



**Robert S. Furr, M.D., FACOG  
Shanti Mohling, M.D., FACOG  
Women's Surgery Center  
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

2-Year Program	
Optional Degrees: <input type="checkbox"/> MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	
<b>Number of Faculty:</b>	
	GYN Faculty: 2
	UROGYN Faculty: 1
	REI Faculty: 3
	ONCOLOGY Faculty: 3
	GU Faculty: 1
	General Surgery Faculty: 2
	Colorectal Faculty: 2
	Other:
Residency Program Affiliation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Computer Simulation Center: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Training Labs:</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cadaver lab <input type="checkbox"/> None
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Lab
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry Lab <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotics
Office Surgery: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Contract/Agreement Letter: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Yearly Salary: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (\$52,233) <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Resident Teaching <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Benefit Package: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	OB obligation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	If yes, please describe obligation. University Obstetrics Service, 2 12-hour and one 24-hour in-house call coverage per month
	Junior Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Attending Privileges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Moonlighting: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Non-compete clause: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	Malpractice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Meeting support: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Malpractice tail coverage: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Other coverage obligations- specify: Fellows split 24-hour call-service
Accept J1 & H1Visa applicants <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Dedicated Research Hours:</b> Hours/per week: 4-8	
Hours/per month: 16-32	
<b>Protected Academic:</b> Hours/per week: 2	
Hours/per month: 8	
<b>Clinical Focus/Special Interest:</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Surgery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oncology
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pelvic Reconstruction
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotic Surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric/Adolescent
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hysteroscopic Surgery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: colorectal surgery



# Women's Surgery Center

A Center for Minimally Invasive Gynecology

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Accreditation Period: July 2015 – June 2019



**ROBERT S. FURR, M.D., FACOG**  
Program Director



**SHANTI MOHLING, M.D., FACOG**  
Associate Program Director

## FACULTY

Robert S. Furr, M.D., FACOG, Director  
Shanti Mohling, M.D., FACOG, Associate Director  
C.Y. Liu, M.D., FACOG, Founder, Director Emeritus  
Donald H. Chamberlain, M.D., FACOG, FACS  
Jessica Scotchie, M.D., FACOG  
Ringland Murray, M.D., FACOG  
Colin Goudelocke, M.D.

Steven Clark Kennedy, M.D., FACS  
Wesley Giles, M.D., FACS  
Stephen DePasquale, M.D., FACOG  
Todd Boren, M.D., FACOG  
Joseph S. Bird, Jr., M.D., FACOG  
John D. Stanley, M.D., FACS, FASCRS  
Shauna Lorenzo, M.D., FACS, FASCRS

## 2-YEAR PROGRAM

**Description of Program:** The AAGL Fellowship in Advanced Minimally Invasive Gynecologic and Robotic Surgery in Chattanooga, TN was established by Dr. C.Y. Liu in 1997, and it is the oldest continuous gynecologic endoscopic fellowship program in the United States. Our primary goal is to train those who will provide top quality patient care and education, and who will be leaders and innovators in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery and the treatment of advanced gynecologic disorders such as pelvic pain, endometriosis, pelvic organ prolapse, urinary incontinence, and menopausal care.

### Fellowship Overview

The Women's Surgery & Aesthetics Center and its affiliate organizations propose that to become a proficient minimally invasive surgeon, a provider must have:

- a broad understanding of advanced gynecologic disorders, especially ones that may require surgical intervention

- extensive surgical and clinical expertise that focus not only on laparoscopic surgery, but also on advanced pelvic and vaginal surgery and diagnostic and operative hysteroscopy
- an excellent understanding of research methodology and evidence-based practice principles

By participating in academic and community-based referral practices, the MIGS Fellow will receive broad exposure in medical and surgical management of complex gynecologic disorders. Participation in programs offered by The University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga provides exposure to a rich academic environment and is an ideal setting to provide additional training for post-graduate fellows seeking clinical and academic expertise in these fields.

### **Training Objectives and Fellowship Description**

Women's Surgery & Aesthetics Center and its affiliate organizations offer a two-year Fellowship in MIGS and Advanced Gynecologic Disorders designed to be started after completion of a four-year residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Collectively, we perform over 1000 gynecologic, urogynecologic, gyn-oncology and colorectal surgeries per year, 85% of these cases are minimally invasive (laparoscopic/robotic/SILS), 14% are vaginal, and 1% are abdominal. In our gynecology practice alone, the Fellow will see approximately 770 new patients and 2400 return visits annually.

Our Faculty includes fellowship-trained specialists in the following areas:

- Minimally invasive (laparoscopic and robotic) gynecologic surgery for complex endometriosis, pelvic floor reconstruction and management of uterine fibroids.
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Female Urology
- Reproductive Endocrinology
- Colorectal Surgery
- Minimally Invasive General Surgery

Our surgeons' diverse experience in advanced MIGS procedures affords us the opportunity to treat complicated cases. As a result, fellows in this training program will receive an exceptional level of laparoscopic and gynecologic training rooted in the principles and techniques developed by Dr. C.Y. Liu.

Graduating fellows will be proficient in all aspects of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, including:

- Complicated hysterectomies (total and subtotal)
- Conservative and definitive surgery for all stages of endometriosis
- Techniques for pelvic floor reconstruction (with and without the use of mesh grafts)
- Hysteroscopy (operative and diagnostic)
- Urologic surgery (ureteral repair/reanastomosis and incontinence procedures)
- Management of urinary and fecal incontinence with sacral neuromodulation
- Robotic surgery
- Single site robotic surgery and, pending hospital acquisition, daVinci Sp surgery

Furthermore, this is a clinically broad fellowship that allows post-graduate trainees to gain extensive experience in a variety of advanced gynecologic disorders such as chronic pelvic pain disorders (e.g. endometriosis, irritable bowel syndrome, interstitial cystitis), vulvovaginal disorders (e.g. vestibulitis, vulvar dermatoses, vulvodynia, chronic vaginitis).

This fellowship also places significant emphasis on academics by promoting fellow research, publication, and opportunity for direct one-on-one teaching of residents. Each fellow will be required to complete a research project each year, present at national meetings, and finalize a manuscript for publication by the end of the second year of the fellowship. The program is affiliated with the UT College of Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Fellows are required to attend regular didactic core lectures and present a "MIGS Lecture Series" to the Residents and Faculty of the Department. The Fellows also staff, as Junior Faculty, a dedicated MIGS Clinic one morning per week in the UT OB/Gyn Clinic. Overall, each fellow will devote approximately 80% of their time to clinical/surgical duties and 20% to research and teaching projects.

**The following is an outline of the curriculum:**

**Clinic** – Clinics are held two half days per week.

**Surgery** – Surgery schedule varies according to the surgical work load of Faculty.

Fellows participate as co-surgeon to the attending Faculty. The fellows work in the operating room 4 days per week. Fellows serve as lead surgeon on cases acquired from the UT MIGS Clinic, and are assisted by an OB/Gyn resident on these cases.

**Robotic Surgery** - In addition to the laparoscopic experience, the fellowship in MIGS provides extensive experience in robotic surgery as well. Under the direction of Dr. Furr, Dr. Chamberlain, Dr. Boren, and Dr. DePasquale, the Fellow has the opportunity to participate, on average, in 10 major robotic procedures per week. It is expected that the Fellow complete the requirements for da Vinci certification during their first year of fellowship.

**Journal Club** – Fellows will attend a monthly journal club.

**Hospital Rounds** – Fellows are expected to make daily hospital rounds, to write detailed progress notes and manage post-operative patients under the supervision of the Faculty.

**Research Projects** – Fellows are required to select two research projects within the first three months of their fellowship. The research projects are to be approved by Faculty and are conducted under the supervision of individual Faculty preceptors. Every Fellow is required to submit and present their research papers/video in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the AAGL and/or the ASRM. The Fellows are also required to complete an IRB approved peer review article each year for publication. Fellows are expected to complete the University of Tennessee Certificate in Clinical Research Program during the first year of their fellowship.

**Teaching and Call Duty Responsibilities**

Fellows will frequently interact with residents during surgical cases and at The University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga, Department of Ob/Gyn. Fellows are expected to serve as teachers and to promote resident education in a positive and thorough manner. Each Fellow is expected to present 5 resident/faculty lectures per year. Once a month fellows will attend a journal club that emphasizes clinical and research methodology and covers topics in the core reading list of the AAGL. During the first quarter of their fellowship, the fellows will attend an approved Biostatistics and Research Methodology course.

Each month, fellows must select two 12 hour week-night calls and one 24 hour weekend call as a requirement of the University of Tennessee, College of Medicine. Fellows receive first-call on all Women's Surgery & Aesthetics Center patients, including emergency room and inpatient consultation.

**Mentorship, Evaluation and Career Development**

This program will focus intensely on career development and practice management through regular mentorship and evaluation meetings. Each Fellow will be scheduled to meet with Faculty preceptors on a bi-monthly basis. Fellows will also be evaluated by all fellowship faculty members on a quarterly basis. Each evaluation will be reviewed with the trainee. Fellows will have the opportunity to discuss progress, problems or future plans with Faculty. Any problems will be addressed in a formal manner with an inquiry, discussion and plan of action that is agreed upon by the Faculty member and the Fellow. When agreement cannot be reached, help will be obtained first from the program director and lastly from the fellowship grievance committee.

**Application Requirements and Selection Process**

All applications must be made through the AAGL website (see <http://www.aagl.org/applications>) and must be complete before an applicant can be offered an interview.

Once an applicant is determined to have met the eligibility criteria, the program director may invite them for an interview. The interview day begins at 7:00 am which includes the interview and observation of scheduled surgical procedures. We also invite all applicants to dinner with the current fellows on the night prior to their interview date. Our program participates in the AAGL Fellowship Match Program through the NRMP.