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## TIMTalk

### Spring has Sprung



If you are at all like me, May is generally associated with good things...being outdoors again, being active, picnics, walking, biking, gardening ... the list goes on.

Oh, and one or two decidedly not good things: allergies, insect stings and bites, ticks, and sunburn.

Like our summer heat and humidity, it is part of living in Delaware, and I wouldn't trade a thing.

May is also time for our annual meeting, and I hope you will consider attending this year (see below for more information). Senator Sarah McBride will be our keynote speaker, and we will be honoring one individual and one organization for their outstanding work with the I/DD community.

Thematically, we'll be going with blue and yellow in solidarity with Ukraine and the public health disaster unfolding because of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

May is also the continuance of work we started before the COVID-19 pandemic called Delaware Health Force. With funding from the State of Delaware, we will:

- Expand our Mini Medical School program;
- Engage in deep research solutions for our healthcare provider workforce;
- Expand our student financial aid program (traditionally only available to physicians and dentists) to include nursing, physician assistants, allied and public health workers, and other degree types;
- Catalyze targeted growth of key residency and fellowship positions to include geriatrics, behavioral health, and palliative care slots in Delaware.

With our partner the Public Health Management Corporation, we are also past the halfway point of a targeted community health worker initiative focused on COVID-19 and vaccine hesitancy. This program, spanning Pennsylvania and Delaware, has led to expanded and new partnerships between the Academy/DPHA and AIDS Delaware, the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Interdenominational Ministers Action Council (IMAC), Delaware State University, the Latin American Community Center, Nemours, and Quality Insights.

So, to paraphrase a childhood rhythm attributed to Ogden Nash or E.E. Cummings:

*"Spring has sprung, the grass is riz, public health is where it is"*

Timothy E. Gibbs, MPH  
Executive Director, Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association

# Annual Meeting of the Delaware Academy of Medicine/ Delaware Public Health Association

The board and staff formally invite you to join us for the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association! This year, we return to Dupont Country Club in Wilmington.

**Thursday, May 26, 2022**  
**6:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Dupont Country Club**  
1001 Rockland Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803

Following a reception and short business meeting, we will enjoy dinner and the annual awards ceremony.

This year, the Lewis B. Flinn President's Award will recognize **Verna Wilkins-Hensley**, from Easterseals Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The Executive Director's Public Health Recognition will recognize **the A-Team Delaware**.

These awardees are being honored for their steadfast work with, and devotion to, the needs of persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Our keynote address will be provided by Delaware State **Senator Sarah McBride**. Senator McBride is a stalwart support of public health and health equity, and has an inspiring story of her own.

We look forward to seeing you!

[More Information](#)  
[Register Here](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Community Research Exchange: Systematic Approaches to Incorporating Community Engagement Across the Translational Spectrum

**Monday, May 9, 2022**  
**8:30 am - 3:00 pm**  
**Hybrid Event**

Attend online, or in person at the Audion at STAR, the University of Delaware.



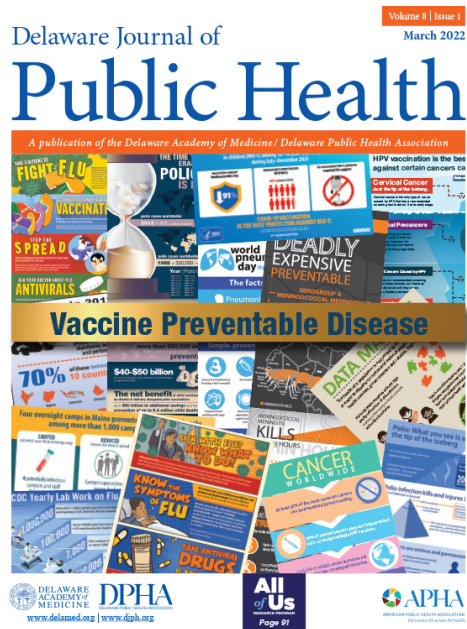
Keynote Speakers Rhonda G. Kost, MD and Jonathan N. Tobin, PhD, will present "Building Full Spectrum Translational Research Teams of Laboratory Investigators, Practicing Clinicians, Patients, and Other Stakeholders."

The morning session will include podium presentations on ACCEL-funded community projects, a Community Engaged Research Panel Discussion, and a scientific poster gallery. The afternoon session will include four concurrent workshops.

Conference chairs are Dr. Omar Khan, Dr. Allison Karpyn, and Dr. Marlene Saunders. Please contact Conference Manager Erica Singleton ([erica.singleton@christianacare.org](mailto:erica.singleton@christianacare.org)) for more information.

[Click here for more information, and to register!](#)

## Vaccine Preventable Disease



Over the centuries of recorded history public health has enjoyed some significant advances. We credit ancient Rome with infrastructure that includes roads, sewers, and running water; ancient Egypt with irrigation. In ancient China, during the Qin dynasty (221 – 206 BC), an integrated response system for infectious disease was established that included prevention, diagnosis, and isolation. Vaccination efforts first occurred during the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279 A.D.).

Dr. Khan's co-guest editor for this issue is Stephen Eppes, MD. Dr. Eppes is the Secretary of the Academy/DPHA, Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement at ChristianaCare, and co-chair of the Immunization Coalition of Delaware.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

[Vaccine Preventable Disease](#)

## Additional Resources

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

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

Johns Hopkins Infectious Diseases COVID-19 Grand Rounds - [View Schedule](#)

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