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Spring Fever
Here in Tennessee, everything is turning green. Trees and flowers are blooming, and the weather is so lovely that we try to sneak outside between OR cases to get a little vitamin D. I love Spring and the feeling of “newness” and promising change that it brings. So, it’s quite fitting that we are preparing to graduate an amazing class of senior FMIGS fellows while also welcoming the dozens of FMIGS applications that are rolling in. A little birdy (ok, it was Arcy) told me that this year more applications have come in earlier than ever, when they have traditionally come in later. It would seem that even FMIGS has “spring fever!” Best of luck to every program as we sift through the stacks of talent and promise coming our way. And, congratulations to the senior FMIGS class as they prepare to graduate and move on to an exciting time of their careers!

Amanda C. Yunker, DO, MSCR - Vanderbilt University Medical Center

The FMIGS Board met in San Antonio, Texas, following the Society of Gynecologic Surgeons meeting. The priority of the Board is to continue advancing towards providing a Certificate of Focused Expertise in Advanced Gynecologic Surgery or FMIGS, the title to be decided. Drs. Ted Anderson and Magdy Milad are the soul behind this main goal. A second goal is to evaluate hands-on skills of fellows during and at the completion of the fellowship. Drs. Cara King and Amanda Yunker are creating a first, original program. The upcoming Boot Camp in NYC August 4-6 will provide advanced training to a total of 120 fellows and residents. Dr. Matt Siedhoff is dedicated to this goal, and we expect to be as successful as it was in 2016. A representative of program directors will sit on the board after its election in September 2017. Those interested, please pay attention when the request for volunteers appears. One of two finalists will be selected by the votes of all program directors. Fellows, your representative, Dr. Noah Rindos, wants to hear your suggestions. What you are reading here is under the skillful hand and dedication of Dr. Amanda Yunker. To all of them, and to all of you, a big thank you for making FMIGS better every day. You can always reach me. jmagrina@mayo.edu
Happy Spring! We have lots of good things in the works for this upcoming year. Details are quickly coming together for the visiting away rotations. We are building a website that will feature all of the available sites that have offered to host visiting fellows. There will be information about the site, strengths of the program, and who you should contact to coordinate your visit. Unless specifically noted, most rotations will be for one week, and will be observerships only. Unfortunately we will not have funds available to support travel or lodging and it will not count towards graduation requirements (i.e. it will use your vacation time). We will have more details coming soon that will be posted to the Facebook page. If you do an away rotation I would love to hear about your experience!

We are working hard on preparing the FMIGS Fellows and Residents Surgical Boot Camp for August 4th-6th in New York City. Stay posted for more details.

The FMIGS Facebook page (FMIGS At Large) has been getting great use! Please keep posting your ideas and questions. If for some reason you don't have access to the page (and are either an incoming fellow, current fellow or graduated after 2012) please email me (noahrindos@gmail.com) or contact me through Facebook to be added in.

On a final note, please let me know if there is ever anything that I can do to make your experience with fellowship better. I am happy to talk if you are having a hard time, if you are trying to figure out the job search process or just want to check in.

All my best,

Noah Rindos, MD

Reminder: JMIG Journal Club

JMIG’s Monthly Journal Club on Twitter, The Modern Day Journal Club, will occur each month on the third week. It is an asynchronous Journal Club on Twitter where participants can sign in anytime over a 48 hour period and post comments or replies about the article of the month. This is open to Residents, Fellows, and also open to the public. Participants can tweet, retweet, reply or like any of the posts related to the journal club. They can even post related articles to the selected article. To link all the posts together, participants will use the hashtag #JMIGjc.

The article of the month will be sent 1 week prior to the Journal Club on Twitter. The best comments will be highlighted on the JMIG website. The Journal Club comments from each month will be summarized and published.

For questions or information, contact the JMIG Social Media Editor Dr. Mireille Truong at mireille.truong@gmail.com.
After completing my fellowship, I joined a large private practice OB/GYN group in which I am the only fellowship-trained MIGS surgeon. From the start, I have been able to serve as a resource for my partners when they have difficult laparoscopic cases, both as an assist as well as a referral pathway. Many times, discussions were initiated with “would you do this procedure open?,” to which I can confidently reply, “no, I would not.” In many ways, it is the ideal experience I had imagined as an FMIGS applicant, where my partners are receptive to the new and different techniques I bring to the group, including single-site laparoscopy.

In my hospital system, there is a culture of multi-disciplinary collaboration, which has allowed me to have a network of referrals as well as combined cases with Urogynecology, Urology, and REI. I gained a strong interest in pelvic pain during my fellowship, and word quickly spread that there was a new gynecologist who actually wanted to see these patients. Many referrals have followed, and I’ve been able to build a strong practice for myself. With MIGS training as credentials, I’ve become highly involved with our hospital’s own Pelvic Health Network, giving lectures at quarterly meetings on Enhanced Recovery protocols as well as being a featured pelvic pain speaker at the annual forum for primary care providers in our community.

Unquestionably, the biggest adjustment has been the transition from academic medicine to private practice. I love teaching and one of the most appealing aspects of joining my group was that I would be able to retain a clinical appointment at UofL as gratis faculty. I enjoy working regularly with the MIGS fellows and OB/GYN residents for my cases and have the opportunity to continue contributing to their training. For me, the biggest contrast between academics and a private practice environment is the expectation of a higher clinic volume inherent in a generalist’s template. It is challenging to balance the high level of care I was trained to provide with the efficiency demanded by a fully booked schedule.

Of course, achieving work-life balance is critical. This, too, is a “work-in-progress” during my first year out in practice. My contract included a healthy annual stipend for continuing education, and I’ve had no trouble thus far taking time to attend conferences and for teaching at AAGL anatomy courses, when invited. I have tremendous flexibility to utilize my vacation time as well, which has given me the ability to escape for recharging of mind and soul. Most recently, I had an amazing trip visiting Myanmar and China. Now my entire office wants to know where I’m headed to next!

I’m fortunate to have joined a hospital system and group that has attached value to MIGS and to my training. That value was reflected in my compensation and in the support I have been offered to provide advanced minimally invasive surgery options to my patients. I have been able to bring cost savings to major procedures and consistently have shorter hospital stays for every case. Similar to my experience in fellowship, private practice has been a dynamic endeavor that has allowed me to make of the experience what I will – to keep growing and to continue expanding my skill set. Producing good outcomes for challenging cases has helped create enthusiasm within our hospital about how we can foster MIGS even further, and I look forward to leading the venture.

Daniel N. Ginn, DO, MPH
FPRN Update

The Fellows Pelvic Research Network (FPRN) steering committee and advisory board have continued collaborating on several studies aimed towards advancing fellow-centered research studies. Following a great set of submissions this spring, several were awarded travel grants to present at the SGS scientific meeting. With your helpful feedback, we hope that they will be included in the research network in the coming months and open for recruitment.

NOW ENROLLING:

We are currently enrolling sites for Dr. Carolyn Piszczek's study, "The use of social networking among women with pelvic pain." Interested sites for participation can contact Dr. Piszczek through the SGS FPRN website for publication inclusion.


We also encourage all fellows to submit their own ongoing and new research studies for consideration in the FPRN research network. The resources of the FPRN are well established and designed to provide study support from research experts with the goals of completing quality research expeditiously. Proposals will be accepted for formal review two to three times per year, generally associated with FMIGS events such as national meetings and fellowship-wide didactic meetings. A Frequently Asked Questions section is also available online for the advantages and expectations of both original research submissions and addition onto existing studies.

Elections will also be held for new steering committee members with voting to open in early May 2017. Steering committee finalists have been selected, and each will have a brief video available for review online during the voting period. We look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.

HELPFUL LINKS

FPRN Home page: http://www.sgsonline.org/fprn


Case Log Entry: http://caselog.aagl.org/login.php

Bootcamp Room Booking: Lcamenzind@aagl.org
myTIPreport Update

The myTIPreport online feedback platform is getting closer to full roll out at all Fellowship sites! We piloted our 6 key procedures (total laparoscopic hysterectomy, laparoscopic salpingo oophorectomy, laparoscopic cystectomy, laparoscopic excision of endometriosis, laparoscopic myomectomy, and hysteroscopic myomectomy) at 6 pilot programs, which concluded on January 1st. Initial feedback was overall positive, with the excellent suggestion that our evaluated procedure steps should reflect higher level skills in attempt to differentiate the advanced fellowship skillset. The Assessment Committee is currently working on editing these key steps, with anticipated implementation and release by July 1st. We will keep you posted!

Cara R. King, DO

A Message For Fellowship Directors

This “corner” of the Newsletter is a new addition, specifically devoted to communication from the Board to the Directors. Here you can find new and up-to-date information that affects programs and directors. Currently, it is written by myself with contribution from the other Directors. However, this Fall, during the election for open FMIGS Board positions, we will have a new position—Fellowship Directors Representative. This position will be similar to the Fellows Representative position. This person will be elected by his/her peers—the Fellowship Directors—and will serve a 2-year term. The mission of the position is to serve as a liaison between the Board and the Fellowship Directors. This person will represent fellowship directors’ interests in legislation and policy and communicate the opinions and concerns of fellowship directors directly to the Board. I am very excited that the Board has voted to augment its numbers with this new position. Once this person is elected, he/she will then utilize the “Fellowship Directors Corner” as one forum for communication. Until then, here goes…

The case log system has had many hiccups, but continues to be improved. One recent improvement: Fellowship Directors can now log in to follow their fellows’ performance at any time. The log-in address is www.caselog.aagl.org/admin. You will use your AAGL log in/password. You can then click on each individual fellows (top right) to view a breakdown of their cases. Case minimums (required for competency) are listed at the far right. Green (meeting minimums), Yellow (close but not quite), Red (too low). Below the chart of case types and overall numbers is a list of each case, which also gives information on the date of the case (so you can see how up-to-date the entries are). This improvement allows Directors to routinely access this information to provide timely feedback for fellow performance. If you are having any issues with this, please contact Arcy.

Applications for the next class of MIGS Fellows are rolling in. Currently there are 44 programs, 31 of which will be participating in the upcoming match. If you have not yet selected your interview dates, please do that ASAP.

Thank you for all you do for your individual programs and MIGS!

Amanda Yunker, DO, MSCR
GYNECOLOGY PRACTICE

Lynchburg Gynecology, a 3 Physician gynecology only practice, is seeking a long term BC/BE 4th partner. Our practice is an independent gyn practice with a high surgical volume located in Lynchburg Virginia. There is a first year income guarantee with the opportunity for partnership after 1 year. Partner’s salaries earn in the top 5% nationwide with 1 in 4 gynecology only call. We work within a strong hospital system and practice all facets of gynecology including urogynecology, oncology, and robotics. We offer in office surgery, ultrasound, DEXA and urodynamics. We are looking for a partner with excellent people skills, rapport with patients, and a passion for surgery and patient care. Lynchburg is a vibrant medical community close to the Blue Ridge Mountains, Wintergreen Ski Resort, and Smith Mountain Lake. There are outstanding school systems, natural beauty, and an abundance of outdoor and family activities.

A letter of interest and complete curriculum vitae should be emailed to: Sarah Woods, MD at woods.sarah.md@gmail.com or call 1-434-385-7818

MIGS Job Openings

Established GYN Surgical Practice Recruiting for AAGL Fellows!

The Center for Innovative GYN Care (CIGC) (www.innovativegyn.com) is now recruiting AAGL Fellows to join its practice. CIGC is now expanding its practice and services to other states through recruitment and teaching our powerful surgical techniques to newly hired fellowship trained GYN surgeons. We are growing our footprint to metropolitan areas in Texas, Georgia, and Tennessee!

CIGC has developed “new procedural technology” based on DualportGYN and LAAM techniques to allow for the treatment of all patients in an outpatient surgical center. The company has been performing hysterectomy, myomectomy, and complex surgical procedures at its Rockville, MD based outpatient surgical facility - Innovations Surgery Center (ISC) with unparalleled success. Learning DualportGYN procedures, to include retroperitoneal dissection, uterine artery ligation, ureterolysis, extensive enterolysis, vaginal extraction procedures, and powerful LAAM techniques (Laparoscopic Assisted Abdominal Myomectomy) for the candidate.

The position does not require OB call, with all call at home on an every fourth week schedule. Candidates for the position will benefit from an experienced development team to include a VP of Marketing and marketing team, VP of Business Development/Operations and VP of Research to allow for growth and expansion. A specific marketing plan will be developed for each candidate to ensure success and patient referrals through internet, social medial, direct to physician sales, and printed and visual media.

Compensation is excellent in this highly lucrative position with all benefits provided to include 401K with match, health, and dental.

If interested, please contact Eric Brown, VP of HR at ebrown@innovativegyn.com or 240-558-3706 ext 207.

MIGS Surgeon

The University of Chicago is actively recruiting a fellowship-trained Academic Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon to join our growing group of faculty. As a leader in this field, I’m reaching out to you for suggestions on who I can speak to about this opportunity. We are trying to ensure that we have a dynamic, diverse, and accomplished pool of applicants who may fill this role.

Please access the link for more information about the position. I’m available by phone or email to discuss candidates. I appreciate your assistance in advance!

Brie Anderson, MHA
Clinical Section Administrator
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
University of Chicago
773-834-7022
MIGS Faculty
Position

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Women’s Health is seeking a dynamic Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Physician to join the faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore. He/She will join a very busy and expanding Division of Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery, providing diagnosis and management of complex gynecologic conditions using advanced endoscopic and robotic surgical procedures.


If you are not personally interested in this position at this time, we request your nominations and referrals of colleagues that you think would meet the specifications of the position. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly or my colleague, Amy Rose, at 610-558-6100, ext. 222 or arose@tylerandco.com for more information. We welcome your interest or nominations of your colleagues.

AJ
Alan D. Johns (AJ) Senior Vice President
Tyler & Company When the search becomes serious.
( 770.396.3939, ext. 6513  ajohns@tylerandco.com  8
400 Northridge Road, Suite 1250, Atlanta, GA 30350

Lahey Health

BC/BE MIGS Surgeon

Lahey Health System is seeking candidates with excellent clinical and surgical skills who are trained in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, AAGL fellowship trained preferred, board certified/eligible (BC/BE) for a superb position.

BURLINGTON, MA

The Department of Gynecology at Lahey Hospital & Medical Center, a member of Lahey Health, is seeking a full time board certified/eligible (BC/BE) minimally invasive gynecologic surgeon, AAGL fellowship trained preferred. The Lahey Hospital & Medical Center, Department of Gynecology is comprised of four sub-specialties including general gynecology, urogynecology, reproductive endocrinology and gynecologic oncology.

The position provides a great opportunity to work in a dynamic practice which offers both minimally invasive gynecology surgery in a multi-specialty group practice setting. The department is comprised of 8 physicians and five advanced practitioners across three outpatient offices in Burlington, Peabody, and Lexington and sees over 27,000 outpatient visits and performs over 1,000 surgeries per year. The Department of Gynecology is affiliated with both Boston Medical Center and Tufts Medical Center in offering resident and medical student education with the opportunity for an academic appointment. We also offer a one year pelvic fellowship program for physicians who desire more surgical training following residency.

The selected candidate will have significant responsibility in training the Fellow and will be actively involved in transitioning the fellowship into an AAGL sponsored fellowship.

Lahey Hospital and Medical Center, a 317-bed tertiary care facility, outpatient clinic and Level II trauma center located in Burlington, MA, is a physician-led, multi-disciplinary group practice of more than 500 physicians. We maintain several accredited residency and fellowship programs and are an academic affiliate of Tufts Medical School. Located just north of Boston MA, the area provides excellent school systems, abundant cultural activities in a world class city and convenient access to the mountains and seacoast throughout New England.

This is an employed position and it is very competitive in terms of pay and benefits.

Interested candidates should submit CV and cover letter to:

Raffaele Bruno, MD, Chair,

Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery Faculty

We have an opening at Indiana University Health for a full-time or part-time MIGS faculty. The position would involve being a faculty member of our MIGS fellowship, educating our MIGS fellow, educating our 40 OB/Gyn residents, educating our medical students on their OB/Gyn clerkship, maintaining a clinical practice, and being an active member of the OB/Gyn department. Any interested parties can contact me at my email: kkasper@iupui.edu.

Thank you,
Kelly Kasper, MD
Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery

New York City

Gynecology only practice is growing. Looking for an additional Minimally Invasive GYN Surgeon to join them. Prefer fellowship trained. Currently three offices and one surgery center in Washington DC suburbs with plans to open a second surgery center in northern New Jersey with an office in New York City. Call will be every fourth week and is very light. Compensation is excellent in this highly lucrative position with all benefits provided to include 401K with match, health, dental and 5 weeks paid time off.

- MIS Gyn Surgery Fellowship
- Gynecology only practice
- Surgery Center in northern New Jersey
- Office in New York City
- Very light call, every fourth week
- Highly lucrative with complete benefits

April Taylor
Alpha Medical Group
ataylor@alphamg.org • 800.584.5001
www.alphamg.org

Merritt Hawkins academic recruiting has partnered with a nationally recognized Leader in Medicine to invite you to consider a unique Obstetrics and Gynecology opportunity. We are seeking candidates from either academic or private practice backgrounds to become an integral part of the growth of a thriving Obstetrics & Gynecology group located in the LA Metro. These opportunities offer an Academic appointment at a top ranked medical school, great quality of life, the ability to teach, and a competitive compensation and benefits package.

OPPORTUNITY HIGHLIGHTS:
- Join an autonomous practice environment where you can practice as you see fit
- Stable administration nurtures a friendly and compassionate culture
- Flexible daily schedule with built in administrative time
- Clinic is located across the street from the hospital
- Immediate ramp up available; turnkey practice
- 1:5 Call schedule
- Great balance of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Option to teach medical students and residents
- Additional quality and production bonus available
- $300K Earning Potential
- Private Practice Income with Academic Benefits
- Affiliation with a major academic center that is very supportive
- Beautiful state of the art clinic site in a very safe area
- Long-term career enhancement growth opportunities within the academic system

In addition, to enjoying an excellent mix of income and quality of life, you will have the option to live in some of the most sought after suburbs of Los Angeles. There are several different clinical sites you can chose from, you could commute from Pasadena, Woodland Hills, Thousand Oaks, Manhattan Beach or many other desirable parts of the LA metro area.

Please reply with a copy of your CV and best time to reach you.

Ally Geller | Senior Search Consultant | Consulting and Recruiting | Department of Academics

Office (469) 524-1560 | Cell (469) 925-6369 | Fax (844) 332-7809

www.merritthawkins.com

Department of Gynecology
FMIGS Fellows and Residents Surgical Boot Camp
August 4-7, 2017
Mary & Michael Jaharis Simulation Center, Columbia University
College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY

Educate and update Fellows and Residents on the latest theories and developments in MIG surgery. This 3-day intensive will include a combination of didactic and hands-on laboratory instruction, both cadaveric and simulated.

GROUP 1
3rd Year Residents
Groups begin August 4, 2017 (Monday) at 9:00AM (Practical training August 5, Thursday)
GROUP 2
2nd Year Fellows
Groups begin August 4, 2017 (Monday) at 9:00AM (Practical training August 5, Thursday)
GROUP 3
3rd Year Fellows
Groups begin August 4, 2017 (Monday) at 9:00AM (Practical training August 5, Thursday)
GROUP 4
2nd Year Residents
Groups begin August 4, 2017 (Monday) at 9:00AM (Practical training August 5, Thursday)

Important Dates

April 19: FFTF Application Available
May 1: Abstract deadline AAGL annual meeting ($50 fee)
May 22: FFTF Application Process Closes
June 16: FFTF Site Selection Announced
June 21: Match Opens
July 1: FMIGS Application Deadline
August 4-6: FMIGS Boot Camp
July 29-September 14: FMIGS Interviews
September 20: Rank Order List Deadline
October 5: Match Day
November 12-16: 46th AAGL Global Congress

Ready-Set-Go!
Submit your request for approval, clear your calendar, identify your landscape and boot your room with Laura Carrizales at lacarrizales@aaagl.org or (800) 554-2367.

Contact Us
Arcy Dominguez
Email: Adominguez@aaagl.org

Amanda Yunker, DO
Email: Amandada.yunker@vanderbilt.edu

Cara King, DO
Email: CaraRobinsonKing@gmail.com