

Director, The Masonic Cancer Center

[The University of Minnesota](#) invites applications for the position of Director of our Masonic Cancer Center (MCC).

We are seeking a highly accomplished, strategic and visionary faculty leader who will advance excellence in research, innovative and multidisciplinary collaboration and partnership with the community we serve. The Director will propel the MCC towards becoming one of the top NCI-designated cancer centers in research and funding.

Overview

The [Masonic Cancer Center](#) is a nationally recognized multidisciplinary hub dedicated to advancing cancer research, patient care, and education. Designated as one of the 57 National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the United States, the MCC has been a pioneer in basic, translational, clinical, and population cancer research since its establishment in 1991. With annual cancer-related sponsored research funding of approximately \$88 million and a pledge to excellence, the MCC includes a team of over 600 members from diverse academic backgrounds.

As an integral part of the University's health sciences, the MCC collaborates closely with nationally ranked schools of medicine, public health, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. Together with other major health sciences interdisciplinary centers, the MCC works to conduct cutting edge cancer research, innovative translational science and clinical trials to improve cancer outcomes for the people of Minnesota. Central to MCC function is a commitment to equity, community engagement and training into cancer careers.

MCC's organizational home is within the [Office of Academic Clinical Affairs](#) (OACA), which engages and broadens multidisciplinary opportunities and supports infrastructure for clinical research and training. OACA plays a key role in making connections across the University and with our communities. OACA advances the clinical mission by:

- bringing together strengths and talents from across the University.
- developing partnerships statewide in clinical research, training and practice.
- preparing learners with interprofessional clinical training.
- driving cross-disciplinary, statewide collaborations that tackle today's complex health issues.

Renowned for its comprehensive research and educational programs, the University is a leader in the health sciences. With substantial investments across the fields over the last five years, the University is committed to advancing knowledge and fostering innovation in cancer research and care.

About the Masonic Cancer Center

Our mission is to reduce cancer's burden in Minnesota and throughout the world. The Masonic Cancer Center creates a collaborative research environment focused on the causes, prevention,

detection, and treatment of cancer; applying that knowledge to improve quality of life for patients and survivors; and sharing its discoveries with other scientists, students, professionals, and the community.

As an [NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center](#), MCC applies to renew that designation via a competitive process every five years. We were awarded our sixth renewal in the summer of 2023. Funding from this grant, called the Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG), provides a total of \$20.4 million over the next five years.

The Center also leads the Minnesota Cancer Clinical Trials Network (MNCCTN), a state-funded initiative that, in collaboration with local health care organizations, brings innovative trials in prevention and treatment to rural communities and improves cancer outcomes across the state. With a catchment area covering the entire state of Minnesota, the Masonic Cancer Center and MNCCTN have built a network to bring the most advanced research efforts from bench to bedside throughout the state.

We reach all four corners of Minnesota. Our Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) program engages communities and provides access to knowledge and information about cancer prevention, treatment, survivorship, and clinical research opportunities. COE also offers hands-on educational internship opportunities designed to give undergraduate students from Minnesota's underrepresented communities experience conducting cancer health disparities research.

Research

The Masonic Cancer Center has [six mechanistic research programs](#): Carcinogenesis and Chemoprevention; Cellular Mechanisms; Genetic Mechanisms; Immunology; Screening, Prevention, Etiology, and Cancer Survivorship; and Transplant and Cellular Therapy. Research is organized around scientific themes that reflect advances in cancer research and provides opportunities for interactions with scientists from different disciplines across the cancer community to discover processes that affect cancer. We solve organ-specific and clinical questions by convening site-specific disease teams that draw researchers from across the programs.

Responsibilities

- Vision and Strategy Development: Develop and implement strategic plans to propel the center towards becoming one of the top NCI-designated cancer centers in funding and research. This involves growing multidisciplinary programs, enhancing clinical research activities and leveraging team science to invest in emerging fields of cancer research.
- Leadership and Management: Provide academic leadership and administrative oversight for all aspects of MCC, including research, education, and clinical services. Ensure compliance with University policies and procedures.
- Research Excellence: Cultivate a culture of research excellence by recruiting, retaining, and supporting outstanding faculty and staff. Facilitate collaborations and innovative research initiatives.

- Clinical Partnerships: Strengthen partnerships with clinical providers to ensure the translation of research discoveries into clinical practice. Collaborate with University of Minnesota Physicians and Fairview Health Services to enrich oncology clinical services.
- Community Engagement: Engage with healthcare providers, opinion leaders, students, and the public to educate and raise awareness about cancer. Collaborate with community partners and advisory boards to address cancer needs.
- Financial Management: Responsible for the management of the center's budget and financial affairs. With support from professional staff, develop and implement annual financial plans in alignment with strategic goals.
- Fundraising: Engage in philanthropic fundraising efforts to support strategic goals. Develop positive relationships with donors and external partners.
- Representation and Advocacy: Serve as the principal spokesperson for the Cancer Center, representing its interests at local, national, and international levels. Advocate for cancer research and care priorities.

Director Qualifications

- M.D. or Ph.D., or equivalent health professional or doctoral degree, with board certification preferred for M.D. candidates.
- Distinguished management experience in a cancer center or similar setting, with strong financial management and recruitment skills.
- Leadership and excellence in basic, population, or clinical studies of cancer, with significant academic accomplishments, including published scholarship and external funding.
- Track record of NCI-funded research.
- Experience in leadership roles within NCI or American Cancer Society review groups, councils, or collaborative research and treatment groups.
- Dedication to developing and sustaining strong clinical programs, with a proven ability to articulate and implement a strategic vision.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, with a record of success in fundraising and promoting diversity.

Compensation & Institutional Support

Competitive and commensurate with experience and achievement.

Appointment

This position reports directly to the Vice President for Clinical Affairs. The incumbent will hold a faculty appointment (contract or tenure stream, depending on academic track) at the rank of Professor in one of the health sciences schools.

How to apply:

Candidate materials may be emailed in confidence directly to search chair, Dr. Stepanie Terezakis (sterezak@umn.edu). Internal candidates may alternatively apply directly to the posting <https://hr.myu.umn.edu/jobs/int/361836>.

Requested materials include:

- A current CV
- A cover letter of 2 pages or less, which speaks to your interest in the position and experience with:
 - Vision & strategy development
 - Research experience
 - Leadership & management experience
 - Team building with diverse groups