



Triumph Award
Mentor



PATRICIA PIERSON RHIA

The Mentor Award honors individuals or “teams” with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best.

Remember that old poem that goes something like “Monday’s child is fair of face, Tuesday’s child is full of grace?” Well, surely Wednesday’s child grew up to be a mentor (since Wednesday’s child is loving and giving!). It would be safe to bet that Patricia Pierson was born on Wednesday. Honored with receiving the mentorship award this year, Pat has demonstrated her giving spirit through mentorship of her colleagues and students.

Educators know how hard it can be to make adjunct faculty and distance education students feel “connected” to the program in which they are participating. This detachment can be compounded when the majority of the course delivery is online. Pat has worked tirelessly and used innovative methods to achieve a true sense of community with her remote adjunct faculty and distance education students.

The nomination materials for this award included testimonials from students, colleagues, and administrators within Pat’s organization. One of the nominators said, “As an associate faculty member under Pat’s different Internet delivery environment and through discussions with my fellow associate faculty members, it is obvious that the way she interacted with us individually and collectively via internet-delivered faculty meetings and live classrooms, the positive and effective manner of teaching her new faculty created successful instructors. She always took the call and answered the emails to help us learn the significant number of

details necessary to deliver classes professionally and timely. I liken it to being a brand new HIM Director and being told JCAHO will be at the facility in two weeks! And HIM passed the survey!”

The Mentor Award honors individuals or teams with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or helping them find ways to achieve their best. Pat clearly has touched the lives of many throughout her expansive career in HIM. While a relatively new addition to the formal world of education, she has had the opportunity to mentor others in her previous role as an HIM director and consultant. A former student speaking in support of the nomination for the mentor award stated, “Pat is always supportive, cheerful, and kind. She is a great motivator. With her history in the HIM profession, she also served as a wonderful mentor to students in every way imaginable. The patience and encouragement she exhibited when I was a student were extraordinary. As a result of her mentoring, I continue to mentor students in the program who are seeking the RHIT credential.”

Life goes full circle, and we often give what we receive. Through the actions of a mentor, and specifically through Pat’s actions, we can rest assured that a new generation of HIM professionals will have a strong role model to thank for their own mentoring spirit. Congratulations to Pat Pierson for earning this well deserved award!