Opportunities for meaningful collaboration abound in the fields of medicine and public health. The challenge comes in identifying the right partners, at the right time, with common goals to create a true “win-win” scenario for all concerned. Sometimes, these potential partners become visible through something as simple as a name change. Such is the case with the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) (formerly the Institute of Medicine).

Over the past year, we were able to meet with our colleagues at the NAM, discern a path towards collaboration, and invite NAM President Victor J. Dzau, M.D. to give the Delaware Academy of Medicine’s Annual Meeting keynote address in May. His presentation “Vital Directions for Health and Medicine: Priorities from a National Academy of Medicine Initiative” was heard by over 150 leaders in both the healthcare and public health sectors in Delaware. The Academy looks forward to developing our relationship with the NAM, bringing their expertise to Delaware, and engaging in a novel state/national collaborative relationship with this esteemed institution. (Read more about Vital Directions here: https://nam.edu/vital-directions-for-health-care-priorities-from-a-national-academy-of-medicine-initiative/).

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The annual meeting is also the vehicle for presenting the Lewis B. Flinn President’s Award, and the Executive Director’s Public Health Recognition Award to worthy recipients. This year’s President’s award recipient was the Honorable Susan P. Del Pesco, Esq., and the Public Health Recognition Award was presented to the American Lung Association of the Mid-Atlantic, and their President and CEO, Deborah P. Brown.

Additional pictures from the 2017 Annual Meeting, as well as our Year in Review, can be viewed online at www.delamed.org.

In this issue of the Delaware Journal of Public Health, we address the critically important areas of Cancer. We are honored to have Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., Bank of America Endowed Medical Director, Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute of Christiana Care Health System, as our guest editor. We know you will appreciate the wealth of expertise in these pages.

As always, we welcome your feedback and comments.