



HITSAC Appointments, Code of Virginia

- § 2.2-2699.7. Health Information Technology Standards Advisory Committee.

The ITAC may appoint an advisory committee of persons with expertise in health care and information technology to advise the ITAC on the utilization of nationally recognized technical and data standards for health information technology systems or software pursuant to subdivision A 5 of § 2.2-2699.6. **The ITAC, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, may appoint up to five persons to serve on the advisory committee.** Members appointed to the advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in § 2.2-2825.

The CIO, the Secretary of Technology, and the **Secretary of Health and Human Resources, or their designees, may also serve on the advisory committee.**

(2010, cc. 136, 145; 2011, cc. 266, 313.)



Retirement of HITSAC Member – Dr. Sallie Cook



Dr. Sallie S. Cook,
Chief Medical Officer,
VHQC

(May 2011-August 2015)

Sallie S. Cook, MD retired from her full time position as Chief Medical Officer of VHQC, effective October 1, 2015. She will continue to work with VHQC as a physician consultant on several projects.

Dr. Cook's valuable insight has been integral to the success of HITSAC's priorities:

- Adoption of 127 national/international standards
- Support of Virginia's Health IT/Medicaid IT Architecture (HIT/MITA) Program
- Establishing the Genomics Working Group (GWG)
- Advising on the Commonwealth's Data Standardization Plan and Enterprise Information Architecture (EIA) Strategy
- Advising on Virginia's HIE on enterprise architecture, onboarding certification, and trust frameworks

HITSAC is thankful to Dr. Cook for her four years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.



HITSAC Recommendations

- HITSAC Chairman Marshall Ruffin, MD recommends to ITAC:
 - **Dr. Christopher Barrett** to fill the position of **HITSAC Member** left vacant by Dr. Sallie Cook
 - **Mr. Rick Friedman** to fill the position of Health and Human Resources **(HHR) Designee** (on behalf of Secretary Hazel) left vacant by Mr. Mike Wirth
- Chairman Ruffin has conferred with Secretary of Health and Human Resources William Hazel, MD who supports the aforementioned recommendations.



HITSAC Member Recommendation: Dr. Christopher Barrett



Dr. Christopher Barrett
Executive Director
Virginia Bioinformatics
Institute

- As part of the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute (VBI), Dr. Barrett established the Network Dynamics and Simulation Laboratory and has extended the scope of informatics research in biosocial complex systems.
- Dr. Barrett has scientific experience in simulation, synthetic information systems, computational social and psychological science, scientific computation, algorithm theory and development, network science, system science and control, artificial intelligence, biosystems analysis, decision science, cognitive science.
- His research is largely devoted to the development and use of large-scale, high performance synthetic information systems.
- Dr. Barrett has received Distinguished Service Awards from the US Navy, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Alliance for Transportation Research, the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, was named a Jubileum Professor of Computer Science at Göteborg University in Sweden.
- In 2014, Dr. Barrett was named Executive Director of the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute.
- Dr. Barrett received a Ph.D. in Bioinformation Systems and an MS in Engineering Science from the California Institute of Technology.



Virginia Bioinformatics Institute at Virginia Tech

The Virginia Bioinformatics Institute has opened a door for Virginia into bioinformatics and information biology. Established in 2000 with an emphasis on informatics of complex interacting systems scaling the microbiome to the entire globe, VBI helps solve challenges posed to human health, security, and sustainability. The institute was founded by forward-thinking members of the Commonwealth who realized that biotechnology was the next step for growth in the region.

With an emphasis on team science, VBI has continued to work with bioinformatics and genomics, but understands that genomes must be understood in context. The institute has therefore embraced network dynamics and simulation science to connect biology and the large, interacting systems that govern it.

Headquartered at the Blacksburg campus, the institute occupies 154,600 square feet in research facilities, including state-of-the-art core laboratory and high-performance computing facilities, as well as research offices in the Virginia Tech Research Center in Arlington, Virginia.

Website: <http://vbi.vt.edu/>



Virginia Bioinformatics Institute



HHR Designee Recommendation: Mr. Rick Friedman



Mr. Rick Friedman
Health IT Consultant
National Workgroup on
Integration, American Public
Human Services Association
(APHSA)

- Mr. Rick Friedman is the former Director of the Division of State Systems within the US Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) responsible for establishing national Medicaid IT policies related to state claims processing and eligibility determination systems, promotion of increased use electronic medical records and meaningful use, decision support systems and service oriented architectures (SOA) used by States to provide Medicaid services to approximately 60 million citizens.
- The Division of State Systems certifies new Medicaid Management Information Systems, oversees the transformation of the MMIS into a client-centric, web-enabled, standards-based system known as the Medicaid IT Architecture (MITA), provides incentive funding to eligible providers and institutions to adopt health information technologies, and works closely with the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT (ONC) and the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) to implement the Medicaid systems provisions of recent federal legislation, including the Affordable Care Act.
- Prior to joining CMS, Mr. Friedman worked for a multinational bank, a management consulting firm, and two managed care companies as the CIO and CEO, respectively.
- Mr. Friedman's undergraduate degree in economics is from Colgate University and his MBA is from Dartmouth.