Let me ask you a question. Have you ever had the opportunity to do a wholesale renovation of your home – take it down to the studs and build it back up? Not only to renovate, but to reconstruct it in a way that exceeds your wildest expectations compared to when you first moved in? All with the goal of updating to current and future needs, while maintaining the heart of the home. Last year in my Report of the Treasurer, I announced the planned renovations to our home, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) Headquarters.

The slides you are now viewing capture the demolition of NABP’s Headquarters in preparation for the renovation in 2017. The demolition took everything down to the bare walls and floors. What was left was the heart of NABP, our century-long mission of public protection and the impeccable reputation of knowledge and service excellence. What was built was a structure that would position NABP to continue to be a leader in an ever competitive and challenging marketplace. To pull a quote from last year’s Executive Committee retreat, the brand of NABP moving forward would be “the same, only better.” At that retreat, we also agreed that it was important for the NABP Vision Statement to be a prominent part of the renovation.

Innovating and collaborating today for a safer public health tomorrow!

That Vision Statement, which was developed during my tenure on the Executive Committee team, is the inspiration for my incoming president’s speech. They are 10 powerful words that serve not just as a theme for today’s talk with you, but as the foundation for NABP’s strategic planning.

In the coming year, I invite you to join me in embracing the NABP Vision Statement and using a team-based health care model to focus the Association on maximizing its resources and reinforcing the NABP programs and services that are well-recognized for protecting patients and making a difference for you, the state boards of pharmacy. My initiative will build on the educational foundation that current NABP President Jeannne Waggener established to help patients, member boards, and stakeholders understand that boards of pharmacy are central sources of information and support, and offer so much more than just discipline. And, as incoming president, I have the privilege of serving at an exciting juncture for NABP, with the renovation serving as a symbol of the long-range strategic planning already in process by the Executive Committee. This strategy – a business model that is “the same, only better” will fuel subsequent presidential platforms. This strategy will allow NABP to more rapidly respond to changes in the marketplace, anticipate customer needs, and supply products and services that not only meet, but exceed expectations, as well as inspire and excite.

As I share my platform, keep these key words from the Vision Statement in mind: INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION.
Let’s start with the first term: INNOVATION.

The delivery of pharmacy needs to more rapidly innovate to match the accelerated changes in technology and health care delivery. Access to data, new tools and technology are creating a new reality. With health care’s focus on the continuum of care and more team-based collaboration, NABP must continue to provide tools to our member boards to assist with the challenges you face. A resource that I have found particularly on point to this effort is a pharmacy guide released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention titled “Creating Community- Clinical Linkages Between Community Pharmacists and Physicians.” It inspires images of doctors and pharmacists working as a team “without walls.”

One project that can provide some additional and immediate assistance will be to revise the NABP Model State Pharmacy Act and Model Rules of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (Model Act) language to help regulators better respond to these new models of health care delivery and address the need for verbiage addressing interprofessional collaboration, pharmacist prescriptive authority, and a team-based approach to pharmacy practice and regulation. What will the regulatory model for that which we have historically called “discipline” look like under new models of practice?

Can you envision reviewing a case alongside a physician and nurse regulator? Hopefully, some of you already have. How would Amazon’s intent to disruptively innovate the prescription market, the current dialogue regarding occupational licensing, or the use of artificial intelligence in clinical decision making potentially impact pharmacy regulation? What is in the best interest of the public?

The Association also needs to continue its legacy of innovation and enhance existing programs through the use of more sophisticated technologies to better serve the increased needs of our member boards of pharmacy and a growing customer base. This year’s launch of a significantly upgraded e-Profile system for all NABP stakeholders, along with an upgraded e-Profile Connect for use by the member boards and pharmacy schools, is a major milestone in this area.

The new e-Profile application and e-Profile Connect:

- Provide a centralized database of information that links every aspect of what the boards and NABP do back to the e-Profile system, individually and collectively;
- Streamline the licensure transfer process both for pharmacists and the boards;
- Enable NABP to offer more innovative services to the boards, such as the ability to process exam eligibility requests, and;
- Enhance the integrity and security of all e-Profile data by using cutting-edge technology.

Please realize the important team contribution you as state boards make to the quality of e-Profile Connect. Where your state’s rules allow, please continue to share inspection reports, so that other boards of pharmacy may consult them when making nonresident pharmacy licensure and registration decisions.

In order to assist NABP in developing additional tools, a component of my presidential initiative is to ask the Executive Committee to commission a subcommittee of past presidents, current members and officers of the Executive Committee, individual members, and others to serve as a customer focus group. The focus group will help to identify emerging issues and provide recommendations to the Executive Committee on how to respond to these issues and evolve our business model, programs, and services accordingly.

New Annual Meeting Format in 2019

As an example of customer service innovation, I wanted to share with you the new Annual Meeting format for 2019. I am very excited to announce that at next year’s Annual Meeting, we will be introducing a new schedule and slightly modifying some of the events to better serve your needs and requests. We listened to your survey feedback that time is at a premium, and so the Annual Meeting will have a more concise schedule: a three-day meeting format. The meeting will now begin during the business week and will typically...
run from a Thursday through a Saturday afternoon.

In the new three-day schedule, the Association’s annual business will still be conducted in three business sessions, and valuable continuing pharmacy education (CPE) will still be offered. To make the best use of networking time, the second day of the meeting will be scheduled over the full day. On the third and last day of the meeting, the final event will be an awards luncheon versus dinner. The awards event will end in the early afternoon, allowing for travel back home that day. Or, if you choose to stay, you will have free time to experience the sights and sounds of the host city over the weekend. If you are curious to know more, we have placed a floor sign with a sneak peek at next year’s meeting schedule in the registration area.

In order to innovate in the right direction, the second term of the Vision Statement is critical: COLLABORATION.

I have spent my entire career in a team-based health care setting. Team-based care models enable all members on the team to practice at their full scope, valuing the contributions of each team member to develop an optimal treatment plan. Moving forward, this model will be translatable to public protection in the regulatory arena. NABP has a long history of partnering with our member boards and has many success stories resulting from those relationships. A recent ruling from the Ohio governor’s office regarding due diligence on “suspicious controlled substance orders” led to the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy to reach out to NABP to collaborate on useful and practical solutions. The potential of a standardized definition for “suspicious controlled substance orders” and the development of a central data repository for such orders has piqued the excitement of other states as well. As an organization, we must also look for opportunities to strengthen strategic relationships to deepen our bench:

• with partners, such as Food and Drug Administration and Drug Enforcement Administration,
• with our professional associations, such as the planned collaboration with Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education and American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) to evaluate AACP’s Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment® (PCOA®) survey results and partner for optimum utilization of PCOA,
• with our regulatory counterparts, represented by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, known as the Tri-Regulator Collaborative, and
• with stakeholders such as patients, legislators, and pharmacists who provide direct patient care every day.

My first memory of NABP as a new state board member was the incredible spirit of collaboration and collegiality, much stronger than I experienced with any other organization. We continue to strive to make all meetings productive, interactive, and team-based. From task force meetings where members provide their expert insight and dialogue on issues identified by the membership and put forth recommended actions for the Association to our interaction at the fall forums, the fruits of our collaboration are significant. This year, we will host the 9th Interactive Forum series. Out of forum sessions, for example, members conceptualized licensure data sharing through e-Profile Connect and the Multistate Pharmacy Inspection Blueprint Program. At Annual Meetings, we have continued to share information and resources for combating the opioid epidemic, and, as a result, expanded those efforts to actions, which include convening the stakeholder summit, and partnering with the Tri-Regulator Collaborative and other pharmacy organizations to create a collective voice reaching all the way to the nation’s Capitol. Speaking of task forces, I will be compiling the task force and committee appointments in the coming months and ask that you strongly consider contributing your talents to our team. Contact information is on the screen.

The final images and symbolism that I want to leave you with are pictures of the renovated NABP Headquarters. Those images bring us full circle from where I began our time today. Technology and innovation is the renovation, but the heart of our
home remains the collaboration and commitment to public protection. In these changing and increasingly competitive times, the Association needs to nurture its already robust programs and business model to ensure that key stakeholders continue to include NABP on the starting bench when matters concerning our shared mission of public protection are addressed, and view our products and services in the marketplace as they have since our inception: value-added and best of breed. So you see: the same, only better. Thank you.