - Clinical Process - Vendor success stories
  - Organization - Project management
  - Organization - Empower the healthcare user with IT
  - Clinical Process - Financial impact
  - Clinical Process - Quality impact
  - Organization - Best practices of IT management

We have listened to your feedback and will make every effort to adjust the activities to maximize member

participation. To that end, we will have our first meeting of 2006 in a different location, hopefully, more accessible to our members from the south and eastern portion of Georgia than in previous events. Dekalb Medical Center of Hillandale, Georgia's newest hospital featuring an all new digital network and the latest deployment of technology, has agreed to host our January 20th meeting and show off their new facilities in Lithonia, just off I-20. We are planning an exciting panel discussion with the top healthcare CIO's in Georgia. Mark your calendars and look for details in an upcoming email and the GA HIMSS website at <http://www.gahimss.org>.

Many of you are planning to attend the national HIMSS conference in San Diego on Feb 12-16, 2006. If you are planning to attend and have never attended this conference, get ready for "Information Overload". For those veteran attendees, you know that there are more activities, presentations, networking and just plain "FUN" things that you can stand in 5 days.

Speaking of fun, the GA HIMSS leadership is once again playing a leading role in creating another benefit to your HIMSS and GA HIMSS membership by joining with our neighboring states HIMSS chapters to coordinate a wonderful networking luncheon opportunity on Tuesday February 14th. Details are being confirmed this month, so be sure and block off 2 hours at lunch on Tuesday and check the GA HIMSS website at <http://www.gahimss.org> for more details as the conference date gets closer.

As you get ready for this Holiday time of year, the GA HIMSS board wishes you, your family and staff a wonderful, safe and joyous season and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2006.

**The GA HIMSS Board**

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