

Stephen Swensen, MD, MMM, FACR

Dr. Swensen is dedicated to the development of thoughtful leaders and teams that have the capability to nurture camaraderie, purpose, wellbeing and trust in order to create joy in work for the colleagues they lead. He is a recognized, well-published expert in leadership and professional burnout. He serves as a Senior Fellow of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement where he co-leads their Joy in Work Initiative and is now the Medical Director for Professionalism and Peer Support at Intermountain Healthcare.



In the preceding three decades he served patients at the Mayo Clinic. As Director for Leadership and Organization Development he co-led professional burnout work and oversaw the development of 4,100 physicians and scientists and 232 key leaders. As Director for Quality, Dr. Swensen established the Quality Academy and the Value Creation System. More than 37,000 colleagues were certified as Quality Fellows during his tenure. While Chair of the Department of Radiology, his leadership team used Lean-Sigma and Baldrige to create value for patients provided by 1,200 staff who performed more than one million exams annually.

A full professor, he has been Principal Investigator of two NIH Grants and has authored two books and 171 peer-reviewed articles. He was honored with the Diamond Quality Fellow Lifetime Achievement Award.

Swensen has served as a Director on two Boards and as a member of the Mayo Clinic Management Team. He has started two businesses.

He holds a Masters of Medical Management from Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz School and is a trained Executive Coach. He received his MD from the University of Wisconsin. His residency training was at the Mayo Clinic and his Thoracic Radiology Fellowship at Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Swensen served as President of two international groups: the Fleischner Society and the Society of Thoracic Radiology. He founded the Big Sky Group and the Sun Valley Roundtable.

Swensen has been married for 40 years, has two children and has run or cross-country skied 39 marathons.