



Senior Vice President and
Chief Philanthropy Officer

THE SEARCH

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (UT MD Anderson), ranked #1 in the nation for cancer care and one of the largest cancer centers in the world, seeks a deeply experienced and relationship-driven philanthropic leader for the role of Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer (CPO). Having publicly launched the largest philanthropic campaign in the institution's 84-year history, the CPO will bring together philanthropic support from around the world to complete the \$2.5 billion goal and advance the institution's mission to end cancer. Under the CPO's leadership, [*Only Possible Here, The Campaign to End Cancer*](#) positions UT MD Anderson to expedite breakthroughs and rapidly improve treatments, elevate the patient experience, and expand the institution's reach to more patients than ever before. UT MD Anderson's iconic brand and strong market position further propel the institution's aspirations and impact as not only the nation's leading cancer center but also a global philanthropic cause movement.



Only Possible Here

THE CAMPAIGN TO END CANCER

Philanthropy is essential to UT MD Anderson's mission, signature priorities, and continued growth as the institution accelerates dramatically in year-over-year fundraising production. It is also a top priority for President Peter WT Pisters, M.D., M.H.C.M., who allocates significant time and resources to philanthropic work in partnership with the CPO. To that end, the CPO will be a highly visible institutional leader who serves on the President's Executive Leadership Team (ELT), attends all regular executive meetings and strategy retreats, and maintains a close working relationship with Dr. Pisters and ELT colleagues. In partnership with the President, the CPO will drive the fundraising strategy and execution for UT MD Anderson and will play a pivotal role in strategic planning and decision-making for the institution. To ensure optimal constituent engagement and campaign performance across a large complex enterprise,

the CPO will maintain a reporting line to the Executive Vice President (EVP) of Institutional Advancement. The CPO will lead a team of 200 professionals who raised a monumental \$509 million in the last fiscal year. Of particular note was [a \\$150 million gift to launch the Kinder Children's Cancer Center](#), a joint venture of UT MD Anderson and Texas Children's.

To succeed as a leader, the CPO must be a highly effective relationship builder, seasoned principal gift fundraiser, and thoughtful communicator, deftly balancing the internal and external demands of the role with a high degree of emotional intelligence. The CPO must have the stature and credibility to cultivate and maintain senior-level relationships with a variety of high-net-worth donors including individuals, foundations, corporations, investors, and other partner organizations in the greater Houston area, Texas, and beyond. The CPO must also work closely with the President, the UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors, The University of Texas (UT) System Leadership, and other senior leaders to establish strong and collaborative working relationships and to maximize giving.



The ideal candidate will have at least 10 to 15 years of senior-level management experience in a complex organization (preferably in academic medicine, clinical and basic research, and/or a university environment); a track record of success securing and stewarding principal gifts at the eight- and ideally nine-figure levels; the interpersonal and leadership skills required to motivate a large, matrixed team, especially during times of change; the ability to engage key leaders in the fundraising process; and a personal commitment to UT MD Anderson's mission, core values, and impact with a servant leadership approach.

UT MD Anderson has retained Rachel Ellenport and Jack Gorman of Isaacson, Miller, the national executive search firm, to assist in conducting this important search and to help identify outstanding candidates. All inquiries, applications, and nominations should be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.

For more information on UT MD Anderson and its leadership, please visit the addendum of this document and visit www.mdanderson.org.

ROLE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT + CHIEF PHILANTHROPY OFFICER

The Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer (CPO) will shape the vision, direction, and culture of all fundraising programs overseen by the Office of Philanthropy's 200-person division. Functional areas include principal, major, and leadership giving; endowments; annual giving; planned giving; corporate and foundation giving; gift operations, finance and compliance; and a cutting-edge research and analytics team. In addition, the CPO will lead the public phase and completion of a historic \$2.5 billion comprehensive philanthropic campaign slated to conclude at the end of Fiscal Year 2028. As of February 15, 2026, \$1.98 billion has been raised, ahead of what was forecasted at this point in the campaign and representing 79% progress toward the goal.



Leading by example, the CPO will create a culture of collaboration, excellence, and ingenuity. As a strategic revenue generator and relationship builder, the CPO will cultivate long-term, effective relationships with existing UT MD Anderson donors, while building support from new constituencies and demographic segments. Partnering closely with the President, Executive Vice President (EVP), and other members of the President's Executive Leadership Team, the CPO will serve as an advisor and strategist in setting fundraising priorities, cultivating highest-level donors, soliciting transformational gifts, and operationalizing bold new ideas. In addition, the CPO will lead overall strategic planning efforts, resource analysis and allocation, and organizational development for the Office of Philanthropy in consultation with

the President, EVP, and Board of Visitors leadership.

Strategic Leadership + Program Optimization

- Provide executive management and leadership of a best-in-class, comprehensive philanthropic enterprise, assuming responsibility for strategic and financial success.
- Assess the effectiveness and fundraising potential of UT MD Anderson; build upon the existing foundation to further evolve the philanthropy program into a cutting-edge operation that will broaden and strengthen UT MD Anderson's outreach efforts and develop and maintain new strategies to engage broad audiences and supporters through direct fundraising and robust stewardship that is simultaneously donor-centric and aligned with institutional priorities.
- Create and execute new programs and donor strategies to significantly increase funds raised, sustainably elevating average total annual fundraising to \$400 million+.
- Oversee the cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of both existing and new foundation and corporate giving.
- Build upon the strength of a robust, existing grateful patient program that accounts for roughly 54% of total fundraising; formulate strategies for sustained growth, and continue efforts to train physicians in the fundraising process and practice of reciprocal gratitude between donor patients and providers.
- Serve as an integral member of the greater UT MD Anderson community and participate as an engaging leader, partner, and contributor who leads with understanding, mutual respect, customer service, and responsiveness both internally and externally.



Presidential Support + Internal Engagement

- Support and guide the President to maximize engagement from highest impact prospects; ensure that his philanthropic activities are highly productive, strategic, and a meaningful use of his time and resources.
- Actively partner with the President and executive colleagues in generating, evaluating, and streamlining new ideas for philanthropy, effectively operationalizing, prioritizing, and socializing those most promising.



- Foster relationships with clinical, research, and academic leaders and organizational partners, such as the University of Texas System, to garner financial and collaborative support; create effective partnerships among members of senior leadership, physicians/researchers/faculty members, and philanthropy staff to leverage philanthropic opportunities.
- Participate fully and enthusiastically as an active member of the Executive Leadership Team, providing input and critical analysis at the divisional and organizational level as this executive body shapes and implements UT MD Anderson's strategies across clinical care, research, education, and prevention.

Fundraising, External Engagement + Campaign Leadership

- Craft and implement a strategy to systematically identify new prospects capable of making transformational gifts in support of UT MD Anderson; formulate creative cultivation plans to engage them in institutional activities; and successfully execute effective solicitation strategies

that lead to eight- and nine-figure commitments; personally manage a portfolio of top-rated prospects.

- Lead the public phase and completion of a comprehensive, multi-year philanthropic campaign that supports UT MD Anderson’s signature priorities, in collaboration with the President and the Executive Leadership Team.
- Balance short- and long-term campaign strategies, focusing on the completion of the current effort while planning ahead for future goals and signature priorities in partnership with the President.
- Cultivate, support, and leverage the institution’s roughly 300-person Board of Visitors—a cadre of deeply dedicated volunteers, civic and industry leaders, and philanthropists. Support and cultivate the Board of Visitors President’s Executive Council, Membership Committee, Philanthropy Committee, and the Philanthropic Campaign Leadership Committee and Signature Priority Committees.
- Serve as chief spokesperson for philanthropy programs, developing a depth and breadth of understanding of MD Anderson’s research and clinical programs and funding priorities; represent the institution in fundraising to local, state, national, and worldwide donors and prospective donors; UT System; other UT components; local, state, and federal regulatory and compliance agencies; the community at large; volunteers; donors; and the media.



Empowering + Motivating Talented Teams

- Foster a highly engaged, results-oriented, and collaborative culture among a high performing and deeply committed Philanthropy division, further coalescing and integrating all functional areas into one unified team.
- Oversee the recruitment, training, and mentorship of staff; set clear direction, priorities, and metrics for professional and support personnel, including six direct reports; promote excellence through well-defined and measurable goals. Encourage participation in Leadership Institute programming and other efforts to develop staff.
- Establish and evaluate standards of performance and professional behavior in adherence to UT MD Anderson's organizational core values on an ongoing basis; create a model office that maintains the highest professional and ethical standards, providing leadership by example.



QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Significant and impactful leadership experience in and knowledge of all major functions of development/fundraising and constituent engagement are required, as well as substantive leadership experience in a complex organization (preferably with experience in academic medicine, university and/or clinical and basic research environment) or the equivalent.

Additional qualifications and experience include:

- Evidence of strategic, transparent, collaborative, and empathetic leadership within a fast-paced, complex institutional environment.

- A record of building and retaining high-performing teams who are unified and mobilized around a clear strategic vision and organizational direction, especially during times of change.
- A decisive and data-driven decision maker who gives clear direction, sets short-term and long-term goals, and leads teams to consistently deliver measurable results in a large-scale fundraising operation.
- A deep level of experience and confidence in working with highly influential and ultra-high-net-worth individuals.
- An expert communicator who can establish credibility and trust with a multitude of internal and external constituencies, navigate competing priorities, and balance multiple perspectives in a highly complex environment.
- A successful track record in multi-billion-dollar campaign planning, implementation, and completion.
- A deeply experienced principal and transformational gift fundraiser who can delegate and balance external presence with the need for operational leadership and organizational development.
- Significant experience overseeing substantial budgets and operations and directing/managing multiple complex projects concurrently.
- A bachelor's degree is required.



APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES + NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and resumes should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website.

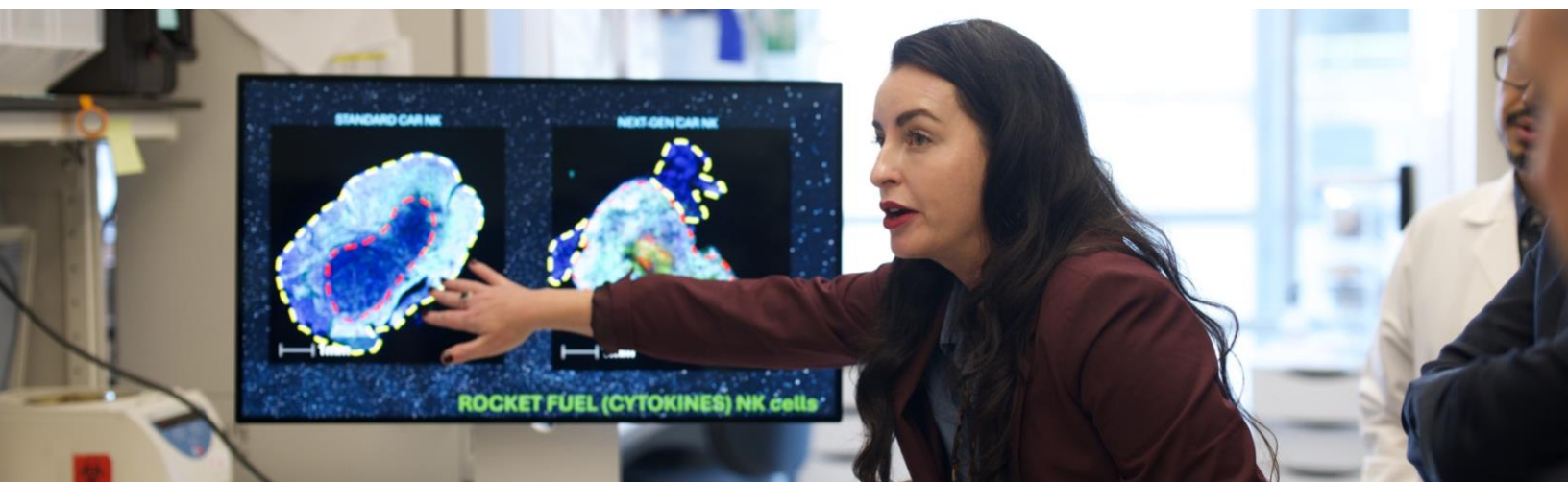
Rachel Ellenport, Partner
Jack Gorman, Partner
Grace Zakim, Managing Associate
Lisa Clayton, Managing Search Coordinator
Isaacson, Miller

It is the policy of The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center to provide equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or any other basis protected by institutional policy or by federal, state or local laws unless such distinction is required by law.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by UT MD Anderson. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by UT MD Anderson would supersede any conflicting information in this document.



First established in 1941 by the Texas Legislature as the Texas State Cancer Hospital and Division of Cancer Research and renamed in 1942 as the M. D. Anderson Hospital for Cancer Research of The University of Texas to honor the support from the MD Anderson Foundation, UT MD Anderson has evolved for nearly 85 years to become one of the world's most respected cancer centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education, and prevention. UT MD Anderson is one of the nation's original three comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of 57 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers today. UT MD Anderson's mission is to eliminate cancer in Texas, the nation, and the world through outstanding programs that integrate patient care, research and prevention, and through education for undergraduate and graduate students, trainees, professionals, employees, and the public. With nearly 27,000 employees, including over 2,050 faculty members, working in over 25 buildings in Houston and Central Texas, UT MD Anderson has supported more than 2 million people in their cancer care journeys. Annually, UT MD Anderson invests \$1.3 billion in cancer research, with a total operating revenue of \$7.82 billion. The size of its Texas Medical Center campus is unparalleled at 16 million square feet, with plans underway for a massive expansion. In its most recent fiscal year, \$509 million in fundraising was achieved.



UT MD Anderson's core values of caring, integrity, discovery, safety, and stewardship are embedded in its guiding vision to be the premier cancer center in the world. For more information, please explore some of the resources available online including [UT MD Anderson's website](#), which attracts more than 20 million visitors annually; the [Cancerwise blog](#), which features cancer patient and caregiver stories, experts' insights, research breakthroughs, and clinical innovations; and other updates from UT MD Anderson, including UT MD Anderson's [Annual Report and quick facts](#) and the current [Strategic Plan](#).

Leadership

Peter WT Pisters, MD, MHCM President

A renowned cancer surgeon, researcher, professor and administrator, Peter WT Pisters, M.D., M.H.C.M., established his career at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, serving over two decades in faculty and senior leadership positions. As a faculty member, Dr. Pisters focused his significant clinical and research expertise on helping patients with sarcomas and gastrointestinal cancers. His former administrative roles included overseeing multiple operations across the city as vice president for UT MD Anderson's Houston-area locations.

Dr. Pisters left UT MD Anderson to serve as president and CEO of the University Health Network in Toronto, Canada's largest academic medical center, before returning to UT MD Anderson to serve as president in December 2017.

Dr. Pisters earned his medical degree at Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Western Ontario in Canada before completing his postgraduate work at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. In 2014, he received a master's degree in health care management at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston.

Dr. Pisters' full biography can be found [here](#).

Tadd Pullin, MHA, MA Executive Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Tadd Pullin began his career as a health care executive 30 years ago. His areas of leadership practice include marketing, branding, communications, stakeholder engagement, and public relations.

Mr. Pullin serves as Executive Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Chief Brand and Communications Officer at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Mr. Pullin serves as a member of the institution's Executive Leadership Team, reporting directly to the institution's president, Dr. Peter Pisters.

Under Mr. Pullin's leadership over the last 10 years, the UT MD Anderson brand, featuring its iconic cancer strikethrough has evolved as a movement - a cause, to end cancer. The institution's constituent awareness and engagement levels are reaching new heights, reinforced by a series of impactful multimedia, multichannel communication campaigns. Strategic focus on UT MD Anderson's brand, award-winning content, and social media engagement strategies has resulted in a distinct competitive advantage for the institution. The approach generates a measurable return on investment annually. Reputation

management also has been an area of specific focus over the years, to build durable and trusting relationships with local and national news outlets, and to earn news coverage that aligns with the institution's mission and objectives.

Prior to joining UT MD Anderson in 2015, Mr. Pullin served for 10 years as chief strategy and marketing officer at Nebraska Medicine-UNMC, a multi-hospital academic medical center and health system located in Omaha. He also served as a strategy and marketing leader for eight years at Houston Methodist Hospital System. Mr. Pullin's academic background includes undergraduate degrees in psychology and business administration and two master's degrees, one in health administration and the other in human resources, both from Washington University in St. Louis.

He has co-authored and contributed to published books, written journal articles and has been featured in blogs on leadership, marketing, branding, and social media. He also has presented numerous lectures at universities and national conferences.



UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors

The UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors is a nonfiduciary, appointed advisory board of volunteers. It is currently chaired by **James L. Gallogly**, former President of the University of Oklahoma and business executive. Mr. Gallogly brings extensive industry leadership experience, having served in senior executive capacities at ConocoPhillips, ChevronPhillips, and Phillips Petroleum, as well as serving as Chief Executive Officer of LyondellBasell.

The incoming board chair is **Maureen Hackett**, a 40-year veteran of the philanthropy sector. She has served as an avid supporter of the community at-large, chair of the board of several non-profit organizations, and adviser to many others, including UT MD Anderson, Massachusetts General Hospital, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, the Texas Medical Center, the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI (and its Women's Philanthropy Institute), the American Psychiatric Association and the Alliance for Catholic Education at the University of Notre Dame. Her expertise in governance issues, strategic planning, advancement, community outreach, and board development has benefited myriad communities to date and continues to influence her philanthropic efforts both locally and across the nation. In May 2018, Indiana University awarded her an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters in recognition of her outstanding achievements and limitless promotion of human welfare, which she consistently inspires in others.

Clarence P. Cazalot, Jr., has served on the UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors since 2006. He chaired the board from 2022 to 2024 and now serves as Campaign Chair and as a member of the President's Executive Council.

Mr. Cazalot is the retired Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marathon Oil Corporation, an independent upstream company with global operations in exploration and production, oil sands mining and integrated gas. He joined Marathon Oil in 2000 and retired in 2013.

Before Marathon, Mr. Cazalot spent nearly two decades with Texaco, where he held a range of leadership positions from 1981 to 2000, ultimately serving as Vice President of Texaco Inc. and President of the company's worldwide production operations.

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, he earned a B.S. in geology from Louisiana State University (LSU) in 1972 and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from LSU in 2007.

More information about the board can be found [here](#).

