



AMIA INTEREST GROUPS

AMIA Interest Groups are formed around important topics or professional concerns in the field as a forum to share information and exchange ideas and experiences. Open to all members, scheduled meetings for each Interest Group are listed on the AMIA website.

An **Interest Group** differs from a **Committee** in several ways. Interest Groups are informal - there are no Chair elections, no reporting required, no individual webpage, and no project funding is available. Although they are less formal, Interest Groups and Committees do share certain other features - they may propose conference sessions on behalf of the group or propose online programming on behalf of the group.

Members can form an Interest Group through a request to the Board. To initiate an interest group, a request to the Board should include the name of the proposed Interest Group, a brief statement of the areas of discussion, the name of a liaison for the group, and include the names of ten members supporting the request. Alternative to the list of ten members, a call for interest in forming an Interest Group may be made through the AMIA-Member listserv.

On review by the Board, each Interest Group is approved for a two-year term and is renewable on the request of group members. Once approved, the office will send notice to members via AMIA-Member with a link to join the group.

A minimum of three virtual meetings will be scheduled for the group each year though additional meetings may be scheduled by members of the group.

Interest Groups may adopt a working structure of their choosing (ie. naming a chair or having no chair, rotating a facilitator for discussions, etc), but does name a Liaison to communicate on behalf of the IG with the office and the Board. The Liaison will work with the office to schedule at least two meetings for the group per year for publication on the website.



Interest Group signups from the membership will be done with a link provided to members to sign up. Meeting dates will be posted on the AMIA website, with other information (Zoom links or locations) posted on Basecamp, though the group may also choose to use additional communications (Google Groups, Discord, meetings, etc).

In alignment with AMIA's Community Values, Interest Groups will conduct discussions so that all those present in the meeting can contribute to the discussion.

Should an Interest Group develop a project idea that requires support from AMIA, the liaison can work with the office and the Board Interest Group Liaison to determine if a Committee or Working Group should be initiated.

