Whether it's coding, compliance, reimbursement or risk management, clinical assistant professor Judy Bielby, MBA’95, HIM’87, RHIA, is a go-to person for the Department of Health Information Management at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

A lifelong Kansas City metropolitan resident, Bielby earned her first paycheck at age 14 by delivering handbills. She received her bachelor’s degree in medical record administration from the University of Kansas in 1987 and added a master’s in business administration in 1995.

Bielby launched into health information management during her final semester as an undergraduate when she became a medical coder at Children’s Mercy Hospital. She has compiled more than 25 years of experience in the health care industry, including coding, compliance, risk and quality management, survey preparation, documentation, and various projects.

Although her jobs out of college involved mainly coding, Bielby was eager to move into quality and risk management. Her experience in quality and risk management paired with her coding knowledge made her a prime candidate to work in coding compliance.

In 1996, Bielby became a contractor and consultant, working primarily with Durst & Associates. Her consulting work allows Bielby to stay current on trends, which she shares with her students.

In 2002, Bielby began teaching at Missouri Western State University and came to KU in 2011. She has teamed with KU Hospital’s 02 Electronic Health Records Team to develop a live, hands-on laboratory. She is also an ICD-10-CM/PCS approved trainer.

Numerous professional journal and newsletter articles by Bielby have been published, and she has contributed countless hours to local, state and national HIM organizations. She was named a Fellow by the American Health Information Management Association in 2013.

Bielby and her husband enjoy helping others through Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together. She was named the Outstanding Volunteer by the Missouri Health Information Management Association in 2003 and lists having a successful marriage and a rewarding career among her greatest accomplishments.

For her leadership in the health care industry and extraordinary devotion to the School of Health Professions and the Department of Health Information Management, the KU Health Professions Alumni Association is proud to name Judy Bielby, MBA’95, HIM’87, RHIA, as its 2015 Distinguished Health Professions Alumna.