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Press Contact: Ann D'Amato
213.694.3062 ann@3dnetworkscorp.com

President of the American Medical Association Speaks at LACMA Reception

LOS ANGELES, CA, March 26, 2015 – The Los Angeles County Medical Association's Asian American and Pacific Islander Physicians Advisory Committee hosted a reception and program called "Challenges, Opportunities and the Future of Medicine" at Good Samaritan Hospital with guest and keynote speaker, Robert M. Wah, MD, 169th President of the American Medical Association (AMA).

Dr. Wah is the organization's first Chinese-American President. A Virginia physician with more than 23 years of military service, he is a nationally recognized expert in health information technology. Dr. Wah graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Oregon and received his MD from the Oregon Health Sciences University. He was ranked in Modern Healthcare Magazine as one of the country's "50 Most Influential Physician Executives."

Jinha Park, MD, co-chair of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Committee, was instrumental in organizing the event. "The selection of the first Asian-American president of AMA is a historic event in itself. This reception was an opportunity to have a national leader incorporated in a dialogue organized by and for active local AMA chapter physicians."

Dr. Wah engaged in a lively exchange with local doctors who voiced concerns about changes in healthcare and the relationship between policy makers in Washington and local leadership.

"We are honored to have such an influential figure in medicine take the time to speak with us and share his knowledge and perspective on the evolving future of healthcare," said Dr. Pedram Salimpour, President of LACMA.

Attendees acknowledged that Dr. Wah was compassionate and receptive as the keynote speaker, encouraging physicians to take an active duty in enhancing physician and practice sustainability.

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