



News Release

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Health Sciences & Services Authority Announces Board Appointments

SPOKANE, Wash. – The Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA) of Spokane County recently announced the following appointments to serve on its Board of Directors.

Mike Wilson, former President and CEO of Sacred Heart Medical Center and Children’s Hospital and Holy Family Hospital, was recently appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to serve a four-year term. Mr. Wilson’s career spans 35 years in health care management.

Jason Thackston, Vice President, Finance for Avista Corporation, was recently appointed by the Spokane County Commission to serve a four-year term. Mr. Thackston’s responsibilities at Avista include treasury, risk management, forecasting and analysis, investor relations and corporate development.

Dr. Kelsey Gray, Managing Partner, Spectrum Group LLC, was appointed by Spokane Mayor Mary Verner to serve a two-year term. Spectrum is an organization development consulting firm that works with local governments, state agencies, tribal nations, police departments and federal groups. Mayor Verner also reappointed **Mari Thomas**, a former researcher and wife of Fairchild Air Force Base Commander Bob Thomas, to serve a four-year term on the HSSA Board.

“We are very pleased with the quality of appointees to our Board,” said Nancy L. Isserlis, HSSA Board Chair. “This Board is hard-working and sincerely dedicated to its mission to promote economic development through bioscience research and to promote public health.”

In addition to these appointees, other HSSA Board members are Nancy L. Isserlis, Partner, Winston & Cashatt and Board Chair; Dr. Patricia Butterfield, Dean of the WSU School of Nursing; Dr. Jeff Collins, Chief Medical Office, Providence Sacred Heart and Holy Family; Dr. Earl “Marty” Martin, Acting Academic Vice President, Gonzaga University, and Alethea McCann, Owner Spherion Staffing and Recruiting.

The HSSA, a Washington State grant making authority, was established by the state legislature and authorized by Spokane County to promote bioscience-based economic development and to advance new therapies and procedures to combat disease and promote public health. The HSSA invests funds to create and support a nationally competitive health care cluster in Spokane County catalyzing connections between higher education and health care that lead to high wage jobs, long-term sustainability, and economic diversification. HSSA will fund the very best projects through a competitive, well-monitored and accountable process.

More information about the HSSA Board or about HSSA may be found at www.hssaspokane.org or by calling Susan Ashe at (509) 358-2113 or (509) 995-8356. The HSSA is located in the University District at 665 N. Riverpoint Boulevard, Suite 124, in the Sirti building.

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