



Massachusetts Council on  
**Compulsive Gambling**

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**BEATING THE ODDS: ADDRESSING PROBLEM GAMBLING IN THE ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY**  
*Council Asian Community Program Manager, Chien-Chi Huang to Participate in Discussion*

**BOSTON, MA** – On Wednesday, March 25, 2009, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the Institute for Asian American Studies will present a lecture entitled, *“Beating the Odds: Addressing Problem Gambling in the Asian American Community”* at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, Campus Center Ballroom 3550B.

The lecture and panel discussion will feature Dr. Timothy Fong, Co-Director of the Gambling Studies Program and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCLA. He will be joined by Chien-Chi Huang, Asian Community Program Manager at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling, and Tram Tran, Vietnamese Community Liaison at the Boston Police Department.

According to Ms. Huang, “Regional surveys indicate that Asian Americans have a higher rate of problem gambling as compared to the general population. Recent immigrants are at especially high risk for gambling addiction. Facing language barriers and limited social venues, many turn to gambling to cope with stress or to seek excitement. To offer support and services, the Council increased its outreach efforts to targeted Chinese, Vietnamese and Cambodian communities in Massachusetts in 2006.”

One of the resources provided by the Council is a confidential Helpline; offering referrals to people experiencing problems with gambling and their loved ones. Following are the Council’s Asian Problem Gambling Helpline numbers: Chinese 1-857-363-3557, Vietnamese 1-857-383-3567 and Cambodian/Khmer 1-857-383-3577.

In addition, the Council's *"Your First Step to Change"* Self-Help Guidebooks are available in Chinese, Vietnamese and Cambodian / Khmer languages, and can be obtained by contacting the Council. *(Media interested in interviewing Chien-Chi Huang are encouraged to contact her directly at 617-426-4554 / [chienchi@masscompulsivegambling.org](mailto:chienchi@masscompulsivegambling.org)).*

The public is welcome to attend the lecture. For more information, please contact Nathan Bae Kupel, Programs and Events Assistant, Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass, Boston at 617-287-5651 / [nathan.kupel@umb.edu](mailto:nathan.kupel@umb.edu).

*The Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling is a private, non-profit health agency dedicated to reducing the social, financial and emotional costs of problem gambling. The Council provides prevention, information, education, advocacy and referral services for problem gamblers, their loved ones and the greater community.*

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