



Accreditation Period: 2017-2021

**ERLANGER HEALTH SYSTEM
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE**



TODD BOREN, MD
Program Director



MITCH DIZON, MD, MSCR
Associate Program Director



SCOTT FURR, MD
Associate Program Director

FACULTY

Jessica Scotchie, MD
Shae Connor, MD
Stephen DePasquale, MD
Carson Kaeser, MD

TWO YEAR PROGRAM



2-Year Program			
Optional Degrees: <input type="checkbox"/> MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Number of Faculty:			
	GYN Faculty: 2	UROGYN Faculty: 1	
	REI Faculty: 2	ONCOLOGY Faculty: 3	
	GU Faculty: 1	General Surgery Faculty: 1	
	Colorectal Faculty: 2	Other:	
Residency Program Affiliation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Computer Simulation Center: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Training Labs:			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cadaver lab	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Lab	<input type="checkbox"/> None
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry Lab	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotics	
Office Surgery: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Contract/Agreement Letter: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
	Stipend PGY-5 or 6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Resident Teaching <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Benefit Package: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	OB obligation: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please describe obligation.	
	Junior Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Attending Privileges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Moonlighting: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Non-compete clause: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
	Malpractice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Meeting support: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Malpractice tail coverage: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Other coverage obligations- specify:	
Accept J1 & H1Visa applicants <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Dedicated Research Hours: Hours/per week: 4 Hours/per month: 16			
Protected Academic: Hours/per week: 2 Hours/per month: 8			
Clinical Focus/Special Interest:			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Surgery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oncology	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pelvic Reconstruction	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotic Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric/Adolescent	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hysteroscopic Surgery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Colorectal surgery	

Description of Program:

The AAGL Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery in Chattanooga, TN was established by Dr. C.Y. Liu in 1997, and it is the oldest continuous gynecologic endoscopic fellowship program in the United States. Our primary goals are to train those who will provide top quality patient care and education, and who will be leaders and innovators in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery and in treatment of advanced gynecologic disorders such as pelvic pain, endometriosis, uterine fibroids, pelvic organ prolapse, urinary incontinence, and menopausal care. Erlanger Health System, The University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga, and its affiliate organizations propose that to become a proficient minimally invasive gynecologic surgeon, a provider must have:

- A broad understanding of advanced gynecologic disorders, especially ones that may require surgical intervention
- Extensive surgical and clinical expertise that focus not only on laparoscopic surgery, but also on advanced pelvic and vaginal surgery and diagnostic and operative hysteroscopy
- An excellent understanding of research methodology and evidence-based practice principles.

By participating in academic and community-based referral practices, the MIGS Fellows receive broad exposure in medical and surgical management of complex gynecologic disorders. Participation in programs offered by The University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga provides exposure to a rich academic environment and it is an ideal setting to provide additional training for post-graduate fellows seeking clinical and academic expertise in these fields.

Collectively, we perform over 1000 gynecologic surgeries per year, 90% of these cases are laparoscopic or robotic, 9% are vaginal, and 1% are abdominal. Our Faculty include fellowship-trained subspecialists in the following areas:

- Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery
- Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

Our surgeons' diverse experience in advanced MIGS procedures affords us the opportunity to treat complicated cases. As a result, fellows in this training program receive an exceptional level of surgical training. Graduating fellows will be proficient in all aspects of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, including:

- Complex Laparoscopic Surgery
- Pelvic Floor Reconstruction
- Operative Hysteroscopy
- Urologic Surgery
- Robotic Surgery

Furthermore, 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), vulvovaginal disorders (e.g. vestibulitis, vulvar dermatoses, vulvodynia, chronic vaginitis). This fellowship also places significant emphasis on academics by promoting fellow research, publication, and opportunity for direct one-on-one teaching of residents. Each fellow is required to complete a research project each year, present at national meetings, and finalize a manuscript for publication by the end of the second year of the fellowship.

Fellows are required to attend regular didactic core lectures and present a “MIGS Lecture Series” to the Residents and Faculty of the Department. Overall, each fellow will devote approximately 80% of their time to clinical/surgical duties and 20% to research and teaching projects.

Outline of the Current Curriculum:

Clinic – Clinics are held two half days per week

Surgery – The fellowship provides extensive experience in laparoscopic and robotic surgery. The surgery schedule varies according to the surgical work load of Faculty. Fellows participate as co-surgeon to the attending Faculty and work in the operating room 4 days per week. Under close supervision and direction of Faculty, the fellow has the opportunity to participate in, on average, 10 major laparoscopic/robotic and multiple minor procedures per week.

Journal Club – Fellows actively participate in journal club organized by the Dept. of OB/GYN on a regular basis.

Hospital Rounds – Fellows are expected to make daily hospital rounds, write detailed progress notes in the EMR and manage post-operative patients under the supervision of the Faculty.

Research Projects – The research projects are to be approved by Faculty and are conducted under the supervision of individual Faculty preceptors. Every Fellow is required to submit and present their research papers/video in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the AAGL. Fellows have the unique opportunity for “bench research” as well under the mentorship of Dr. Sean Richards. Dr. Richards is a renowned researcher and has expressed great interest in mentoring the MIGS Fellows and allowing them full access to his lab. His credentials can be found at: <https://www.utc.edu/biology-geology-environmental-science/profiles/faculty/cbj246.php> .

Teaching and Call Duty Responsibilities – Fellows frequently interact with residents during surgical cases and at The University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga, Department of Ob/Gyn. Fellows are expected to serve as teachers and to promote resident education in a positive and thorough manner. Each fellow is expected to present 6 resident lectures per year. During the last half of their first year, the fellows will attend an approved Biostatistics and Research Methodology course. There is no obstetrical call requirement, however, fellows will participate in the University GYN unattached call schedule 2 weeks each month.

Mentorship, Evaluation and Career Development - This program will focus intensely on career development and practice management through regular mentorship and evaluation meetings. Fellows

will be evaluated by all fellowship faculty members. Each evaluation will be reviewed with the fellow. Fellows will have the opportunity to discuss progress, problems or future plans with Faculty. Any problems will be addressed in a formal manner with an inquiry, discussion and plan of action that is agreed upon by the Faculty member and the fellow. When agreement cannot be reached, help will be obtained first from the program director and lastly from the fellowship grievance committee.

Application Requirements and Selection Process

All applications must be made through the AAGL website (see <http://www.aagl.org/applications>) and must be complete before an applicant can be offered an interview.

Once an applicant is determined to have met the eligibility criteria, the program director may invite them for an interview. The interview day begins at 7:00 am. We also invite all applicants to dinner with the current fellows and faculty on the night prior to their interview date. Our program participates in the AAGL Fellowship Match Program through the NRMP.