A Message of Thanks

With the start of 2017 also comes a changing of the guard, as Dr. Magdy Milad steps down from his role as FMIGS Board President. Dr. Milad is the Albert B. Gerbie Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, Chief of Gynecology and Gynecologic Surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois. We would like to thank him for a great year for FMIGS, which has certainly flourished under his leadership.

We would also like to say, “WELCOME!” to our new FMIGS Board President, Dr. Javier F. Magrina. Here’s to an exciting 2017!

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

In his bestselling book, Good to Great, Jim Collins refers to the hedgehog concept, a corporate approach to achieving success. The concept is drawn from a Greek poem in which a cunning fox tries and continually fails to eat a hedgehog who rolls into a ball at the first sign of danger. While the fox may be brilliant about the world around him, the hedgehog is an expert at one thing: protecting himself. Collins speculated that if companies were more like the hedgehog — that is, focusing on one thing and doing it well — success would be assured. Collins continues by describing the sentinel market forces and where they overlap: “the intersection between what you are passionate about, what you are good at and what the market needs.”

This explains the success of FMIGS. We recruit highly motivated gynecologic trainees who are passionate about minimally invasive surgical techniques, put them through training to achieve competence, and serve as a consultant in MIGS with the foreknowledge that there is a clinical market for such highly trained individuals. FMIGS continues to be highly competitive, exceeding all other gynecologic fellowships as measured by the NRMP ratio of applicants to matched positions. The FMIGS Board now has 14 committees to ensure a common set of program requirements and surgical experiences. Nearly all of the top US News & World Report hospitals for gynecology have either a center, division or program for MIGS. Surgical outcomes have been demonstrated to be better with high volume surgeons. Patients now have access to publicly reported information about these outcomes and seek out physicians with this skillset. It’s an exciting time to be a MIGS fellow.

I’m looking forward to what the future holds for the FMIGS program. It has been an honor serving as the FMIGS Board President.
Alumni Spotlight

The other day I noticed how long the fingers of my three-month-old daughter were getting, and I wondered if she'll someday become a surgeon like me. I wondered if her career will be fraught with twists and turns like my own- running homeless clinics in the Bay Area, to fighting for Human Rights issues in Africa and South-East Asia, and somehow to a fellowship in Minimally Invasive Gynecology. I wondered if someday she'll take a chance, move to a new city, pursue a career in an up-and-coming field, and find the kind of joy and fulfillment in her profession that I do.

The FMIGS fellowship that I chose was a recently-accredited program in Las Vegas. It was a new program without a roster of former alumni, without a big institutional name behind it, and without a reputation. What it did have, though, were people that I knew and trusted- people that turned out to be the best mentors that I ever could have wished for.

Actually, the uncharted territory of our program was what turned out to be its best attribute. While other programs held fast to their mantras of “We’ve done it this way for years”, our mantra was always “Let’s try it”. My surgical training was highly adaptable to my needs, and my program was flexible in accommodating a diversity of rotations that helped me excel as an individual both inside and outside of the OR.

My training inspired me to continue pushing boundaries in my current role as the Assistant Fellowship Director. To encourage multidimensional talents, we have supported one of our current fellow’s interests in entrepreneurism by developing a path to earn an MBA while simultaneously completing fellowship. Going further, we plan to support fellows’ endeavors in patents and innovation by partnering with research faculty within our community. In fact, if a fellow dreams it, we can try to make it happen. That’s just our way!

Working in a dynamic city, in a practice that I love, fills me with such hope for upcoming MIGS fellows looking to take a chance and do the same. Choosing an AAGL fellowship allowed me to become an innovator and a leader, to start a high volume surgical practice, and to get involved in the creation of a new residency program and medical school- all while getting married, having a baby, and living in a Tiny House with alpacas for a year. For FMIGS fellows and for residents hoping to apply next year, I would encourage them to be bold and unapologetic in their ambition- not just as it applies to your careers but also to whatever else in life they wish to pursue. Life is just too short and the world is too beautiful to not take chances.

Dr. Pedroso currently serves as Assistant Director of the Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Fellowship at Las Vegas Minimally Invasive Surgery, Assistant Medical Director of Women’s Pelvic Health Center, Adjunct Clinical Professor at Touro University Nevada School of Medicine, and Professor Obstetrics and Gynecology at MountainView Hospital.

http://www.lvmis.com/jasmine-pedroso-md/
FPRN Update

The Fellows Pelvic Research Network (FPRN) steering committee and advisory board have been working hard this year to build and grow the FMIGS FPRN division since its inception less than a year ago. Dr. Lara Harvey's study, "Ovarian pathology in breast cancer patients undergoing oophorectomy to facilitate cancer treatment with aromatase inhibitors," has already completed enrollment from 9 FMIGS sites and is now in manuscript processing for publication. Congrats to all the fellow authors involved!

Moving forward, we are now enrolling sites for our brand new study by Dr. Carolyn Piszczek, "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 expediently. The next proposal submission deadline is February 17, 2017. 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 as our scheduled tenure is completed this year. Application specifics will be forthcoming, so please look out for this great opportunity. We look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.

To submit your proposal:
1. Go to the SGSonline.org/fprn website and select “Click here for more information about FMIGS/SGS Subgroup of FPRN®”.
2. If you are not yet a member of the FPRN®, select the “Join the FPRN® here” link; you will be guided through the process, including the activation of your free SGS membership.
3. Scroll down the page to the "Research Proposal Submissions" section.
4. Complete the "Research Proposal Form."
5. Submit via "Submit New Research Proposal."

FMIGS International Committee

This year at the AAGL annual clinical meeting, a small group of FMIGS board members developed a committee to explore opportunities to accredit fellowship programs outside North America. This newly formed “FMIGS-International” committee will not only identify the essential FMIGS program requirements, but adapt them to the local needs of other countries. Graduates of these programs would not be eligible to transfer to North America, but rather serve as MIGS consultants in their home country. This exciting new initiative may eventually serve to train a core group of gynecologists to meet the MIGS needs worldwide. In a similar fashion to North America, we can apply Collin’s hedgehog concept: selecting highly motivated international gynecologists, and develop them with a robust training curriculum to serve a needed clinical market.
From The Board

Announcement: Two New FMIGS Programs Added

University of Texas
Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas
Kimberly A. Kho, MD MPH
Teresa M. Walsh, MD

Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland
Karen C. Wang, MD
Kristin E. Patzkowsky, MD

FMIGS Board Representative

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your current Fellow Representative to the FMIGS Board. I recently completed fellowship in 2016 and will be serving a two year term as your representative. What this means from a practical perspective is that I am your voice to the FMIGS board. In this capacity I will be communicating your ideas and concerns to the board at our monthly phone meetings.

At the AAGL meeting in November you helped identify areas where you thought improvements could be made in the fellowship. The FMIGS Board is aware of your recommendations, and we are working to implement those changes in the curriculum wherever possible.

For the upcoming year we are working on a number of projects: a fellowship-wide roll out of educational milestones to ensure that fellows are receiving consistent training, a streamlined curriculum for the boot camp and fellows course, and a tweaking of the case log system to make the output more usable.

Please continue to make me aware of concerns that you have or other areas where you think we could make the training better. Please do not hesitate to contact me with thoughts, questions, or concerns through email: noahrindos@gmail.com (email is preferred as I check this constantly), cell phone: 202-247-0440, or Facebook: via our "FMIGS At Large" group which you are welcome to join.

Thank you!
Noah Rindos, MD
Faculty at Magee Women’s Hospital
Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Luke’s University Health Network is undergoing an exciting expansion to fulfill the rapidly growing demands associated with our increasing clinical volumes and academic pursuits including medical student, resident and fellows’ education as well as clinical research. We are currently seeking physicians in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery. Successful candidates will have an MD, MD/PhD or DO degree, be board certified or board eligible in the respective specialty/sub-specialty and possess a strong commitment to provide outstanding patient care and a passion for teaching and/or clinical research. The position will offer outstanding compensation packages commensurate with prior experience and track records, potential leadership opportunities for qualified candidates and adjunct academic clinical appointments at the Clinical Assistant/Associate Professor level through the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University.

If interested please go here: http://practiceatstlukes.org/practice-opportunity-detail.html?jobId=18511#

Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery

MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center, a member of MedStar Health, is seeking a full-time, board-certified/board-eligible Minimally Invasive Gynecologic or Female Pelvic and Reconstructive Surgeon to join an established practice with one other Urogynecologic Surgeon. MedStar Franklin Square is a community teaching hospital licensed for 350 beds with accredited residency programs in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine and Obstetrics-Gynecology. The hospital is also certified as a Primary Stroke Center. The Hospital, which opened its new patient tower with all private rooms in November of 2011, is located in Northeastern Baltimore County of Maryland with a broad community as its service area.

Interested candidates must please contact Marcus Guynn: marcus.j.guynn@medstar.net

Obstetrics and Gynecology—Gynecologic Specialties Faculty

The Division of Gynecologic Specialties is seeking both new graduates and experienced physicians committed to an academic career in gynecology and minimally invasive surgery. Responsibilities include teaching medical students, residents, and fellows in the diagnosis and care of patients with gynecologic conditions in the inpatient and outpatient settings. Candidates should be comfortable in providing a broad range of surgery and medical care to medically complex patients. The faculty member is expected to serve the University in areas of teaching, research, and clinical service appropriate to their professional training and capabilities and their career goals. Primary clinical responsibilities would be participation in all the clinical activities of the Division of Gynecologic Specialties at Emory, particularly its clinical activities at The Emory Clinic, Emory University Hospitals, Grady Memorial Hospital, and affiliated sites.

Qualified candidates must have a terminal degree (MD or DO), successfully completed a 4-year ACGME-accredited obstetrics and gynecology residency program. Applicants who have also completed an approved fellowship in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery (MIGS) are preferred. All applicants must be Board Eligible or Board Certified in obstetrics and gynecology. Licensure by the Georgia Composite Medical Board will be required prior to commencement of employment.

If interested please click here: https://sjobs.brassring.com
The Department of Reproductive Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is seeking a board certified Ob/Gyn Generalist at the level of Associate Professor or Professor to lead the Ob/Gyn Division.

The Division is comprised of nine academic specialists in general obstetrics and gynecology who provide comprehensive general obstetrical and gynecological care to women across two ambulatory practice sites and inpatient sites at the La Jolla and Hillcrest locations. Division members provide specialty care and have research interests in minimally invasive surgery, uterine fibroids, menopause, sexual health, pelvic pain, vulvar abnormalities, cervical dysplasia, pediatric gynecology, family planning, preconception counseling, and obesity in pregnancy. Members of the division are leaders in resident and medical student education in the Department, School of Medicine and supervise residents and medical students in outpatient and inpatient venues.

Candidates must be an MD or PhD or MD/PhD and be board certified in Ob/Gyn at the Associate Professor/Professor level and must obtain a valid California medical license. Candidates must have at least five years of leadership experience either at the division level or a major program area as well as a minimum of ten years academic medical center experience. Candidates must secure 50% of external funding.

Preferred candidates will have demonstrated capability, leadership, and experience in providing evidence-based and patient-centered Ob/Gyn care and in collaborating and coordinating care in clinical teams that enhance the patient experience. Candidates should have a commitment to excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient satisfaction, education, and research.

For this tenured faculty position, appointment will be at the Associate or Full Professor level. Series will include 50% Ladder Rank and 50% In-Residence with secured extramural funding. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and based on University of California pay scales. Review of applications will begin on December 21, 2016 and continue until the position is filled.

Interested Applicants must submit a CV, contact information of 3 references, and a separate statement summarizing past or potential contributions to diversity (For further information about contributions to diversity statements, see http://facultyequity.ucsd.edu/Faculty-Applicant-C2D-Info.asp). Applications must be submitted through the University of California San Diego’s Academic Personnel RECRUIT system at: https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/apply/JPF01283.

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The Department of Ob/Gyn & Reproductive Sciences at Yale-School of Medicine is seeking outstanding applicants for full-time appointments at the rank of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor in Clinician-Educator track for our Division of Gynecologic Specialties. The candidate must possess superior minimally invasive surgical skills and have demonstrated excellence in clinical care and teaching. The applicants are required to be Board certified/eligible in general obstetrics and gynecology.

Interested physicians are asked to contact
Sophie Kotomski, In-house Physician Recruiter
sophie.kotomski@ynhh.org
Northeast Medical Group | Yale New Haven Health
226 Mill Hill Avenue – 3rd Floor
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Reminder: JMIG Journal Club

JMIG’s Monthly Journal Club on Twitter, The Modern Day Journal Club, will occur this month on January 18th and 19th. 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.

Interested in joining The Modern Day Journal Club? Here’s how...

1. Sign up for a Twitter account.
2. "Follow" [@AAGLJMIG](http://www.twitter.com/AAGLJMIG) (search for "AAGLJMIG" and click on follow).
3. Sign on to Twitter on January 18th and 19th
4. Participate in the discussion by replying, tweeting, re-tweeting, linking.
5. Add the hashtag **#JMIGjc** to all your posts to link our journal club feeds together.

For questions or information, contact the JMIG Social Media Editor Dr. Mireille Truing at mireille.truong@gmail.com.

HELPFUL LINKS

FPRN Home page: [http://www.sgsonline.org/fprn](http://www.sgsonline.org/fprn)


Contact Us

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<th>Arcy Dominguez</th>
<th>Amanda Yunker, DO</th>
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