

**Background: IAIMS: The Next Generation
(IAIMS:TNG)**

IAIMS:TNG is a 20-month project to study the impact of the Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS) concept on the information landscape in academic health sciences centers. Under contract with the National Library of Medicine, AAMC is examining the original IAIMS concept¹, its implementation in the National Library of Medicine's extramural IAIMS program, and its effect on current practices in academic health sciences centers, whether or not they received funding from NLM.

The study report will summarize the findings of the visits, self studies, literature and other sources of information. It will also recommend new or modified elements for the existing IAIMS extramural funding program at the National Library of Medicine. In March 2001, a national symposium on IAIMS will be held in Washington, D.C. to discuss findings and recommendations before the final report is completed.

IAIMS: TNG Study Visits

As part of the project, study visits are being made to about a dozen academic health sciences centers or health organizations. In addition, about 2 dozen organizations have agreed to do self-studies. The purposes of the visit/self-study are to (1) explore the implementation of IAIMS (i.e., information management program) at the host institution; (2) discuss lessons learned (from the local perspective) in achieving information management goals; (3) identify next-generation needs for information management/IAIMS.

The study visit team consists of Valerie Florance, Ph.D., the P.I. for IAIMS:TNG, and one member of the I:TNG Review Panel. Each host organization is asked to complete a pre-visit checklist designed to assess the current state of its information environment. Each also receives a list of interview questions and topics, so all participants know in advance topics will be discussed during the visit. Each host organization will receive a summary of the study team's notes and observations. Information about individual

¹ Academic Information in the Academic Health Sciences Center. Roles for the Library in Information Management. Matheson, NW and Cooper, JAD. *J Med Educ* 57(10), Pt. 2, Oct 1982. This report was funded, in part, by the National Library of Medicine through contract NO1-LM-9-4716.

institutions will not be disseminated without the host's permission. Study visits & self-studies will be compiled in a structured form to enable cross-organization comparisons.

IAIMS:TNG and better_health@here.now

IAIMS: The Next Generation and *better_health2010* are the two components of *better_health@here.now*, AAMC's information technology futures initiative. *Better_health2010* is a scenario-building and blueprint activity whose efforts are overseen by the *better_health2010* Advisory Board. For more information on both projects and their current activities, visit the project web site at http://www.aamc.org/better_health.

IAIMS: TNG Review Panel

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