FELLOWSHIP IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE GYNECOLOGIC SURGERY

ST. LUKE’S UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL AND HEALTH NETWORK
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

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Program Director

Michael Patriarco, DO
Associate Program Director

FACULTY
Karen Taverna-Miller, MD—Gynecology
David Hanes, MD—Gynecology
Kristen Stone-Mulhem, MD—Gynecology
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Akira Gillingham, MD—Urogynecology
Nicholas Taylor, MD—Gynecology Oncology
Israel Zigelboim, MD—Gynecology Oncology
Richard Boulay, MD—Gynecology Oncology
Ashley Graul, MD—Gynecology Oncology
Daniel Baillie, MD—General Surgery
Leonardo Claros, MD—General Surgery
Tara Budinetz, DO—Reproductive Endocrinology and Fertility
Maher El Charr, MD—Bariatric Surgery

TWO YEAR PROGRAM

Accreditation Period: 2018-2021
# 2-Year Program

## Optional Degrees:
- [ ] MPH
- [ ] MBA
- [ ] MS
- [ ] Other: 
  - [ ] None

## Number of Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GYN Faculty</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UROGYN Faculty</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REI Faculty</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCOLOGY Faculty</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GU Faculty</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Surgery Faculty</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Faculty</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Residency Program Affiliation:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Computer Simulation Center:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Training Labs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadaver lab</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Lab</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robotics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Office Surgery:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Contract/Agreement Letter:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Stipend PGY-5 or 6:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Resident Teaching:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Benefit Package:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## OB obligation:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
  - If yes, please describe obligation.
  - L&D Laborist (2x/month)

## Junior Faculty:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Moonlighting:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Attending Privileges:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Non-compete clause:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Malpractice:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Meeting support:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Malpractice tail coverage:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Accept J1 & H1 Visa applicants:
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

## Dedicated Research Hours:
- Hours/week: 4 hours per week
- Hours/month:

## Protected Academic:
- Hours/week: 4 hours per week
- Hours/month:

## Clinical Focus/Special Interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive Surgery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oncology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pelvic Reconstruction</td>
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<td>Robotic Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatric/Adolescent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hysteroscopic Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
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Description of Program:

The goal of the fellowship program is to ensure that our fellows will excel clinically in minimally invasive operative gynecology and be productive academically.

The overall goal of the FMIGS is for the graduate to serve as an independent specialist and consultant in the surgical management and techniques of advanced benign minimally invasive gynecology. The fellow will acquire surgical skills far surpassing competence expected at the end of a categorical residency.

The overall educational objectives are to train fellows in:

- a wide variety of advanced gynecologic surgeries including minimally invasive vaginal, hysteroscopic, laparoscopic and robotic approaches.
- a wide array of clinical research methodologies and scientific investigations, including completion of a formal course in epidemiology and bio-statistics.
- today’s healthcare economics or business management skill for leading a gynecologic practice, including strategic planning, marketing, financial management including proper coding and reimbursement.
- developing lecture topics and power point presentations including effective presentation skills for medical education to providers as well as patient education and community awareness programs.

Lastly the program will have a concentration and emphasis on female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery as well as gynecologic oncology. It is our intention to have the fellow graduate with complete confidence in performing pelvic surgery within the intraperitoneal cavity, the retroperitoneal spaces and the pelvic floor.

The fellow will be expected to take part in clinical office hours with the faculty. Preoperative evaluations, including patient counseling are mandatory, since they provide invaluable experience in assessment and planning of therapy. The fellows will progress from shadowing to direct supervision to indirect supervision. In general, the fellow will be initially supervised one-on-one and advised intensively by the faculty, allowing for a progressive increase in responsibility and independence. They will function in the operating room first as an assistant, then co-surgeon, then to primary surgeon with proctoring supervision only. They also will function as surgical instructors for the residents. The fellow will staff both the MIGS and the Urogyn clinic once a month, seeing patients independently with the resident staff.

Conferences/seminars and lectures

Fellows will participate in inpatient and outpatient surgery as well as in-patient rounding as deemed appropriate by faculty. Clinically oriented conferences include weekly conferences in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, including monthly Grand Rounds. A didactic fellow’s seminar will be held quarterly. A series of didactic as well as hands on training will address the established educational objectives. Various faculty in the division of Gyn oncology, advanced Gyn surgery, as well as the FPMRS faculty present information on pertinent topics.
Scientific Meetings
Our prior FPMRS fellows, current MIGS fellows and residents and faculty have regularly submitted and presented original research at scientific meetings such as ACOG, SGS, AUGS, IUGA and AAGL. Provisions are made to allow fellows to attend up to two scientific meetings a year.

Clinical Quality and Process Improvement Teams
St Luke’s has several active clinic PI teams including one dedicated to benign gynecologic services. Areas that are a part of ongoing process improvement include; Obstetric Pelvic Trauma Risk Assessment (OPTA), route of hysterectomy, readmission rates, DVT prophylactics, timing of perioperative antibiotics and SSI. The fellow will have an opportunity to play an active role on these teams.

Responsibilities and activities of fellows in
a) Female Pelvic Medicine Reconstructive Surgery
The Section of Female Pelvic Medicine Reconstructive Surgery includes three Board Certified physicians. Under the direction of nationally recognized experts in the field of urogynecology the fellow will be expected to take part in clinical office hours with the faculty to orient him or herself to the practice. Preoperative evaluations are mandatory and the fellow will participate in surgery for complex pelvic organ prolapse and urinary or fecal incontinence.

b) Advanced Benign Gynecology
Under the direction of nationally recognized experts in the field of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery (COEMIG members) the fellow will actively participate in a busy clinical gynecology service rotation offering laparoscopic and robotic hysterectomy (total and supracervical), laparoscopic myomectomy, and treatment of endometriosis, operative hysteroscopy, endoscopic approaches to adnexal masses and pelvic adhesive disease.

c) Gynecology Oncology
The Section of Gynecology Oncology includes four Board Certified physicians. The fellow shall be trained in the comprehensive management to patients with gynecologic cancer including ovarian, uterine, vaginal, vulva and endometrial. Fellows will evolve to be able to manage a full range of technical surgical issues, both robotic and laparoscopic encountered during oncologic surgery, and complex medical problems that arise in women with gynecologic cancers.

d) REI
The Section of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility includes three Board Certified physicians and a certified Embryologist/laboratory. While the Fellow might expose him/herself to the reproductive medicine/endocrinology portion, they will be specifically directed to the technical aspects of minimally invasive reparative infertility surgery and the various surgical modalities involved in advanced and assisted reproductive technology.

e) Research
Women’s health research plays an important role in The Institute for Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery and St. Luke’s University Health Network. Under the medical advisement and guidance of our faculty fellows will have ample opportunity to select from a variety of
research protocols to co-author. All of our clinical research trials have full Investigational Review Board (IRB) approval and are conducted by experienced research personnel, assuring good clinical practice.

f) Teaching residents and students
Fellows will have the opportunity to teach residents, medical school students and visiting students from other medical schools through informal discussions in clinical settings to surgical instruction and formal didactic lectures. They will also be providing one formal PowerPoint lecture per month to the Ob/Gyn residents during their educational day.