PeaceHealth Names ‘Physicians of Excellence’ for 2015
Also Honors all Physicians with a Quarter Century of Service

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BELLINGHAM – The Medical Staff of PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center has honored Peter Telfer, MD, of Bellingham Anesthesia Associates, and Alan Chang, MD, of Northwest Gastroenterology, as “Physicians of Excellence” for 2015.

At their annual awards event on Monday, Jan. 19, medical staff physicians also recognized colleagues for longevity: more than 70 physicians who have served 24 years or more at PeaceHealth St. Joseph were honored, combining for nearly 2,200 years of service.

Dr. Telfer, who joined the medical staff in 1983, is among the longest-tenured. He is a board certified anesthesiologist who earned his medical degree from the University of Melbourne. According to those who nominated him, Dr. Telfer “is the quintessential physician carrying out the old traditions of connection with his patients in a meaningful way… he calls patients afterward just to see how they are recovering” and he “is held in highest regard by the surgeons, his calm and reassuring manner inspire confidence in patient and doctor alike.”

Dr. Chang graduated from the University of Hawaii’s John A. Burns Medical School. He completed his internship and residency at St. Vincent Hospital, and completed a fellowship at the University of Connecticut Medical Center. Dr. Chang is board certified in gastroenterology. He was cited as “an excellent gastroenterologist, an involved physician with patients” and “a diligent doctor… Executive Committee member and dedicated family man.”

Previous recipients of the “Physician of Excellence” honor, first presented in 2007, are: in 2014, Dag Jensen, MD, and Michael Pietro, MD; 2013, Donald Berry, MD, and Lora Sherman, MD; 2012, Gary Smith, MD; 2011, Ian Thompson, MD and Hull “Cactus” Cook, MD; 2010, Marvin Wayne, MD and Emily Gibson, MD; 2009, Claire Beiser, MD and Kenneth Bachenberg, MD; 2008, William Lombard, MD and Marcy Hipskind, MD; and 2007, Margaret Jacobson, MD and Kenneth Gass, MD.
PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center, which includes a not-for-profit full-service hospital founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, is part of the Northwest Network of Care within the PeaceHealth system with medical centers in Alaska, Washington and Oregon. In addition to the hospital and PeaceHealth Medical Group, PeaceHealth’s local services include several Centers of Excellence, North Cascade Cardiology, a diagnostic laboratory, a joint venture outpatient imaging service, a specialty clinic in Sedro-Woolley and a critical access hospital on San Juan Island.

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PROVIDERS FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO PATIENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

Ione S. Adams, MD, family medicine (25)
Steven J. Alexander, MD, family medicine (32)
David H. Allan, MD, family medicine (31)
Diane M. Arvin, MD, obstetrics/gynecology (24)
David E. Baker, MD, neurosurgery (25)
Steven Ban, MD, pediatrics (36)
Donald F. Berry, MD, pulmonology (29)
Bradley D. Bigelow, MD, emergency medicine (27)
Frederic H.T. Braun, MD, neurology (35)
Allan L. Buehler, MD, emergency medicine (25)
Michael H. Crowley, DDS, dentistry (27)
Sara A. Cuene, MD, pediatrics (38)
David L. Cutler, DPM, podiatry (25)
Mark J. Doherty, MD, dermatology (25)
David Elkayam, MD, allergy & immunology (26)
Denis G. Foster, MD, family medicine (34)
Eric R. Frankenfeld, MD, endocrinology (24)
David J. Gavareski, MD, family medicine (26)
Emily P. Gibson, MD, family medicine (29)
Gary A. Goldfogel, MD, pathology (26)
Dale E. Haveman, MD, family medicine (36)
R. Emil Hecht, MD, otolaryngology (39)
Lee C. Hein, MD, family medicine (37)
Wade H. Henrichs, MD, emergency medicine (25)
Stephen (Harry) C. Herdman, MD, family medicine (25)
Marcy G. Hipskind, MD, family medicine (32)
John S. Hruby, MD, family medicine (33)
Margaret A. Jacobson, MD, family medicine (24)
Helen A. James, MD, plastic & reconstructive surgery (31)
Frederick S. Kaiser, MD, ophthalmology (31)
Marta S. Kazymyra, MD, family medicine (33)
John R. Knudsen, MD, family medicine (33)
Michael S. Lawrence, MD, neurosurgery (28)
Henry S. Levine, MD, psychiatry (35)
Mark Lindenbaum, MD, internal medicine (25)
William E. Lombard, MD, nephrology (33)
David A. Lynch, MD, family medicine (35)
Stephen A. Malone, MD, cardiology (25)
Don D. McAfee, MD, cardiology (33)
Richard F. McClanahan, MD, family medicine (25)
Scott W. McGuinness, MD, pediatrics (25)
Craig K. Moore, MD, family medicine (24)
David E. Netboy, MD, emergency medicine (26)
Robin W. Nicholson, MD, emergency medicine (25)
Robert O. Olson, Jr, MD, obstetrics/gynecology (35)
Clark O. Parrish, MD, Internal Medicine (27)
Brian M. Patterson, MD, family medicine (42)* longest-tenured
Bruce M. Pederson, MD, family medicine (33)
L. Dana Petersen, MD, family medicine (33)
John M. Pettit, MD, urology (27)
Bertha H. Safford, MD, family medicine (35)
April M. Sakahara, MD, physical medicine & rehabilitation (27)
Janet F. Seltzer, MD, pulmonology (25)
Richard L. Skudlarick, DPM, podiatry (30)
Gary M. Smith, MD, psychiatry (31)
Dana B. Stiner, MD, gastroenterology (35)
Shaun P. Sullivan, MD, anesthesia (28)
Roy A. Taylor, MD, general surgery (31)
Peter A. Telfer, MD, anesthesia (32)
Ian L. Thompson, MD, radiation oncology (35)
Michael A. Thorpe, MD, orthopedic surgery (26)
John R. Tisdall, MD, ophthalmology (36)
J. Loch Trimmingham, MD, orthopedic surgery (37)
Carletta M. Vanderbilt, MD, internal medicine (31)
Orville K. VanderGriend, MD, general surgery (40)
Robert E. Watson, MD, psychiatry (33)
Marvin A. Wayne, MD, emergency medicine (40)
John H. Weaver, MD, family medicine (29)
Fredrick W. Wicknick, DMD, oral surgery (25)
David E. Wisner, MD, rheumatology (33)
Ronald Y. Woo, MD, orthopedic surgery (31)
Mark J. Zarzycki, MD, emergency medicine (27)