## Patients and their families learn about new therapies and develop friendships at Houston Methodist's first Adult Congenital Heart Symposium

Huie Lin, M.D., Ph.D., of the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center, hosted an educational program on October 7, 2015, for physicians, patients and their families. The program focused on advancements in the treatment and management of adult congenital heart disease. Guest speakers informed the audience about new therapies and also strategies to manage the transition of care from pediatric to adult congenital heart patient. Hands-on simulations and demonstrations at MITIE (Houston Methodist Institute for Training, Innovation and Education) allowed patients to learn CPR and explore heart devices. Patients and families forged new friendships during the ice cream social and photo booth.

## Collaborations sparked at the Annual International Meeting of the George and Angelina Kostas Research Center for Cardiovascular Nanomedicine

Clinical and translational science researchers convened at the Houston Methodist Research Institute on October 12, 2015 to share their nanomedicine-based approaches to solving challenges in cardiovascular disease. Course directors Mauro Ferrari, Ph.D., Alan Lumsden, M.D., and John Cooke, M.D., Ph.D. facilitated presentations and highlighted opportunities for collaboration. Keynote speakers discussed nanostructured devices for regeneration, finding clues about cardiac regeneration from studies of heart development, and new regenerative vascular therapeutics for peripheral arterial disease. The session ended with a round of presentations by a collaborative team from Houston Methodist Research Institute and Northeastern University.