

Mental Health Worker Recognized with Campus Award

Chia-Chia Chien, M.P.H. '74, M.S.W., received the 2005 Peter E. Haas Public Service Award from UC Berkeley on April 22. The award was presented by Chancellor Robert J. Birgeneau at a special "Cal Day" event, where Chien delivered a lecture titled, "Bridging the Gap: From Cal to the Community."

Chien is a social worker who is passionately committed to promoting mental health, particularly in the Asian American community. Her efforts—through numerous community services and community building programs—have helped reduce the cultural stigmas associated with mental illness and educate people about the importance of receiving professional help at an early stage.

Chien's outstanding dedication and leadership have touched the lives of many. As part of the White House Millennium "Save America's Treasures" project, she coordinated the Save Angel Island League to help promote intercultural understanding for this historical landmark.

In 2001, she successfully founded the Culture to Culture Foundation, which promotes peace and harmony among individuals with different cultures, languages, and ethnic backgrounds. The foundation's various programs include the Chinese American Mental Health Network, Chinese-American Mental Health Scholarship, Chinese Helpline, Chinese-American Senior Center, and Chinese-American Healthy Living Center. She also developed the Asian American Mental Health Directory, both in print and online, to connect local bilingual and bicultural mental health professionals.



The Peter E. Haas Public Service Award was established by Mrs. Peter E. Haas on the occasion of her husband's 80th birthday. Its purpose is to recognize alumni of the University of California, Berkeley who have made significant voluntary public contributions to the betterment of society, particularly at the community level, within the boundaries of the United States. One of the most prestigious honors conferred by the Berkeley campus, this award is a counterpart to the Elise and Walter A. Haas International Award, which recognizes work by distinguished Berkeley alumni overseas.

The Haas Public Service Award acknowledges outstanding contributions in four major areas: community service (including social service), health care, environmental work, and education. Special consideration is given to activity at the grassroots level, for such activity best illustrates the impact that an individual can have on society through creative social change. 

Harrison C. Spencer Chosen to Receive Berkeley Alumni Honor



Dean Stephen Shortell with Harrison Spencer.

The University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health selected Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) president and CEO **Harrison C. Spencer, M.D., M.P.H. '72,** as **Alumnus of the Year.** Spencer was honored at the School's commencement ceremony on May 13.

Spencer was chosen for the award on the basis of his many accomplishments throughout his career, particularly for the leadership he has provided the 37 accredited graduate schools of public health as president of ASPH. Spencer became the first full-time president and CEO of ASPH in July 2000.

As ASPH president, Spencer has drawn on his experience serving as dean of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and his work prior to that as dean of the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in New Orleans. He has focused much of his career on communicable disease prevention and eradication. He served as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer and at the field station in El Salvador for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and founded and directed a CDC research station in Kenya. Spencer has also held important roles as the senior medical officer at the Malaria Action Program of the World Health Organization, and as chief of the Parasitic Diseases branch of the CDC.

Spencer received his M.P.H. from UC Berkeley in 1972. He also received an M.D. from Johns Hopkins University, a D.T.M.&H. from the University of London, and he is board certified in internal and preventative medicine. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 2003. 