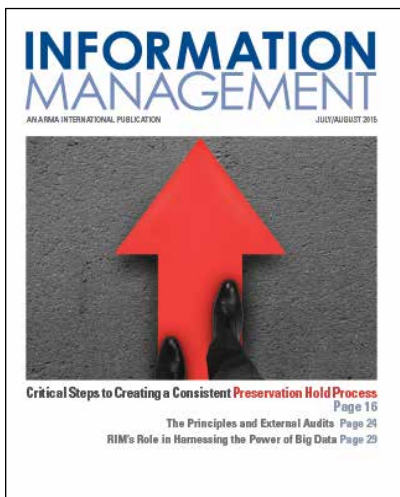


Collaboration Ensures RIM Career Success and Growth



Wherever you are along the records and information management (RIM) career ladder, good collaboration skills are among the most critical to your being effective in your current role and to climbing to a higher rung. This issue's articles describe the valuable collaborative roles you can play in several business functions, including legal and technology initiatives.

Richard Vestuto, J.D., and Bill Piwonka write in the cover article that because legal holds “intersect with business units across the organization, including legal, IT, records management, HR, and compliance, among others,” a steering committee comprising these stakeholders is essential to ensuring that the organization's preservation protocols are applied consistently.

In “RIMS's Role in Harnessing the Power of Big Data,” author Kevin L.

Dale, CRM, says RIM professionals can help solve the big data problems that come with disorganized, duplicative, poor quality data. “Big data can partner with RIM to reduce the costs of identifying, preparing, and analyzing data,” Dale writes. Further, he says, “By creating synergies between RIM and the big data program staff and integrating RIM principles into all processes that ‘touch’ data, organizations can forge and maintain a sustainable path to the information governance (IG) needed to ensure high-value data.”

As the foundation of IG, RIM must be effective to ensure positive outcomes from audits, Julie Gable, CRM, CDIA, FAI, writes in the Principles Series article. “An IG program based on the Generally Accepted Record-keeping Principles® (Principles) and the Information Governance Maturity Model (IGMM) goes a long way to show that the organization takes its information management responsibilities seriously,” she says. “Used well, these comprehensive tools guide in developing and sustaining an IG program that delivers reliably during even the pickiest inspections.”

It also delivers in disaster scenarios. In “Planning for and Managing During a Paper Document Disaster,” William R. Gulley, Jr. writes that RIM best practices are not only fundamental to an organization being prepared for a disaster, but also to it responding efficiently and getting a favorable insurance settlement.

To close the issue, an excerpt from the upcoming third edition of *Records and Information Management: Fundamentals of Professional Practice* by William Saffady, Ph.D., FAI, emphasizes that “Information is a collaborative initiative that requires the involvement and expertise of multiple stakeholders.” In addition to records management, Saffady identifies IG stakeholders as IT, information security, risk management, legal, compliance, and business units that have or supervise control of information.

To be sure, RIM professionals who collaborate regularly with other IG stakeholders will broaden their skill sets, be sought out for their expertise, and find themselves in a good position for advancement.

How else can we help you excel in your career? Let us know at editor@armaintl.org.

Correction: In the print edition of the May/June 2015 *Information Management*, we should have included this disclaimer for “Avoiding the Hammer: Defensible Strategies for FRCP Proposed Rule 37(e)” by Katherine Aversano, J.D., and Joe Starnes, J.D.: “The views and opinions expressed in this article do not necessarily represent the position of the Department of Justice, the United States, or any agency thereof.” We apologize for this error.

Vicki Wiler
Editor in Chief