

## IHTSDO® picks a Canadian as CEO

The Management Board of the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO®) has announced the appointment of Dr. Jennifer Zelmer as their new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective February 1st 2008.

Dr. Zelmer has been working at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) since 1995, most recently as vice-



president for research and analysis. She also has an adjunct position at the University of Toronto since 2002, where she has been in charge of developing and

delivering a graduate course on the strategic use of health information. Prior to joining CIHI, she worked with a variety of health, academic, and government organizations in Australia, Canada, Denmark and India.

“We are truly delighted to recruit Jennifer Zelmer as new CEO of our organisation,” said Martin Severs, Chairman of the Management Board of the IHTSDO®. “A person with Jennifer’s experience and skills in senior management, economics and research within the health information field is perfect in the role for developing and further strengthen our recently established international organization.”

Daniel Forslund, board member from Sweden and Chair of the Selection Committee of the Management Board, said that the committee unanimously selected Zelmer based on her impressive track record of working in an international and political environment, and her extensive experience in successfully leading and motivating teams within a new organisation.

“I look forward to joining the IHTSDO® and to working with partners from around the

world to leverage the potential of information to contribute to better health and health care,” said Dr. Zelmer.

Richard C. Alvarez, president and CEO of Canada Health Infoway which serves as Canada’s representative on the IHTSDO® management board, congratulated Dr. Zelmer on her new post.

“IHTSDO® is very fortunate to have a high-calibre individual such as Dr. Zelmer as their founding CEO,” said Richard Alvarez, President and CEO of Canada Health Infoway. “Jennifer Zelmer is a young, dynamic and talented professional who will bring vision, passion and energy to the development and establishment of IHTSDO®. Canada’s loss is truly the International Standards community’s gain!”

The IHTSDO® is registered as a global not-for-profit association based in Denmark, and is responsible on a global scale for the international release of the terminology SNOMED CT®. The organisation has the overarching goal to improve the health of humankind by owning, distributing, operating and developing suitable health terminology products. The Charter Members of the IHTSDO® are Australia, Canada, Denmark, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. Membership is open to all countries, and there is a provision for sponsored use in developing countries. For more information, please visit the IHTSDO® website at <http://www.ihtsdo.org/>