

Amy Carpenter Hay tells a story about Leading Leaders and the Institution

Ms. Hay joined MD Anderson in 1996. She served as Administrator and CEO of the Proton Therapy Center from 2005 to 2007 and as Division Administrator for the Division of Radiation Oncology from 2007 – 2008, where she developed the Regional Care System. Ms. Hay served as Vice President of Business Development from 2012 until her departure from the institution in 2017. In an interview conducted in 2015, Ms. Hay reflects on a basic principle for leadership decision making.



Always the Right Decision

You know, being a female leader at this organization is oftentimes challenging. And I think that's changed over the last decade. I can honestly say that. It really has changed. I think there was a generation of MD Anderson that tended to be male-dominated by the leadership positions. And I think that has changed over time. And part of that changing has come with individuals like myself who are fully invested in the institution, and are passionate enough to be assertive and to stand up for not only what we believe in, but what is best for the institution.

You know, the biggest advice I give everyone is, if you don't know what to do, ask yourself what is best for the institution? Oftentimes, it may not be what's best for you personally. But if you are always doing what's best for the institution, then you're making the right decision.

About This Content

This interview clip was taken from an in-depth interview conducted for the Making Cancer History Voices Oral History Project. This ongoing project currently contains almost 400 interview hours with MD Anderson institution builders.

The transcript has been edited from the original.

The content is available for all uses.

About the speaker:

Amy Carpenter Hay, BA, MS

Interviewed: 2015

Admin: VP, Global Business Development (2008 – 2012); Vice President, Business Development in (2012- 2017).

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