

On the Table, a citywide event in which small groups of friends, strangers and everything in between gather over a meal to discuss Chicago's future, returned on May 10 for the third consecutive year. It's in most everyone's nature to give back, help out, and contribute to the community in some way. And that was the overall consensus of University of Chicago students who attended an evening gathering hosted by the Center for Asian Health Equity (CAHE) and Office of Career Advancement.

Led by the Chicago Community Trust, more than 40,000 people have participated in On the Table discussions representing every Chicago ZIP code in previous years. An eclectic group of 20 students gathered at the Ida Noyes Hall to discuss how the health of our neighborhoods is affected by social, economic and environmental factors, and what can be done to make it better. The issues discussed weren't necessarily new, but the evening's free-form exchange of ideas was and it also marked the first On the Table event to be held on the University's campus.



*University of Chicago students gather at the Ida Noyes Hall for On The Table 2016*

“This event is timely for CAHE and the University as we also celebrate the successes of Asian Americans in May as part of National Asian American Heritage Month. We want to engage our cadre of students and future leaders to think about how we need to go beyond health care and transform the way we approach health, by addressing broader issues in the social and economic environment and the physical environment that all affect our health,” said Jennifer Oh, CAHE’s Associate Director of Community and Institutional Partnerships. “Inequality and the lack of opportunity of any sort, is harmful to our health. Lack of knowledge is harmful to our health.”