Background of the Graduate Certificate Program in Health Terminology Standards

In fall 2014, the School of Health Information Science at the University of Victoria (UVic) took part in a national advisory group to define the competencies and curricular content for a new health terminology standards certification program. The group was convened by the Canadian College of Health Information Management (CCHIM), Canadian Health Information Management Association (CHIMA) and Canada Health Infoway, and included interested educational institutions, professional associations, government agencies, health organizations and the private sector. The group produced a Canadian Standards Certification Program Curricular Content draft document in December 2015, which underwent public consultation and was adopted by CCHIM/CHIMA in spring 2016.

In summer 2016, the School responded to a call by CCHIM/CHIMA to develop a certificate program based on this curriculum content in partnership with eHealth Ontario (now Ontario Health Digital Services), Gevity Consulting and RKL Health Informatics. What emerged is a 1-year graduate level certificate program with four online courses and a 2.5 day in-person workshop. The certificate program was approved by UVic Senate in early 2017 and received an initial 2-year accreditation from CCHIM/CHIMA. More information about the CCHIM/CHIMA accreditation of this certificate program can be found on the CHIMA website – see link below https://www.echima.ca/cchim/terminology-standards-certification.


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