



Accreditation Period: 2017-2021

**HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM  
DETROIT AND WEST BLOOMFIELD, MICHIGAN**



**JOELLE AOUN ABOOD, MD**  
Program Director



**ANNMARIE VILKINS, DO**  
Associate Program Director

**ADDITIONAL FACULTY**

Neil Simmerman, MD, Gynecology  
Irina Dimitrova, MD, Gynecology Oncology  
Megumi Asai, MD, Colon & Rectal Surgery  
Ali Luck, MD, Urogynecology

**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	
<b>Number of Faculty</b>	
GYN Faculty: 3	UROGYN Faculty: 1
REI Faculty:	ONCOLOGY Faculty: 1
GU Faculty:	General Surgery Faculty:
Colorectal Faculty: 1	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	
<b>Training Labs</b>	
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please describe obligation. The fellow covers 2 nights monthly of labor and delivery
Junior Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Attending Privileges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Moonlighting: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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: Fellow will cover two resident clinics monthly
Accept J1 & H1Visa applicants <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Dedicated Research Hours: Hours/per week: 20% of work schedule Hours/per month: 32	
Protected Academic: Hours/per week: 3 Hours/per month: 12	
<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 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 Program:**

The fellowship program in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS), sponsored by the Department of Women's Health at the Henry Ford Health System, is an intensive two-year program, with an affiliation with Wayne State University School of Medicine. The training takes place at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and in West Bloomfield, and it benefits from the clinical volume and breadth of an urban-based integrated health system. The MIGS division began in 2003, and accompanies subspecialty divisions in urogynecology, oncology, reproductive medicine, and maternal fetal medicine. The fellow performs a full range of minimally invasive services, including robotic, straight laparoscopic and vaginal surgeries. Each surgical facility includes devoted robotic procedure rooms and a sophisticated medical simulation center, in which the fellow will both receive and give training.

The clinical focus of the fellowship is benign surgical gynecology, and is dense with fibroid management, endometriosis, pelvic pain, and menstrual disorders. The Fellow operates at least three full days a week and attends clinics for chronic pelvic pain and surgical referrals. In addition to achieving excellence in advanced gynecologic surgery, one of the major tenets of the Fellow's training is thoughtful and comprehensive perioperative management. By leading the department's weekly preoperative conference, the Fellow becomes well-versed in medical optimization, strategic intraoperative planning, and postoperative care. The gynecology department overall depends on the MIGS division to support best practices in ensuring patients achieve optimal surgical outcomes. The Fellow also becomes a valuable resource for the general gynecologists intraoperatively by acting as a MIGS consultant.

In order to further expand the Fellow's advanced gynecologic exposure, off-service rotations include urogynecology, colorectal surgery, and gynecologic oncology. This allows for a deeper understanding of pelvic anatomy and the creation of an expansive surgical toolkit ensuring the Fellow graduates with the confidence to tackle the toughest of cases. The Fellow will also spend substantial time in the Clinic for Chronic Pelvic Pain and Endometriosis, which is a multi-disciplinary clinic staffed by a physician, psychologists specializing in chronic pain, and physical therapists trained in pelvic floor therapy. Many of our conservative and extirpative procedures for endometriosis originate in this clinic. Robotic-assisted laparoscopy is also a priority in our program and the fellowship program will graduate individuals ready to develop robotic programs at their future home institutions. The division currently utilizes six robotic platforms at two campuses.

Teaching is integral to the fellowship, and the Fellow will become an expert in the use of the educational resources in our institution, both in their own training, and in training residents. The department of Women's Health provides training for five residents per year, as well as rotating students from Wayne State University School of Medicine. The Fellow will participate fully in the organization and implementation of our curriculum in minimally invasive surgery and will gradually assume more responsibility as a teacher throughout the two years. The department has committed itself to graduating residents who have proven competencies in laparoscopic surgery both in the simulation lab and in the operating room and the Fellow is integral in assisting in the growth of resident's surgical skills. Women's Health has certified our residents in the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) course for many years, and the fellow does much of the proctoring of residents during their preparation for the exam. Residents staff most surgeries, and fellows are expected to lead the case as soon as they are ready, typically within the first few months of fellowship.

The Fellow has protected time for research and educational activities, such as didactics, perioperative conference, surgical workshops, and grand rounds. During research time, the fellow will focus on designing and implementing comparative studies, in addition to participating in clinical research protocols ongoing in the department. The Fellow is also given the resources needed to develop surgical videos and add to the video library. All the resources available to the Fellow, in conjunction with mentorship and guidance from the MIGS faculty, will help the Fellow submit a number of papers and videos to peer-reviewed journal and national conferences. The Fellow receives compensation and benefits standard in the institution for the PGY-5/6 level. The Fellow is designated as junior faculty, and receives hourly moonlighting pay for any in-house hospital coverage, typically twice monthly. The benefits package includes paid vacation and support for attendance at AAGL, with additional support for travel for all major presentations at other conferences.