Length of Fellowship (years): 2-years

Optional Degrees: None

Number of Faculty:
- GYN Faculty: 3
- UROGYN Faculty: 3
- REI Faculty: 1
- ONCOLOGY Faculty: 2
- GU Faculty: 1
- General Surgery Faculty: 2
- Colorectal Faculty: 1

Residency Program Affiliation: Yes

Training Labs:
- Cadaver lab
- Animal Lab
- Dry Lab
- Robotics

Office Surgery: Yes

Contract/Agreement Letter: Yes

Yearly Salary: Yes ($~60K; based on PGY 5 and 6 salary)

Resident Teaching: Yes

Benefit Package: Yes

OB obligation: Yes

Non-compete clause: Yes

Meeting support: Yes

Malpractice tail coverage: Yes

Other coverage obligations - specify: None

Accept J1 & H1Visa applicants: Yes

Dedicated Research:
- Hours/per week: ~8 per week
- Hours/per month: possibility of 1-4 week blocks for research if needed

Protected Academic:
- Hours/per week: ~4
- Hours/per month: courses in epidemiology and biostatistics (1 course each year) are part of the fellowship program

Clinical Focus/Special Interest:
- Reproductive Surgery
- Oncology
- Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain
- Pelvic Reconstruction
- Robotic Surgery
- Pediatric/Adolescent
- Hysteroscopic Surgery
- Other:
Primary Faculty: Ted L. Anderson, MD, PhD; Stacey Scheib, MD; Amanda Yunker, DO

Participating Faculty: Daniel H. Biller, MD; Marta A. Crispen, MD; Michael A. Gold, MD; John Lucas, MD; Renee Ward, MD; and Carl W. Zimmerman, MD

2-Year Program

Description
The fellowship program in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center is a comprehensive two-year program incorporating clinical, research, and educational activities. The fellow will benefit from a high surgical volume of nine (9) active surgeons whose collective focus includes a full spectrum of laparoscopic, hysteroscopic, and minimally invasive procedures spanning the clinical subspecialties of infertility, urogynecology, gynecologic oncology and general gynecology. Emerging techniques of robotic-assisted laparoscopy and single-incision laparoscopy are integral components of our fellowship program. The fellow can expect to emerge fully trained and experienced in robotic-assisted laparoscopy and single incision laparoscopy.

Didactics and Experiential Learning Activities
Participation in departmental grand rounds, didactic educational programs, and weekly conferences is expected. The gynecology division has weekly teaching conferences for medical students and residents rotating on the service. Additionally, there is a monthly journal club geared specifically for faculty and fellows wherein key publications and topics are discussed. These are meant to supplement the “core reading” base outlined by the AAGL and listed on their website. Weekly participation in training activities in the Center for Experiential Learning and Assessment (CELA) simulation laboratory, leading to FLS certification, is available. Fellows are expected to assist in guiding residents through these programmed activities. We have just acquired the virtual reality robotics simulator from Intuitive Surgical, which is fully available to the fellow. Finally, all fellows are expected to complete coursework.
in basic statistics and epidemiology. Protected time and financial support is provided for completion of this coursework. Additional coursework is available, depending on the specific interests and needs of the fellow. Access to Vanderbilt’s Experimental Surgery Suite is available to the fellow for cadaver dissection and surgical tutorials (pigs, dogs, etc) as needed and desired.

**Clinical Facilities**
Surgical experience will be obtained at four sites: 1) Vanderbilt University Medical Center Hospital; 2) Cool Springs Surgery Center - a freestanding ambulatory surgical center owned jointly by Vanderbilt and Symbion, and located in the same building as the Women’s Health Center Clinic at Cool Springs; 3) Women’s Health Center Clinic at One Hundred Oaks, a 30,000 sq ft ambulatory clinic facility that contains two fully equipped procedure rooms (hysteroscopy, cystoscopy, hysteroscopic sterilization, endometrial ablation (in development), and other minor gynecologic procedures), a urodynamics suite, and an ultrasound unit (pelvic ultrasound, SIS, other ultrasound guided procedures). The fellow will participate in both resident-based clinics and an active private gynecologic consultative service; 4) Women’s Health Center Clinic at Cool Springs, a 6,000 sq ft ambulatory clinic facility that contains identical resources and focus as the One Hundred Oaks clinical facility.

**Research and Scholarly Activities**
A required research project may take advantage of the many clinical or basic research opportunities ongoing in the division or may be uniquely designed by the fellow with faculty supervision. It is expected that the fellow will publish the results of at least one research project in an appropriate journal during the course of fellowship training. A variety of resources are available to the fellow in designing and implementing research projects, including a departmental research core for assistance with IRB, contracting, grant and manuscript writing, statistical services, and research nurse coordinator services. Small grant funding (a few thousand dollars) is available through department and university sources for focused projects. The department contains a vibrant basic research division that allows the fellow to access biochemical and molecular technologies for conduct of projects as needed.

Although there is certainly an expectation that the fellow will become proficient in a defined set of procedures and techniques, the overall focus is on training the fellow to approach common gynecologic surgical problems using the principles of minimally invasive surgery, drawing from all appropriate tools and techniques to solve clinical problems. Upon completion of this program, the fellow will be competent in a full spectrum of endoscopic surgical techniques and qualified to serve as a consultant in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery in an academic or private setting.