



## Asian American Health Conference

Commitment to Change:  
Exploring Health Disparities in  
the Asian American Community



May 5, 2006

### MODERATOR BIOGRAPHIES

#### **Irene Dankwa Buadoo, MD, MPH**

**Cancer and Tobacco Initiatives, Cigarette Restitution Fund Program  
Montgomery County Dept. of Health & Human Services**



Dr. Irene Buadoo is the Program Director of the Cigarette Restitution Fund Program (CRFP), Cancer and Tobacco Control Initiatives in Montgomery County, Maryland. In this position, she is responsible for the planning, implementation, coordination and evaluation of the Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening and Treatment Program, as well as the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program. Her duties include helping to develop sustainable cancer screening and prevention programs sensitive to the diverse culture in the county with input from underserved, minority and underserved communities. Under her leadership, she is responsible for assuring progress toward the elimination of cancer diseases and death disparities and tobacco-related diseases among the medically underserved populations.

Dr. Buadoo graduated from Barnard College, Columbia University, NY with a degree in Biochemistry and earned her medical degree from Dartmouth College, New Hampshire. She also obtained a Master of Public Health degree from Yale University. After medical school, she completed internship and residency training in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and subsequently a cancer prevention and control fellowship course at the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Buadoo's special interests include cancer prevention and minority health issues, including culturally competent and sensitive health care delivery strategies.

#### **Harry T. Kwon, MPH, CHES ORC MACRO**



Harry T. Kwon, MPH, CHES is a public health analyst with ORC Macro. Mr. Kwon serves as a public health analyst for the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH 2010) program for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and serves as a public health advisor for the Office of Education and Special Initiatives, a division of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as well as the Prevention Platform and State Prevention Systems programs for the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). Mr. Kwon has engaged in many health communication activities including developing a booklet with the NCI on cervical cancer screening for Vietnamese women. Mr. Kwon, in collaboration with the University of Maryland, has conducted behavioral research in tobacco use to examine risk behavior patterns of Asian American youth cigarette users. Mr. Kwon received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Ecology and a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine and received a Master of Public Health degree in

Health Promotion from San Diego State University. Currently, Mr. Kwon is a doctoral candidate in Public and Community Health at the University of Maryland and is studying the factors related to counseling Asian patients by primary care physicians on cancer prevention and screening recommendations for his dissertation.

#### **Simona C. Kwon, MPH, DrPH**

**W.K. Kellogg Community Health Scholars Program Post-doctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins  
University, Bloomberg School of Public**



Simona C. Kwon, MPH, DrPH, is a W.K. Kellogg Community Health Scholars Program Post-doctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health. Currently she is conducting community-based participatory research projects with ethnic minority populations in Baltimore, MD. Her research projects include working collaboratively with a multi-disciplinary team of researchers to develop intervention strategies to address the underserved health needs of the Korean immigrant population in the Baltimore-Washington D.C. metropolitan area, and assessing the environmental as well as the socio-cultural factors influencing tobacco use among urban African American young adults living in Baltimore. Dr. Kwon earned her Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology at Yale University and her doctorate in the Division of Socio-medical Sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. While at the Mailman School of Public Health, Dr. Kwon oversaw the creation of the first collaborative network with local community

leaders and community-based organizations to design outreach, interventions and research projects to address the cancer health needs of the Korean and South Asian immigrant populations in New York City.