



CATHRINE  
KELLER, MD

*Radiology Associates of Central Florida  
Lake Medical Imaging*



Leesburg and The Villages, FL



33.5 Years in Practice

### *Why did you decide to join private practice?*

Although I did a lot of research and publishing during residency and fellowship, I decided I was less interested in doing that as my career and more interested in the patient experience, which I found more accessible in private practice. I also found the high bureaucratic burden in academics and its glacial pace a poor fit for me. Private practice let me have more flexibility in my career.

### *Practice/National Leadership Activities*

- Within my practice:
  - Practice President since 2005
  - Chair of Finance, Executive committees
  - Member of Marketing and QA committees
  - Hired the current Practice Administrator
  - Restructured the group governance
  - Restructured management of the nonclinical portions of the practice
- At the hospitals we staff:
  - Credentials committee - 10 years
  - Member of several ad hoc committees
- ACR General, Small, Emergency, Rural Committee on Economics, 10+ years
  - 2021 Task Force on General Radiology and the Multispecialty Radiologist
  - 2021 GSER Committee on Economics Workgroup to discuss issues surrounding non-physician practitioners (NPPs)
- Florida Radiological Society Women's Imaging Committee, 5 yrs

### *What is your favorite thing about private practice?*

Private practice is much more nimble than academics and it is easier to make changes. For example, I can explore a new procedure, do the research, and present it to my colleagues, build consensus, and work together on the projects. Because of this, our practice could be the first in the state to offer certain modalities and procedures in imaging. In addition, I have more control over what happens to me. There is no department chair telling me what to do or how to build my career. Being in private practice feels like moving out of your parents' house and finally being able to make your own decisions.

### *If you had to give one piece of advice to trainees considering private practice vs academics what would it be?*

Consider your personality and the type of lifestyle you want. Private practice and academics have completely different lifestyles and priorities, and the two sides don't understand each other very well. It is difficult because residents and fellows only have exposure to academic radiology during training. I suggest involvement with organized radiology, through the AAWR, ACR or state radiologic society, in order to gain insight into the state and national world of practicing radiologists, and to gain exposure to private practice radiologists. Women especially need to find a mentor to help them, whether in academics or private practice. I had a male radiologist mentor who helped me become the president at my practice. It is important to be thoughtful about your decisions and have some trusted advisors. Most of all, be prepared for changes in your path during the span of your career.

### *Interesting Facts & Hobbies*

At one time I planned to become a chef if I did not gain admittance to medical school! Now I enjoy family, cooking, baking, gardening and reading during my time off.