



*Accreditation Period: 2019-2022*

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## GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER WEST ISLIP, NEW YORK



**KEITH T. DOWNING, MD, MS, MPA**  
Program Director



**JOHN VULLO, DO**  
Associate Program Director

### **FACULTY**

**Yi-Chun Lee, MD** - Gynecologic Oncology

**Jennifer McEachron, DO** - Gynecologic Oncology

**James Stelling, MD** - REI

**Bradley Trivax, MD** - REI

**Peter Sticco, MD** - Minimally Invasive Gynecologic  
Surgery

**Mark Pillitteri, DO**—Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Firas Bridges, MD**—Colorectal/General Surgery

### **TWO YEAR PROGRAM**

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2-Year Program		
<b>Optional Degrees:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None		
<b>Number of Faculty</b>		
	GYN Faculty: 3	UROGYN Faculty: 1
	REI Faculty: 2	ONCOLOGY Faculty: 2
	GU Faculty: 0	General Surgery Faculty: 1
	Colorectal Faculty:	Other:
<b>Residency Program Affiliation:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Computer Simulation Center:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Training Labs</b>		
	<input 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
<b>Office Surgery:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Contract/Agreement Letter:</b> <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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Attending Privileges <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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:
<b>Accept J1 &amp; H1Visa applicants</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Dedicated Research Hours:</b> Hours/per week: 5 hours per week Hours/per month: 20 hours per month		
<b>Protected Academic:</b> Hours/per week: 3 hours per week Hours/per month: 12 hours per month		
<b>Clinical Focus/Special Interest</b>		
	<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 type="checkbox"/> Other:

### **Description of Practice:**

The Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Fellowship is a 2-year program incorporating a wide range of minimally invasive gynecologic procedures using robotic, laparoscopic, hysteroscopic and vaginal approaches. The program prepares fellows to develop an expertise in these advanced minimally invasive gynecologic surgeries. As an AAGL accredited program, the overall goal of the fellowship is to train graduates that will serve as independent specialists and consultants in complex benign minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. The program is supported by faculty with vast experience in minimally invasive surgical techniques. This provides the trainees the ability to draw upon extensive anatomic knowledge, training and experience in dealing with complex benign gynecologic surgical cases utilizing minimally invasive approaches.

The program director, Dr. Keith Downing, is an American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology certified fellow and is also board certified in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS). Dr. Downing joined Good Samaritan Hospital as the Division Chief of FPMRS in August of 2018. He has participated in multiple regional, national and international conferences presenting topics based upon his expertise and work as a principal investigator and collaborator in advancing the field of FPMRS. Dr. Downing is an accredited Surgeon of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology (as recognized by the Surgical Review Corporation) who performs his pelvic reconstructive surgeries utilizing minimally invasive approaches. His curriculum vitae attests to his commitment to advancing female pelvic health and to being a dedicated advocate for fellow education and mentorship. He is a tremendous asset to the training and education of the fellows within the minimally invasive gynecologic surgery program at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Obstetrics and Gynecology at Catholic Health, New York is an important and significant service line for the health system. This service line encompasses six (6) hospitals including Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) which is the primary clinical and training site for the fellowship. GSH serves as a regional referral site for complex oncologic and benign pelvic surgery. In 2019, GSH was awarded the designation of Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology (COEMIG). This prestigious designation recognizes hospitals and surgeons around the world who provide exceptional minimally invasive gynecologic surgical care and are dedicated to continuously improving healthcare quality and patient safety. Catholic Health includes 1,928 inpatient beds, over 57,000 ambulatory surgeries and over 26,000 inpatient surgical procedures performed annually. The Obstetrics and Gynecology division includes a busy maternity and women's health service, with support from gynecologic subspecialties including minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, gynecologic oncology, maternal fetal medicine, urogynecology, and reproductive endocrinology and infertility. A variety of gynecologic minimally invasive procedures are performed every year. Support of the fellowship program by faculty, and hospital leadership and administration, allows GSH to train future surgeons with advanced skills enabling them to become pioneering professionals in their field.

Good Samaritan Hospital is committed to graduate medical education and currently is the sponsoring institution for accredited residency and fellowship training in:

- Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Emergency Medicine/Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Podiatry

After completion of the program, the fellow will be able to serve as a scholarly and surgical resource for patients and referring physicians. They will establish sites and serve in leadership roles in developing MIGS divisions and further research in MIGS. The minimally invasive gynecologic surgery fellowship program includes formal rotations in which fellows are provided with dedicated time for clinical research working with faculty mentors, as well as the Academic Development Committee (ADC) and Institutional Review Board (IRB) developed at GSH in support of scholarly activity for trainees and faculty. Fellowship educational objectives allowing for the standardization of training in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery have been published and distributed in our fellowship manual that is annually reviewed and provided to the fellows and faculty. These include the clinical, diagnostic and evaluation goals and objectives specific to rotations, as well as the surgical procedures that are expected and required for successful completion of the training program. Fellows are expected to complete ongoing reading assignments (FMIGS core-reading list) and incorporate what they have learned into the training of residents in obstetrics and gynecology, enabling them to develop and master their ability to teach and mentor. Fellows are also expected to help with supervision of residents in their preparation for the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic surgery exam and during the semi-annual simulation/pig lab. This allows for the ongoing progression of clinical and teaching responsibilities during their training period. Didactic instruction including structured teaching conferences and seminars are held throughout the year for the trainees and the faculty. The fellow is expected to attend additional seminars and national conferences and is required to complete training in research including 2 courses in Biostatistics/Epidemiology. These additional requirements are supported annually through appropriated continuing medical education (CME) funding. Each fellow must complete an original research project and complete all requirements for graduation as outlined in the program requirements published by the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL).