

Canadian Health Informatics Awards 2007 Award Recipients

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
D'INFORMATIQUE DE LA SANTÉ



Steven Huesing Scholarship

Dr. Samina Abid, PhD Candidate, Inter-Disciplinary PhD Program with specialization in Health Informatics, Dalhousie University



The Steven Huesing Scholarship was established in 1999 to recognize the long-term contribution of founding president Steven Huesing to COACH. This Award reflects the spirit, dedication and innovation that Steven has brought to the field of health care informatics. Applicants must be of sound academic standing and must demonstrate their involvement and achievement in health informatics. The Scholarship includes a cash honorarium, complimentary COACH membership and e-Health conference registration.

This year's recipient, Dr. Samina Abid, completed a Masters program in Information Technology in 2001, and got involved in research projects concerning the personalization of patient educational material and use of past cases for clinical decision support. In her PhD research, she is pursuing the rather complex issue of developing patient-specific care plans for standardizing patient care and ensuring patient safety-the decision support framework will assist physicians in making correct therapeutic choices when dealing with patient co-morbidities.

Dr. Abid's other research achievements include the development of a clinical decision support system for breast-cancer follow-up in collaboration with Cancer Care Nova Scotia, by computerizing the Canadian guideline on breast cancer follow-up and incorporating it as a decision support tool for family physicians performing breast cancer follow-up at their clinics. The research was very innovative and has led to three publications at top health informatics conferences. She has also developed two undergraduate health informatics courses and hopes that through her research and teaching activities, she will be able to contribute to the advancement of Health Informatics and in turn help to improve healthcare.



Steven Huesing; Dr. Samina Abid; Linda Miller



Linda Miller presents the Award to Dr. O'Brien

The Community-Based Physician Leader/Innovator Award

Dr. Lewis O'Brien, Family Physician, Group Health Centre, Sault Ste-Marie

The Community-Based Physician Leader/Innovator Award is a new award for COACH and presented by the Canadian Medical Association and Practice Solutions Ltd. This Award honours a community-based physician who has shown outstanding leadership or innovation in the use of health IT in medical practice.

Dr. Lewis O'Brien has been instrumental in the installation and continued development and success of the EMR system

to support and improve the care provided at the Centre. He has been steadfast in his leadership of the process of change management and his understanding and support have been instrumental in the evolution and success of the Centre's technological innovations. He has challenged the system further into the area of chronic disease management by designing templates that assist providers in the treatment of diabetes and other vascular diseases.

In addition to his EMR responsibilities, he manages a large primary care practice at the Centre and mentors others, enabling the benefits to accrue for both providers and patients.