



**ORLANDO VA MEDICAL CENTER
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

Accreditation Period: 2018 – 2020



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2-YEAR PROGRAM

Description of Program:

The fellowship aims to train the next generation of Gynecologic MIS surgeons who will:

- have a broad understanding of advanced gynecologic disorders, especially ones that often end in a surgical intervention
- attain extensive surgical and clinical expertise that focuses not only on laparoscopic surgery but also on advanced abdominal and vaginal surgery
- achieve an in depth understanding of research methodology and evidence-based practice principles
- gain additional expertise in healthcare related problems specific to women veterans.

Our primary goal is to train those who will: 1) provide excellent patient care and education, and 2) be leaders in gynecologic laparoscopy and in treatment of advanced gynecologic disorders such as pelvic pain, endometriosis, vulvovaginal dermatoses, pelvic organ prolapse and menopausal care. Our fellowship will be based at the Orlando VA Medical Center (OVAMC), thus our most important mission will be train gynecologic surgeons who will also be able to take care of a very underserved segment of the population: women veterans.

OVAMC is a newly opened, state-of-the-art tertiary care medical center located on the Lake Nona Campus. We have an academic affiliation with the University of Central Florida (UCF) College of Medicine and the VHA (Veterans Health Administration (VHA) National Simulation Center (SimLEARN). SimLEARN provides additional technological advances for simulation training which will be an essential resource for training our fellows. Key to this collaborative educational opportunity is that UCF and SimLEARN are co-located on the same campus as OVAMC, thus fellows will have access to educational resources, technology and faculty from all three institutions.

This program is a 24-month fellowship beginning in July 2018. Applicants will be accepted through the standardized AAGL fellowship application process which includes formal interviews, evaluation and acceptance through the match. Fellow applications will be screened and applicants will be asked to first undergo a web interview with Dr. Lamvu. Final applicants will be asked to visit our institution for one day where they will undergo face-to-face interviews with the director, assistant director, faculty and other fellows. During this visit, they will tour our facility and be given a chance to evaluate our program. Once the interview process is complete, the applicant names will be placed in a rank list submitted to the AAGL for the final match. The new fellow will be contacted by the director to confirm acceptance. After confirmation of acceptance, a letter of intent and other required documents will be finalized within 3 months and according to VA hiring and credentialing regulations.

Fellows will be expected to complete at least 22/24 months of training. After this time, graduating fellows will be proficient in all aspects of gynecologic laparoscopic surgery, including: complicated hysterectomies (both supra-cervical and total), both conservative and definitive surgery for advanced stages of endometriosis, and robotic surgery (our robot purchase is approved for fiscal year 2018). In addition, 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), pelvic organ prolapse, vulvovaginal disorders (e.g. vestibulitis, vulvar dermatoses, vulvodynia, chronic vaginitis) and much more. Pain management will be taught in closely mentored clinical settings by Dr. Lamvu and Dr. Carrillo while urogynecology will be taught by Dr. Feranec. Fellows will rotate through the urogynecology clinic, the pelvic pain clinic and they will also see general gynecology patients. In addition, fellows will have dedicated operating room time as well as time protected for research and education activities. Fellows will spend approximately 70% of their time in clinical / surgical duties and 30% in educational and research activities. Post-graduate trainees will have the opportunity to rotate through different programs including, Urology, Colorectal, and General Surgery.

The training schedule will be based on a set curriculum however, it will also be tailored each year to the educational and surgical training needs of each fellow. The fellows will also participate in our laparoscopy simulation program at SimLEARN.

This fellowship will place 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, present at national meetings (including the AAGL and the IPPS) and finalize a manuscript for publication by the end of the second year of the fellowship. Fellows will be required to attend bi-weekly didactic core lectures which will not only focus on the above clinical topics but will also include specific of lectures on research methodology, publication requirements and obtaining research funding. In addition, fellows are encouraged to attend monthly journal review, pre-operative case review, morbidity and mortality conference and grand rounds. In the first year the fellow will also complete the Certificate Program in Clinical Research, a 12-month lecture series in epidemiology, biostatistics and study design. The fellow will be involved in teaching medical students and Ob-Gyn residents. Lastly, the fellows will be exposed to extensive mentorship in career development in order to prepare them for practice beyond fellowship in academic and non-academic environments.