



2023 Election for Board Treasurer

Candidate

James Cimino

Professional Title And Affiliation

Director, Informatics Institute and Distinguished Professor of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Personal Statement

SCAMC and AMIA have been my professional home since 1981. I have been proud to contribute to its various missions through publication, presentation, participation and leadership. There lately seems to be a breakdown in communications between the Board and the membership, largely around issues that have caused similar breakdowns in society at large. I would like to help with the current efforts to reverse that trend and rebuild trust in the membership that AMIA works tirelessly in their best interests.

Bio

James Cimino is a board-certified, practicing internist with a long career in academic biomedical informatics. He is currently a Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Director of the Informatics Institute at the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) Heersink School of Medicine. Among other past professional roles, he has been a Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Medicine at Columbia University and Chief of the Laboratory for Informatics Development at the NIH Clinical Center and National Library of Medicine. He has an international reputation as an expert in several subdomains of informatics, including controlled terminologies, clinical decision support, studying the information needs of clinicians and patients, and clinical research informatics, with over 400 peer-reviewed publications. His honors include Fellowships in the American College of Physicians, the New York Academy of Medicine, the American College of Medical Informatics (Past President) and the International Academy of Health Science Informatics, the Priscilla Mayden Award from the University of Utah, the Donald A.B. Lindberg Award for Innovation in Informatics and the President's Award, both from the American Medical Informatics Association, the Medal of Honor from New York Medical College, the NIH Clinical Center Director's Award (twice), induction into the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine), and the Morris F. Collen Award for Excellence from the American College of Medical Informatics and the American Medical Informatics Association.

Leadership Skills

Early leadership roles have included leading clinical teams, as a medical resident or attending, and leading my own laboratory consisting of a programmer, trainees and collaborating faculty. My move to the NIH entailed leading a team of 25 IT professionals and, since then, an Institute

of over 50 faculty, staff and trainees. I have always taken a collaborative approach to leadership – seeking to delegate to competency, mentor where needed, but ultimately take responsibility. Executive training at NIH helped me learn to listen to and observe those reporting to me to better understand their individual approaches to problem solving and responses to leadership.

Reputation for Excellence (in informatics)

I am a Fellow of ACMI, a Fellow of AMIA, recipient of the Donald A.B. Lindberg Award for Excellence, and the Collen Award. I have also received the Homer Warner Award and the Medal of Honor from New York Medical College, as well as received membership in the National Academy of Medicine and fellowships from the New York Academy of Medicine and the American College of Physicians.

Perspective Add

I came to the AMIA Board 6 years ago with three agenda items. First was to improve diversity of AMIA. The irony of trying to accomplish this while adding one more white male to the Board is not lost on me. However, I believe I have been an active voice for diversity and have personally worked to add diverse candidates to the Board slate. Second, I seek to engage the AMIA student membership as our secret army, for outreach to help spread the word about AMIA to informatics professionals, informatics trainees, and potential informatics trainees. I would like to see AMIA develop materials that they can use for these purposes. I am also engaging student members to participate in the Year in Review to give them experience and exposure. Third, I would like to see improvement in the intra-membership communication. I have had to await the Communities upgrade to see if it will achieve that or if a change in platform is needed.

Team Player

My highly collaborative nature is evidenced by the number of publications (see Pubmed: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/browse/collection/42526188>)

AMIA Engagement and Participation

AMIA member: 20+ years

I am a founding AMIA member (original member ID 355) and have served in every capacity asked of me by AMIA. I am a supporter of the LEAD Fund and the Scholarship Fund. See above for the list of my AMIA participation.

Informatics Interests

Clinical Care, Clinical Decision Support, Clinical Research, Clinical Workflow, Electronic Health Records, Internal Medicine, Ontologies, Standards, Terminologies