

## **Message from the Transactions Editor**

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It is my pleasure to present the *Transactions of the International Conference on Health Information Technology Advancement*, which is related to the ICHTA-2011 held in the Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan on October 28, 2011. Firstly, I would like to express my appreciation to Bernard Han, Program Director of the Center for HIT Advancement, and Sharie Falan, the Associate Director of the Center for HIT Advancement, for their frequent help and their outstanding leadership. Through their help, the editorial process became easier and smoother.

This was the first year to publish the Conference Transactions. As the transactions editor, I personally believe that we cannot attract the attendance of faculty from AACSB or accredited universities without publishing refereed conference transactions or proceedings. Due to budget cutbacks, many universities require their faculty to have their paper published in the refereed publications in order to gain travel funds. Attending an academic/professional conference often means a chance for junior faculty to gain useful knowledge in both teaching and research. The purpose of this conference is not only to discuss the information systems of health care applications, but also to discuss academic curriculum trends and critical issues related to health care information systems. This year we received a moderate amount of submission. This volume contains about twelve refereed papers and four position papers, developed by more than thirty authors and co-authors. These papers have been gone through a rigorous double-blind review process. The Transactions publishes hard copy, CD, and online edition. The online edition provides a list of presentation abstracts and PowerPoint slides as Appendix. Secondly, I want to thank the authors, presenters, and reviewers for their persistent hard work for these papers/reviews for the Transactions of the ICHITA-2011 conference. I know that it was a lot of hard work, but it was well worth.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank everyone again for their participation in the ICHITA-2011. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Transactions editor. Without your help and support, the Transactions would not have been possible. In addition, the committee will greatly appreciate it if you can provide them with ideas and issues so that they can improve the quality of the Transactions in the future. We wish you enjoy the conference in Western Michigan University and look forward to seeing you again in future ICHITA conferences.