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Chapter 01: The Making Cancer History® Voices Oral History Project

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ROSOLOWSKI: I’m [Tacey Ann Rosolowski] interviewing Dr. Stephen Tomasovic, the senior vice president for academic affairs at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Dr. Tomasovic is also a tenured professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology and a professor in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. This interview is being conducted for the Making Cancer History Voices Oral History Project run by the Historical Resources Center at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. The interview is taking place in Dr. Tomasovic’s office at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. And this is the first of two planned interview sessions for today, August 1st, 2011. The time is 7:58. Thank you, Dr. Tomasovic, for agreeing to participate in this project. And this is an unusual session, because it’s the first interview of really a new phase in the life of the oral history project. And as I
understand it, you were very instrumental in setting up the Historical Resources Center and also in helping to support further work on the oral history project. So I thought maybe you could take some time at the beginning of this interview and talk about what your hopes are for this oral history project, its significance in the context of MD Anderson.

TOMASOVIC: Sure. If I could I’ll make one small correction on the identifier. The correct name for that department is molecular and cellular oncology. I think you said biology.

ROSOLOWSKI: I’m sorry. I did, I did.

TOMASOVIC: It’s interesting. Its original name was tumor biology. But we can get to that at some later point.