The time has come! A new batch of fellowship applications will be arriving at each fellowship site soon and the interview season will commence. As a reminder, this year’s interviews will again all be virtual. Also, in an attempt to make fellowship interviews better for our applicants, we made a number of changes to the interview process this year. Initially, we moved up the deadline for fellowship applications and standardized important dates so all fellows could expect to get their invitations at the same time. Below are the important dates we will all be using.

- May 3, 2021: Deadline to Submit Applications
- May 5, 2021: Application Distribution to Programs
- May 25, 2021: First Wave of Interview Notifications
- June 1, 2021: Deadline for Candidates to Accept/Decline Interview Invitation
- June 2, 2021: Second Wave of Interview Notifications

Please stick to these dates so all applicants can expect to get their invitations at the same time. This should minimize the typical scramble that occurs as applicants accept interview invitations received early only to cancel them later when other “more desirable” overlapping interview invitations arrive.

This year for the first time the original applications will not include applicant photographs. The idea behind masking applicants is to diminish potential unconscious bias that
may play into decision making. Once applicants have accepted their invitations, programs will receive the photographs as a memory aid following interviews.

Lastly, in collaboration with our other subspecialty fellowships, FMIGS has agreed with CREGO's proposal to conduct our interviews within specified windows of time. This is designed to decrease the interview burden on both residency programs and prospective fellows as they try to manage their coverage schedules and travel plans. Please plan your virtual interviews to correspond with these dates. The FMIGS interview windows are:

- June 24 – July 3
- July 22 – 31
- August 19 – 28
- August 26 – September 12, Open times available to all fellowship subspecialties

The fellowship board of directors also unanimously supports CREGO's initiative to universally delay fellowship start dates by at least 1 week to allow incoming fellows adequate time to prepare and take written board and to make their moves to a new city. We recognize that this important fellowship wellness initiative may take some time to implement at different institutions so while we encourage all programs to delay fellowship start dates this year, it will not become an FMIGS requirement until July 2022.

Before closing, I want to also highlight this year’s early plans for the fellow’s bootcamp. As we all know, last year’s bootcamp was entirely virtual and we all acutely felt that loss of educational camaraderie. This year, while we are not yet ready to return to a multi-day in person August event, we are planning a full-day hands-on simulation lab for fellows immediately preceding the AAGL annual congress in Austin, Texas, Saturday, November 13, 2021. Other anticipated events will include a webinar style fellows wellness event and a full day virtual PD/APD course led by Dr. Magdy Milad. Dates and details are still being worked out so stay tuned!

Of course, we also have some fantastic Bootcamp Webinars already scheduled in May and June. Please make time for your fellows to attend these events in real time. While the events are pre-recorded, they will have live proctored Q&A sessions with the presenter and moderator. As a reminder, our expectation is that all fellows are able to attend at least 75% of these bootcamp webinars in real time to facilitate the exchange of ideas and discussion. The list of upcoming Bootcamp Webinars is included immediately following my letter.

Have a wonderful Spring, good luck with interviews, and stay safe.

Sincerely,

James Robinson, MD, MS, FACOG
President, FMIGS Board of Directors
Fellows’ Corner

Congratulations to the FMIGS class of 2021, you are nearly finished after many years of hard work and personal sacrifice. The FMIGS Board is proud of your achievements and the MIGS community will continue to support you as you launch your careers as minimally invasive gynecologic surgeons! Enjoy the last few months of training by refining your skills, completing your research projects and reflecting on your journey. A recording of the webinar titled, “Strategies to Succeed in Your New Job” will be available on SurgeryU. The webinar will outline practical steps for establishing your MIGS practice at a new institution. I am looking forward to watching you all grow and flourish as successful surgeons!

For the class of 2022, it is now your time to begin the job search! Take the next few months to reflect on what variables matter most to YOU as an individual and what aspects of your future career are non-negotiable. Whether that is practice location, salary, obstetrics commitment, practice type or call, only you can determine this. Last week we had a very successful webinar that reviewed the recommended timelines, made tangible goals, and discussed navigating the job search in a virtual environment.

Finally, I wanted to acknowledge it has been more than a year since the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted our educational training and personal livelihood and the battle against the global pandemic is not over. We are all suffering from the loss of loved ones, the loss of human interaction and from the burden of COVID-19 on our healthcare practice. Research shows high rates of depression, anxiety, fear and burnout in frontline health care providers. As fellows, this pandemic has not only impacted your well-being, but also your education. Please prioritize your emotional and mental health and access resources available to you. Peer support is an evidence-based strategy which improves camaraderie and reduces isolation. I encourage you to utilize the FMIGS and AAGL community for peer support as we all cope with the pandemic. Thank you for providing compassionate care while your personal resilience is being tested.

As always, please reach out with any concerns, feedback, or ideas for improvement or innovation. I am your advocate, resource, mentor, problem solver, friend and peer!

Best,
Foley
CEFoley@kentri.org
FMIGS
Training future generations of Gynecologic consultants and surgeons

Greeting PDs and APDs! As we gear up for another exciting interview season, here is a reminder of all important dates and deadlines. Preparing for virtual interviews can be tasking at first but very rewarding and seamless when all details are taken care of in advance. Some programs have prepared virtual tours with elaborate videos, others have given faculty, fellows and residents an opportunity to share their views and experiences and highlights of their programs. Some even have plans for virtual social events the night before. Whatever your plans are, make sure to cross all the Ts and dot all the Is, but most importantly, have fun and get the applicants excited about your program.

What is Focused Practice Designation in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery - ABOG
The focused practice designation in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery (MIGS) provides ABOG the opportunity to establish standards and assessments for this surgical technique within the field of obstetrics and gynecology. It also allows ABOG to recognize those Diplomates who have additional surgical expertise and dedicate a significant percentage of their practice to the care of women with benign and complex gynecologic diseases and manage complications using minimally invasive surgical techniques. Additionally, the focused practice designation will provide those Diplomates with special interest in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery a more focused, relevant, and pertinent continuous professional development.

EXAM DATES: May 3-7 – Good Luck!!!
Young Alumni Network Update

Happy Spring! Welcome to better and brighter times as vaccination rates are climbing and the world finally reopens. The Young Alumni Network (YAN) has already been busy this year! We launched the new quarterly YAN “office hours,” an informal lecture series of educational topics and networking among new FMIGS graduates. The inaugural lecture was entitled “The Intersection between MIGs and Generalist: How to Gracefully Navigate the Roadmap” and was very well received. The next office hours are scheduled for June 8th, topic to be announced.

The YAN lecture at the annual Society for Gynecology Surgeons (SGS) meeting will occur on June 27th. The title of this lecture is “Health and Wellness: Take care of yourself, before you take care of others.” We are honored to hear the wisdom of our speakers, Dr. Shanti Mohling and Dr. Mohammad Islam, with both an in-person and virtual option to attend. There will also be an informal YAN social event at the meeting for those attending in-person. Details will be sent out closer to the meeting.

Lastly, we have heard the requests from YAN members to create a forum for complex clinical case discussion among new MIGs graduates. A member survey was overwhelmingly in favor of a YAN WhatsApp group. This is in the process of being created and if you would like to be included, please contact me at eckera@ohsu.edu. This will be a safe space where you can poll the YAN community with clinical management questions, surgical advice, billing or practice operation questions or any other topic that is relevant to new graduates. We hope that this forum, as well as all of the other activities listed above, help the YAN members feel like a community within our larger AAGL family!

Until next time,

Amanda Ecker, MD (Class of 2015)
Calendar for 2021 AAGL Webinar Series with FMIGS Fellows

**Jubilee Brown, MD**
Benign Gynecologists’ Approach to the Adnexal Mass
**Wednesday, May 5, 2021**
5:00 pm PT/8:00 pm ET
Zoom Link - [https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nSASQUKLSiWINSWJspPemQ](https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nSASQUKLSiWINSWJspPemQ)

**Kimberly Kho, MD, MPH and Jessica Shields, DO**
Periop Care (Preop Testing, ERAS)
**Wednesday, May 19, 2021**
5:00 pm PT/8:00 pm ET
Zoom Link - [https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BB3_I7sHRrOaarS7BQKWyw](https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BB3_I7sHRrOaarS7BQKWyw)

**Katherine Miles, PT, DPT, WCS**
The Role of Pelvic Health Physical Therapy in Managing Chronic Pelvic Pain
**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**
5:00 pm PT/8:00 pm ET
Zoom Registration Link - [https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/ WN_y2Sw8n6uRvKcdAReqRYEyw](https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/ WN_y2Sw8n6uRvKcdAReqRYEyw)

**Nash Moawad. MD, MS**
Hysteroscopy
**Tuesday, June 22, 2021**
5:00 pm PT/8:00 pm ET
Zoom Registration Link - [https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QCbtYYC-TL6s0V6ZeUcezA](https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QCbtYYC-TL6s0V6ZeUcezA)

**Gary Frishman, MD**
How to Get Your Manuscript Published!
**Wednesday, June 30, 2021**
5:00 pm PT/8:00 pm ET
Pre-recording Link - [https://bit.ly/3uDX1QI](https://bit.ly/3uDX1QI)
Zoom Registration Link - [https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QUXGixlGRrWP4GFEWukfRQ](https://aagl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QUXGixlGRrWP4GFEWukfRQ)
MIGS Job Postings

Geisinger

Job Summary
Geisinger is one of the premier tertiary care, integrated health systems on the east coast and we have an exciting opportunity for a fellowship trained Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon (MIGS) to join our growing Women’s Health Division at Geisinger Medical Center (GMC) in Danville, Pennsylvania. We have a robust gynecologic surgery volume and wish to recruit someone with expertise in minimally invasive procedures, including robotic assisted surgery and experience with the surgical management of endometriosis. This position will have an educational, clinical, and scholarly component, with the expectation that the successful candidate will develop a formalized educational experience in MIGS for our residents that will enhance our current clinical training. In addition, it is expected that the candidate will participate in scholarly activity and mentor residents and medical students as appropriate. Faculty appointment at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine will be commensurate with experience/accomplishments.

Job Duties
We take pride in the support we provide for our Physicians:

• Works under the System Chief of Gynecology: Dr. Denise Howard, MD MPH
• Team of 110 healthcare providers (56 physicians) within Women’s Health
• Oversees residents and medical student education
• Competitive salary, full health, dental and vision benefits and recruitment loans
• Full relocation
• CME 15 days + $3500

Position Details
Interested candidates, please reach out to Dr. Denise Howard c/o Betsy Kelchner, Provider Recruiter: brkelchner@geisinger.edu or apply online at www.geisinger.org/careers

Link: https://jobs.geisinger.org/job/danville/minimally-invasive-gynecologic-surgeon/12064/4900896000
LOOKING TO HIRE MIGS SURGEON

My partner and I work in Little Rock, Arkansas, and are looking to expand our group (2 urogyns and 2 APNs) and add an MIS colleague. Can contact: Sallie Oliphant, MD, 412-480-9664.

Link:  https://www.chistvincent.com/hospitals-locations/clinics/chi-st.-vincent-urogynecology-clinic

The division of Minimally Invasive Gyn Surgery at Penn State Health in Hershey, PA, is seeking a fellowship trained MIGS attending to join our practice. This is an opportunity to have an academic MIGS position with leadership potential. No obstetrics and no general gynecology. This is a high volume surgical, consultative MIGS practice with a fellowship and residency. Interest in teaching is a must! Low cost of living area in close proximity to NE metro areas. For more information, please contact Ashley Nippert, Physician recruiter at anippert@pennstatehealth.psu.edu or (717) 531-0003 x320184.

Looking for FMIGS-trained surgeon to join our faculty group at University of Rochester Medical Center. GYN only, MIGS fellowship, interest in chronic pelvic pain is a must. Rochester metro area has a vibrant arts scene, festivals nearly every weekend all summer, easy access to lots of outdoor activities, and excellent schools - all with a low cost of living.

More info at https://ps.its.rochester.edu/psc/PSApplyOnline/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?FOCUS=Applicant&PageHRS_APP_JBPST&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SitelId=1&JobOpeningId=227517&PostingSeq=1
Are you an experienced OB-GYN with an interest in academics and teaching the next generation of physicians? TriHealth is welcoming experienced OB-GYNs with Gynecologic Academic emphasis.

We are a large integrated, innovative healthcare system in Ohio that is seeking a top talent OB-GYN physician to join our faculty team as an OB-GYN Generalist. Position specific duties will be primarily academic and GYN-based. You will have the ability to use your skills and expertise in a professional capacity providing instruction, clinical oversight and mentoring for the TriHealth Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program ("Program").

Educational Dynamics
A commitment to teaching and mentoring is an essential part of the position. Your desire to work with OB-GYN residents will be rewarded through a diverse array of educational and scholarly activity including:

- on-site resident preceptorship coverage and teaching in the resident office practices
- answering residents’ questions, providing consultations, and formulating appropriate patient care plans
- performing regular and formal evaluations of residents and students
- providing lectures, leading simulations, and participating in research activities

Clinical Dynamics
With your training as a compassionate, patient-focused physician, you will provide up-to-date, evidence-based assessment, treatment and care. Specific clinical duties will be primarily GYN-based and include:

- coverage of daytime GYN inpatient services: staff inpatient and ED consults; rounding on GYN Resident Service patients; staff-scheduled and emergent gynecology surgical cases
- cross-coverage for sites of care as designated by the Program Director
- participation in the Gynecology on-call nighttime coverage pool

Professional Dynamics
Your depth of experience and demonstrated commitment to providing high quality care for women will be valued as a member of our dedicated teaching staff. With your experience and expertise, you will be a valued voice on committees relevant to the residency program such as the resident recruitment team.

For interested candidates, leadership opportunities in the Residency Program, Women’s Service Line, and our institution are available.

As an active champion for resident education, TriHealth is accredited by the ACGME and committed to a curriculum of teaching and research that is innovative, applicable to practice, and responsive to community needs. Our participation in post-graduate education at Good Samaritan Hospital dates back to 1858 and at Bethesda North Hospital, back to 1947.

TriHealth has the largest network of women’s health specialists in the region. Consistently ranked among the top employers in the US, TriHealth has been recognized as a “Top 100 Integrated” Health System for more than a decade and also designated a “Top 15 Health System" by Truven Health Analytics.

Cincinnati has a rich, diverse and inclusive culture. Our welcoming neighborhoods along with our strong educational and lifestyle footprints make it a great place to call home. Attractive relocations are available.

For more information about TriHealth and this unique Women’s Services Academic opportunity contact:

Melissa Jansing, TriHealth Physician Recruiter
melissa_jansing@trihealth.com / 859 653 1392 / www.trihealth.com