

Inaugural Class of IAHSI – 2017



Don E. Detmer

Don Eugene Detmer, MD, MA, is Professor of Medical Education at the University of Virginia. He has held past professorships at Cambridge University, the University of Utah, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Don served as the Vice President for Health Sciences at the Universities of Utah and Virginia and was an active vascular surgeon for thirty years. He was President and CEO of the American Medical Informatics Association from 2004 to 2009. Don received the American College of Medical Informatics Morris Collen Medal in 2009 and in 2008 was the inaugural award winner of the AMIA Signature Award for Health Policy Contributions. In 2009 he received the Walsh McDermott Award from the U.S. National Academy of Medicine (then the Institute of Medicine (IOM)).

While in England at Cambridge he was a consultant to the Under-Secretary for Health on the health information technology strategy for England and Wales. In that same period, Detmer was a consultant to the Hospital Authority in Hong Kong for its health IT strategy. During his tenure at AMIA, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation awarded grants to AMIA to plan a global health informatics educational strategy and begin its implementation. Don was the Principal Investigator for those grants. These led to a major international educational conference at the Rockefeller Center in Bellagio, Italy.

He is a past chair of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine, the U.S. National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, and the IOM's Board of Health Care Services. He chaired the Computer-based Patient Record Report of the U.S. Institute of Medicine in 1991 and was on the IOM Committee that authored the "To Err is Human" and "Crossing the Quality Chasm" Reports. He has published numerous articles and is a Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American College of Surgeons, American Academy of Nursing (hon.), American Academy of Physician Assistants (hon.), and the International Academy of Health Care Informatics. He lives on a farm near Charlottesville where he is an amateur arborist.