





**ANTHONY A. LUCIANO, M.D.**  
Director



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Co-Director

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Site Visit:** July 23-24, 2010  
**Accredited:** 4 years

**Faculty:** Anthony A. Luciano, MD; Danielle E. Luciano; Gerard Roy, MD; Christina LaSala, M.D.; Paul Tulikangas, M.D.; Jim Hoffman, M.D.; Xun Clare Zhou, M.D.

## **2-Year Program**

### **Description of the Center and Faculty:**

The Center for Fertility and Women's Health, P.C. is located at The Hospital of Central Connecticut (100 Grand St, New Britain, Ct. 06051). It is staffed by one board Certified REI specialists (Anthony a. Luciano, M.D. and a board certified OB/Gyn specialist who completed a 2 year, AAGL/SRS approved Fellowship in Gynecologic Endoscopy, Dr. Danielle E. Luciano, a nurse practitioner, manager, clinical research coordinator, 3 nurses, billing specialist, 2 laboratory technicians, receptionists, and physician assistants.

The practice specializes in infertility, advanced endoscopic surgery, reproductive surgery for endometriosis, fibroids, adhesions, tubal disease and muellerian anomalies, as well as reproductive endocrinology, menopause, osteoporosis and sexual health. The practice is actively involved in clinical research on adhesion prevention, hysteroscopic sterilization, menopausal symptoms and sexual health.

The director of the fellowship program, Dr. Anthony Luciano, is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Connecticut and Director of the Center for Fertility and Women's Health. Dr. Anthony A. Luciano, performs 6-8 cases of advanced laparoscopy and hysteroscopy per week. Most cases are referred by gynecologists and primary care physicians, and are usually complicated surgical challenges. Dr. Danielle Luciano, who graduated from a 2 year fellowship in minimally invasive surgery, performs 2-3 endoscopic procedures per week, supervises the residents in obstetrics and gynecology and is actively involved in residents' and medical students' education. Approximately 40% of the surgical procedures involve robotic assistance.

The Center for Fertility and Women's Health has a well-established reputation in Connecticut and the North East as a referral center for Infertility and advanced minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. During the past 2 years,

we have performed well over 500 advanced laparoscopic and hysteroscopic procedures. Each of the 3 examining rooms is equipped with an ultrasound and every patient undergoes vaginal or abdominal ultrasound to compliment the abdominal/pelvic examination. One of the ultrasound machines has 3-Dimensional capability and is equipped with contrast fluid technology, which allows us to assess tubal patency for infertility and tubal obstruction following hysteroscopic sterilization. The 3-D and contrast fluid technology has essentially supplanted MRI's in our service.

Dr. Gerard Roy is associate director of the residency program and a proficient gynecologic surgeon in advanced endoscopic surgery. He graduated from our Fellowship program in Gynecologic surgery and is an active teacher of endoscopic surgery for the fellows and residents. He is committed to be a mentor and active faculty member of the fellowship.

Drs. Christina LaSala and Paul Tulikangas are renowned urogynecologists in the department and perform mostly advanced urogynecologic and pelvic reconstructive procedures by laparoscopy and robotics. They have agreed to serve as faculty members for the fellowship and will allow the fellow to spend elective time, 2-4 weeks per year in their division.

Drs Jim Hoffman and Xun Clare Zhou from the division of gynecologic oncology at our institution have agreed to serve as faculty members for the fellowship and will allow the fellow to operate with them on interesting oncologic cases performed by laparotomy, laparoscopy and robotics.

#### **Fellowship 2 Years Curriculum-**

The Fellow will work as part of a team with preceptors, residents and medical students. The center has available a laparoscopic training station for trainees to practice endoscopic techniques, suturing etc. Trainee will be responsible for at least 2 lectures to be given to residents on anatomy and endoscopic complications.

Electives - Fellow will rotate at least 2 weeks in the division of urogynecology with Dr. Tulikangas' group and in the division of gynecologic oncology with Dr. Zhou where she/he will be exposed to robotic surgery and the management of urogynecologic and oncologic dysfunctions.

Dr. Luciano lectures the residents and medical students every Monday from 7:00-8:00 AM on REI and endoscopic topics. Throughout the academic year we cover all aspects of REI and Gynecologic endoscopic surgery, including the physics and applications of power sources, pelvic anatomy as viewed at laparoscopy, endoscopic complications, etc. The fellow will be attending these lectures and will be responsible for the preparation and deliverance of several of these lectures. Once a month the fellow will participate in the departmental journal club, will attend didactic lectures for residents and fellows every Tuesday and Friday morning (7:00-7:45 am) and departmental grand rounds every Wednesday morning.

The program will provide ample opportunity for clinical experience In the O.R. and clinic, extensive exposure to didactic conferences and case discussions, and opportunity for research. The fellow will be encouraged to attend the Annual AAGL meeting and hopefully will present an abstract/paper or video on minimally invasive surgery. Every year in the spring, the director of the fellowship co-directs a course in GYN Endoscopy for the residents and attendings throughout Connecticut and neighboring states, and the fellow will participate as an attendee and preceptor for the lab session. At the completion of the fellowship training program, the fellow will be well prepared to perform advanced laparoscopic and hysteroscopic surgery in the management of reproductive disorders, including:

- Hysterectomy by laparoscopy and vaginally
- Myomectomy by laparoscopy, hysteroscopy and abdominally
- Laparoscopic treatment of advanced endometriosis, including pelvic sidewall dissection, ureterolysis, resection of bowel and bladder endometriosis
- Infertility surgery, (adhesiolysis, fimbrioplasty, tubal anastomosis)
- Presacral neurectomy, uterine suspension, uterosacral plication when indicated.

- Hysteroscopic myomectomy, septolysis, synechiolysis, endometrial resection/ablation and cannulation.

The fellow's proficiency in performing urogynecologic and oncologic procedures will be determined by the fellow's interest, experience and commitment to learning these procedures during her/his elective rotations in these services.

The fellow will be actively involved in clinical research with 2 half days of protected time for data collection, analysis and publications.

**Fellow's Weekly Schedule.**

	<b>7:00 am</b>	<b>8:00-12:00</b>	<b>13:00-17:00</b>
Monday	Didactic REI	Research	Office practice
Tuesday	Didactic lecture	Surgery	Surgery
Wednesday	Grand Rounds	Research	Office practice
Thursday	Practice on simulator	Office practice	Office practice
Friday	Didactic	Surgery	Surgery

Weekends: The fellow may be asked to be on call every 4th weekend for our patients and for covering the residents' service.

The first and second year will be similar in terms of responsibilities and curriculum; except that during the second year, the fellow will be expected to work more independently and with less supervision by the preceptors, and will serve as a teacher for the residents and students during their REI rotation. The fellow will be given the opportunity to develop his/her research project, which should be well defined by the end of the first 3 months of the fellowship. The project should be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the second year. It is anticipated that the research data will be presented at either the AAGL or the ASRM annual meeting or both.

Stipend: The fellow will be paid by the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology with a salary and associated benefits consistent with a PGV trainee for the first year and PGVI for the second year. The medical malpractice will also be paid by the institution with no tail when the fellow completes the training. There will be no non-competitive clause in the contract.

All faculty members of the training program have faculty appointment in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Connecticut. We all carry our own malpractice insurance or are insured by the institution. The fellow's malpractice insurance is covered by the institution with no tail.