

To all AAGL members:

My Name is Dr Fernando Heredia, Gynecologic Oncologist and MIGS specialist from Chile.

During my general Gynecologic training and then in my Gynecologic Oncology fellowships I never received any MIS training because my mentors had no intention to incorporate it in their practices. That was almost 20 years ago. But Gynecology was already changing. And I dared to change. I was initially trained in MIGS by a former Clermont-Ferrand fellow who generously taught me what he had learned in France. That gift and my effort fully transformed my practice. And my professional environment. I then searched for more practical knowledge with enthusiasm and passion. I traveled a lot, I learnt and then introduced MIGS in Gynecologic Oncology, both in my academic and private practice in Concepción, Chile. As a postgraduate University Professor, I have been teaching OBGYN fellows for over 15 years. Reaching far away rural areas and helping women through MIGS has been the most immediate effect of teaching MIGS to my former fellows.

AAGL is a mature and global society, highly visible amongst gynecologic societies. Its reach is enormous with plenty of alliances, publishing joint statements with other organizations and elaborating practice guidelines. Besides, JMIG has grown to be THE MIGS JOURNAL among all others, with top-of-the-line research in all formats. SurgeryU has even widened the spectrum of reach for MIGS around the world.

Since my first attendance to an AAGL Global meeting 10 years ago, I have found in AAGL a pleiad of renowned colleagues but also and most importantly of young leaders who are already shining with their scientific production. This gathering is an unvaluable asset AAGL has achieved after 50 years of serious work and is part of the future of MIGS globally.

Participating in the AAGL as a Board member I would push forward MIGS introduction in General Gynecology and in Gynecologic Oncology especially in low resource countries/settings. This commitment could be achieved by:

- 1.- organizing a broad schedule of webinars in both in English and Spanish throughout the year. In the LATAM region we have done so much through IGCS and other local societies in which I have participated.
- 2.- Scheduling Journal Club meetings with international MIGS fellows to review some highlighted content featured in JMIG and Surgery U related to surgical techniques to be commented by AAGL members.
- 3.- Hosting Virtual Grand Rounds or video case presentations by MIGS fellows to demonstrate state of the art procedures in General Gynecology, Emergency settings, low resource settings, etc.
- 4.-Telementoring programs with observerships and hands-on rotations in Latin-American region for MIGS fellows. LATAM region has unique possibilities to practice surgery in high volume centers with less regulations compared to the US!!!! That is an asset we must explore as a society.
- 5.- Facilitating MIGS fellows and physicians exchange between centers sponsored by AAGL worldwide.
- 6.- Supporting new MIGS training programs in excellence and high patient volume centers for the LATAM region.

Is with great honor I receive this nomination.

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