Increasing the Future Impact of Biomedical Informatics

Abstract: The future for Biomedical Informatics is exceedingly bright; however, significant barriers exist in achieving maximum impact through our Informatics Science, Teaching and Service. This lecture will focus on how staff, students, programmers and faculty in Biomedical Informatics Departments and Centers can help to achieve maximum impact on Health and Science going forward. The presenter believes the way to achieve this is through three key initiatives:

1. Working to attract the best and the brightest to Biomedical Informatics to creating a “pipeline” of talent
2. Being a major contributor and catalyst for success in “Big Data to Knowledge” and the NIH Data Science Initiatives
3. Ensuring that technologies developed by Biomedical Informatics are done in concert with community needs and will require us to better partner with Industry

These three themes will be discussed in the context of the challenges Academic Health Centers are facing financially and why this is the time for Biomedical Informatics to work harder, but smarter to achieve these goals.

About the Speaker: Dr. Becich is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biomedical Informatics (http://www.dbmi.pitt.edu) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He is jointly appointed in Pathology, Information Sciences/Telecommunications and Clinical/Translational Research. He is Associate Director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (http://www.upci.upmc.edu/) and Co-Director of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (http://www.ctsi.pitt.edu) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Becich’s research interests are focused on the interface between clinical informatics imaging informatics and bioinformatics. His research is funded by the NCI, NCRR, NLM, CDC, TATRC and the DOD and includes clinical phenotyping of patients for genomic studies, tissue banking informatics and bioinformatics with a special emphasis on data sharing. Dr. Becich is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Omnyx (http://www.omnyx.com) and has been an innovator and entrepreneur in the area of whole slide imaging and digital pathology and their use in improving patient care and patient safety. A complete online profile including bibliography is available at http://www.dbmi.pitt.edu/person/michael-j-becich-md-phd.

Michael Becich, MD, PhD
Key Note Speaker at the Biomedical Informatics Research Day
Time: Wednesday, January 15th, 9:30 – 10:30 AM
Location: 115 Biomedical Research Tower