



DELAWARE  
ACADEMY of  
MEDICINE



Update  
September 2019

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## From the Executive Director *Timothy E. Gibbs, MPH*

Encouraging and mentoring the next generation of health sciences professionals is a key mission of the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association. Delaware needs public health, medical, dental, policy, research, laboratory, environment, and every other type of health science professional that it can get. Academy/DPHA programs like Delaware Mini Medical School (run jointly with Christiana Care Health System) and our summer internship program seek to ignite curiosity and further exploration in our youth.

This past weekend, on a beautiful late summer Sunday afternoon, middle and high school students and their parents came together at **Wilmington Friends School** to participate in a "Health Science Career Panel" co-hosted by the **Delaware Health Sciences Alliance**.



Dr. David Barlow, talking about the health sciences, with other panelists and moderator, Dr. Omar Khan.

Competing with the lovely late summer weather was a tall order, yet around 70 attendees came together to hear from a panel including the chief admissions officer from the Center for Health Professions Studies, and myself. My colleague, Dr. Omar Khan, was the moderator for the event.

The panel was open to the general public, and I want to thank the leadership of Wilmington Friends School for opening its doors to this activity. Over the course of the 90-minute panel we covered a lot of ground, and had excellent audience participation during the structured time, and afterwards in individual conversation.

As a new, affiliate member of the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, the Academy/DPHA is delighted with the direction it is taking, focusing on workforce development and ever broader partnerships. The "founding four" (Christiana Care Health System, Nemours Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, Thomas Jefferson University, and University of Delaware) are now joined by the Academy/DPHA, the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Bayhealth Medical Center. We are filled with hope and anticipation for new partnerships within this unique alliance.

The next health sciences career panel will be held at Delaware State University, in Dover, on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Details are [here](#) and I encourage you to spread the word to any

young folks who have expressed an interest in the health sciences. Again, all are welcome at this event.

## Delaware Journal of Public Health

### LGBTQ Health Equity



[Read the Journal Here!](#)

Be on the look out for our next issue, Disaster Preparedness and Response!

## The Academy in Action

The DHSA was established in 2009 by founders Christiana Care Health System, Thomas Jefferson University, Nemours/Al duPont Hospital for Children, and the University of Delaware, to enable partner organizations to collaborate and conduct cutting-edge biomedical research, to improve the health of Delawareans through access to services, and to educate the next generation of healthcare professionals.



Since the Academy/DPHA joined as the DHSA's first affiliate member, the [Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine](#) and [Bayhealth Medical Center](#) have also joined the DHSA.

Check out the DHSA webpage [here!](#)

### Medical Lecture Series at Osher Institute of Life Long Learning

The fall semester of the Medical Lecture Series at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute began on Tuesday, September 3! This semester, we will be discussing:

- Prediabetes
- Biosafety
- Atherosclerosis
- Bone Health
- Trends in Healthcare
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Measles
- Socioeconomic Variation
- The Spleen





As Delaware's Affiliate to the American Public Health Association, we are pleased to announce that registration and housing are now open for APHA's 2019 Annual Meeting and Expo! Join us November 2 - 6 in Philadelphia!

"Creating the Healthiest Nation: For Science. For Action. For Health."

APHA's Annual Meeting and Expo is the largest and most influential annual gathering of public health professionals. Nearly 13,000 attendees will descend on Philadelphia to present, learn, and find inspiration. Let's make sure Delaware is well represented!

[Registration is Now Open!!](#)

### **Delaware Reception**

We are in the process of planning a reception for our Delaware colleagues! Stay tuned for additional details!

## **Academy Spotlight**

### **John P. Piper, MD**



Dr. Piper graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1983. He works in Newark, DE and specializes in Infectious Disease.

Dr. Piper completed his residency at David Grant USAF Medical Center. Dr. Piper is affiliated with Christiana Hospital, Wilmington Hospital, and St. Francis Hospital. Dr. Piper is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease.

[Learn more about Dr. Piper](#)

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### **September is National Preparedness Month**

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) reminds everyone that September is National Preparedness Month, the perfect time to take stock of homes, businesses, and vehicles to make sure they are prepared and ready for any type of emergency.



On average, September is one of the busiest months for tropical storms or hurricanes in the mid-Atlantic region. While temperatures may still seem summer-like, fall and winter are just around the corner, bringing the potential for storms that may affect Delaware. Of special concern to emergency managers in the state are the results of a "Business Insider-MSN" poll released in June this year that showed only 24 percent of Delaware residents have an emergency preparedness kit, while 49 percent stated that they are "not at all" prepared for a natural disaster.

Read the rest of the article on [delaware.gov](http://delaware.gov)

For more information on preparedness, check out:

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

## September is...

Chiari Malformation Awareness Month  
Hunger Action Month  
Infant Mortality Awareness Month

[And Much More!](#)

## Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health: [The DPH Bulletin](#)

Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - [Subscribe](#)

# The Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association

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