CONSUMER HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ASIANS (CHIA)

On November 14, 2000 the Consumer Health Information for Asians (CHIA) project was launched at the Food Court of the Hong Kong Center. Speakers included the Honorable Gordon Quan, Houston City Council Member, Rogene Calvert, board member of the Friends of the TMC Library, Dr. Beverly Gor, president of the Asian-American Health Coalition (AAHC) and J. Robert Beck MD, Interim Executive Director, Houston Academy of Medicine–Texas Medical Center (HAM–TMC) Library.

Thanks to funding made possible by the Friends of the TMC Library the HAM–TMC Library staff is partnering with the AAHC, public health departments, Harris County Hospital District and community-based organizations, to provide outreach to the Asian-American residents of Houston.

END OF LIFE CARE CONFERENCE A BIG SUCCESS

On Saturday, November 18, the HAM–TMC Library co-sponsored a conference on end-of-life care Community at Crossroads: Meeting the Need for End-of-Life Care in our Community from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church.

Rabbi Samuel Karff and actress/visiting scholar Megan Cole spoke on Healing of the Body; the Honorable Garnet F. Coleman, State of Texas House of Representatives spoke on Access to End-of-Life Care, Jim Monahan, MEd, Program Administrator at the Houston Hospice and Cheryl

Jim Monahan, MEd, Greeting the Audience Attending the Conference

Honorable Gordon Quan, Houston City Council Member

Healing of the Spirit Even When There Will Be No Healing of the Body; the Honorable Garnet F. Coleman, State of Texas House of Representatives spoke on Access to End-of-Life Care, Jim Monahan, MEd, Program Administrator at the Houston Hospice and Cheryl
Approximately 200 people attended the conference. In the afternoon, break-out sessions were offered on issues that

kiosk equipped with consumer health information in Chinese and Vietnamese in eight locations in the densely
Asian American populated areas in Southwest Houston. The kiosks will be located at the Hong Kong Shopping
Center, Indo-Chinese Community Center, Bich gia Nghia Village, Vietnam Buddhist Center, Chinese
Community Center, Rainbow Village Senior Housing and the Tzu-Chi Foundation Buddhist Temple. The
next step will include a partnership with the Immigration and Naturalization Service by providing informational
touch screen computers. The local media covered this event.

END OF LIFE CARE CONFERENCE (continued)
HAM-TMC Library has subscribed to Chemical Abstracts Service’s (CAS) chemical databases through SciFinder Scholar. Chemical Abstracts is one of the world’s largest and most up-to-date collections of chemical information, with nearly 16 million abstracts of journal articles, patents, and more.

**Access to the Database in the Library**
Currently you may access CAS’ SciFinder Scholar via computers located in the Library’s KNS and HIEC labs. To use SciFinder click the Start button, click Programs, and then click SciFinder Scholar 2000.

**Access to the Database from Other Locations (Coming Soon)**
Soon, remote access will be available via computers with Texas Medical Center IP addresses. If you would like to be notified when CAS SciFinder is available from locations other than the HAM-TMC Library, please send an email to dbarclay@library.tmc.edu with the subject line “CAS Notification.”

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**LIBRARY EMPLOYEE AWARDS**

On August 31, 2000, the HAM–TMC Library held its Annual Employee Awards ceremony. This event is held to recognize Library employees for their years of service and other distinctions. J. Robert Beck, MD, the Library’s Interim Executive Director, presented the awards. The following employees were recognized:

- **Suzanne Gross**, 5 years of Library Service and Part-time Employee of the Year with Dr. Beck
- **Ratna Revankar**, 10 years of Library Service
- **Gloria Bates**, 20 Years of Library Service

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**Suzanne Gross, 5 years of Library Service and Part-time Employee of the Year with Dr. Beck**

**Ratna Revankar, 10 years of Library Service**

**Gloria Bates, 20 Years of Library Service**
Beatriz Varman, MLS, Assistant Director of Public Affairs, was a recipient of the 2000 Fellowship Award sponsored by the National Library of Medicine to attend the Fall Medical Informatics course at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA.

Yao Yang, originally from China, is the programmer in the Information Technology Department. She will work in the areas of application development related to the Web, palm and computer based research studies. Dr. Yang received her Masters Degree from Wayne State University in Detroit in 1998 and her MD from Sun Yet-sen University of Medical Sciences, Guanzhou, China in 1986. She also practiced as a pediatrician for 9 years in China. “I am very happy to have a job which combines both my medical background and my current computer career.”

FELLOWSHIPS

Beatriz Varman, MLS. Assistant Director of Public Affairs, was a recipient of the 2000 Fellowship Award sponsored by the National Library of Medicine to attend the Fall Medical Informatics course at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA.

J. Robert Beck of the Library's Department of Information Technology received a subcontract award totaling $228,000+ from the Department of the Army-U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command for a one year project entitled Low Band Telemedicine Decision Support System for Disaster Situations. The Web-based P-8 Telemedicine RFS System that facilitated the submission and evaluation of this project represents an important step in the incorporation of new technologies to better manage critical information and support decision processes. The specific goal of this project is to establish web and evidence-based decision support systems that support both clinical decision-making and epidemiological research activities in natural disaster situations and battlefield conditions.

Information Technology Program of J. Robert Beck, MD, at Baylor College of Medicine for fellowship training and research in medical informatics. After that training, Dr. Wirt stayed on, joining the faculty of Baylor as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and continuing work on his research projects. He currently works half-time in the HAM–TMC Library, helping to develop the digital history of a Texas medicine project in the John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center. If you haven’t seen the web site already, visit http://mcgovern.library.tmc.edu. You’ll also see him working at the Information Desk.

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Interim Executive Director: J. Robert Beck, MD
Welcome to the John P. McGovern Historical Collections & Research Center

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Documenting the Past
To Serve the Future

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