Why a Newsletter?

2016 is shaping up to be a great year for FMIGS, with significant strides made in moving towards sub-specialty certification, the addition of several new programs, and the creation of a Fellows Research Network. A primary goal of the 2016 Board of Directors is improved communication between the FMIGS Board and the Fellowship Programs. Hence...a Newsletter!

The quarterly “FMIGS UPDATE” will include the current status of FMIGS initiatives, changes in fellowship educational standards and resources, and pertinent program updates. We will also include a list of MIGS job opportunities, important upcoming dates, and committee contact information.

The dedication that each and every one of you have to the FMIGS fellowship makes these changes possible. Thank you, as always, for your support and please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any ideas, questions, or concerns.

“Knowing where not to cut is just as important as knowing where to cut. Thanks MIS!”
- Jim Casey, MD 1st year MIGS Fellow

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Status of Sub-specialty Certification

Conversations have continued with representatives of ABOG regarding two potential uses of the EMIG program. The first would be a summative examination at the end of residency for cognitive and skills testing in MIGS. The ABOG leadership is optimistic that when completed, this program would provide an excellent educational and testing tool that they would consider requiring of all graduating residents prior to sitting for their written board examination. There are still some issues to address. Specifically, we need to complete the design, manufacture, and validation of the skills test. We also need to complete the curriculum guide. Finally, there are issues of distribution and test administration in the program in a way that makes it easily available to all residents at a reasonable cost. The second use would involve some sort of special competency recognition after fellowship training. This would result in an additional certification to professionals already board certified in ObGyn, administered through ABOG/ABMS, that will most likely be called a “certificate of added qualification in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery”. In both cases, AAGL would be able to define the level of performance needed to “pass” and in the latter certification AAGL would be able to define eligibility to take the qualifying examination. We are still early in the conversations leading to these application of the EMIG program, but discussions so far have been very positive and encouraging.

Bootcamp 2016

Mark your calendars for another great FMIGS Bootcamp! The dates this year are July 22-24, 2016. It will again be held in Orlando at the fabulous Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort and Nicholson Center. Both 1st and 2nd year MIGS fellows are invited to attend. Don’t miss out on this exceptional course; a great jumpstart to your academic year.

Fellowship Interviews

The 2016 Interview Season is quickly approaching. It is time to select your interview dates! An updated calendar with the available interview dates can be found on the Fellowship page of the AAGL website at http://www.aagl.org/fellowshipcalendar/. Happy Interviewing!

Fast Facts:

- Number of active programs: 42
- Number of programs participating in the 2016 match: 33
- Number of active fellows: 73
- Number of fellows to start in July: 31
- Number of FMIGS graduated fellows to date: 281

Moving Case Log reporting into the 21st Century

Logging cases will hopefully become much easier starting in July 2016! A web based case log app has been developed and is currently in the beta testing phase. Four programs started using the web based app in January 2016 and are currently providing feedback for continued improvements. Advantages include automatic screen sizing for easy viewing on your desktop computer, tablet, or smart phone. We are also working diligently to improve the case type selection options to make finding your procedure less cumbersome. The app will be ready to go live for all fellowship programs starting July 1st, 2016.
MIGS Job Openings

Site: Arizona Gynecology Consultants, Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Kelly Roy, MD kroy@azgyn.com

Site: OB/GYN private practice, Houston, TX
Contact: medicalrecruiting713@gmail.com

Site: Wright State University, Dayton, OH
Contact: https://jobs.wright.edu

Site: Rutgers NJ Medical School, Newark, NJ
Contact: Peter Sahu, sahupr@njms.rutgers.edu

Site: Carondelet St. Mary’s Hospital, Tucson, AZ
Contact: www.simplyhired.com

Site: Hartford, CT
Contact: Smita Bhagat, smitabhagat21@yahoo.com

Site: Atlantic General Hospital, Berlin, MD
Contact: Jim Brannon, 410-641-9656, jbrannon@atlanticgeneral.org

2016 FMIGS BOARD MEMBERS

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- David L. Olive, MD, Board of Directors
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- Arcy Dominguez, Administrator

We’d Like to Acknowledge...

This past year was a monumental year for the FMIGS Board and the Fellowships. A few examples of the accomplishments of the last year include standardization of the FMIGS curriculum and learning objectives (available on the AAGL Fellowship Web Page), production of a formal set of Bylaws for FMIGS, and the initiation of the application for sub-specialty practice recognition. The Board would like to acknowledge the committees that have accomplished this work.

This Years Committees and Their Respective Chairs:

- Assessment Committee (Chair: Amanda Yunker)
- Curriculum Standardization Committee (Chair: Susie As-Sanie)
- ABOG Liaison Committee (Chair: Ted Anderson)
- Bylaws Committee (Chair: David Olive)
- Case Review Committee (Chair: Hye-Chun Hur)
- Education Committee (Chair: Matt Siedhoff)
- Finance Committee (Chair: Matt Siedhoff)
- Site Review and Compliance Committee (Chair: John Sciarra)
- Ethics and Grievance Committee (Chair: John Fischer)
- Nominations Committee (Chair: Rosanne Kho)
- FMIGS-SGS Steering Committee (Chair: Miles Murphy and Rosanne Kho)
- Audit Committee (Chair: Magdy Milad)
- Communication Committee (Chair: Cara King)

Please contact a committee chair if you have concerns, ideas, or would like to volunteer to be a part of the action.

Important Dates

January 2016: FMIGS applications available

April 10-13: SGS Annual Meeting, Palm Springs

April 30: Abstract deadline AAGL annual meeting

April 30: Fund for the Future Application deadline

June 22: Match Opens

July 1: FMIGS Application Deadline

July 29-September 9: FMIGS Interviews

September 21: Rank Order List Deadline

October 5: Match Day
Changes to SurgeryU

Videos are pivotal in surgical education as they allow the exchange of various techniques and procedures on an international level. SurgeryU has over 1400 on-demand minimally invasive gynecologic surgical videos including live events, AAGL expert lectures, global congress videos and a video library. Over the next year, we hope to revamp this platform and integrate an improved search engine to allow videos to be searched by author’s name or institution in addition to the specific video name or topic. The Video Library is also going to be updated to include more specific categories and relevant videos to allow easier navigation. We will keep you updated as these changes are applied.

Fellow Research Network — What is it?

In 2007, the Society of Gynecologic Surgeons (SGS) initiated the formation of the first fellow-run research network. This first group included fellows in Urogynecology and an Advisory Board, made up of mentors, research faculty, and SGS members. In 2015, SGS extended an invitation to FMIGS to join the FPRN. Now we have a subgroup of the FPRN devoted to FMIGS Fellows. Fellows will be asked to submit proposals for multi-center research projects on a semiannual basis. Submissions are then reviewed and voted on by MIGS fellows. Those top projects with the most votes will then be supported by the funding from FMIGS and move into implementation nationally. The FPRN will meet at the annual SGS and AAGL meetings to review projects, vote, and discuss progress of previously selected projects. Selected projects will receive email notification to move forward. This program has been shown to boost the publication status of fellows and launch their careers much earlier. To apply go to the link listed below. Best of luck to all applicants! We look forward to reviewing some great projects.

http://www.sgsonline.org/fellows--pelvic-research-network--fprn--

Updated Reading List Coming Soon!

In an effort to keep up with the constantly evolving literature, the Core Reading List will be reviewed and updated every 2 years. The curriculum committee was very diligent in preparation of this list, and we think you’ll find it very complete and easy to apply to the current educational objectives. The most recent revision has been finalized and will be posted on the Fellowship webpage in the next few months.

Happy Reading!

Contact Us

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