To serve, to heal and to educate

Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program
Thank you for your interest in the Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) Fellowship Program at Cooper University Hospital. Our program is three years in length and accepts one fellow per year. The FPMRS fellowship functions as an integral component of the obstetrics and gynecology residency program and both programs are currently accredited by the ACGME.

The Division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery is a component of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cooper University Hospital (CUH) is comprised of 5 divisions and employs 34 full-time faculty members committed to delivering the finest care to patients as well as to providing the best education for our next generation of physicians. The FPMRS fellowship is designed to provide excellent research and clinical training in an academic environment. The program consists of three years of broad-based training in urogynecology with ample opportunities to participate in clinical and basic research. First and second year rotations consist of the FPMRS service, urology, colorectal and two weeks of plastics surgery. The third year typically consists of a more focused experience on these services with the opportunity for external electives if there is interest. Fellows participate in regular continuity clinic sessions, following their own panel of patients throughout the three years of training.

Research also is emphasized. The FPMRS program has an active conference schedule with monthly clinical conferences and Journal Club at least a half a day of organized didactic conferences bimonthly. In addition to a core curriculum, attention is paid to basic science and research. The strength of the Cooper program is teaching, and emphasis is placed on education and the promotion of collegial relationships between faculty and fellows. FPMRS faculty holds academic appointments at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) and is actively involved in medical student education programs at the medical school. There is a high faculty-to-fellow ratio with 3 core and 6 non-core employed faculty involved in the education of 3 FPMRS fellows. The program offers access to faculty with expertise in vaginal, abdominal and endoscopic reconstructive surgery, pelvic floor anatomy, genitourinary and rectovaginal fistula repair, urodynamics and cystoscopy, multiple treatment modalities for urinary incontinence, integrative medicine in urogynecology, urologic, colorectal and plastics procedures as it pertains to our field and clinical and basic science research in FPMRS.

The following pages provide specific information about the FPMRS training at Cooper. We invite you to take the time to explore our program.

CooperHealth.edu
General Information about Cooper

Cooper University Health Care, the clinical campus of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, is the leading tertiary-level provider serving the Southern New Jersey region. Cooper has been a vital institution in Camden for over 125 years. It currently offers training programs for medical students, residents, fellows, nurses, and allied health professionals in a variety of specialties. The Cooper network currently serves more than a half million patients per year.

Cooper University Health Care has more than 700 physicians in more than 75 specialties. Cooper offers a network of comprehensive services that include prevention and wellness, primary and specialty physician services, hospital care, ambulatory diagnostic and treatment services, and home health care within Southern New Jersey and the entire Delaware Valley.

Cooper University Physician, the teaching faculty of the medical school, maintains more than 100 offices at 38 locations throughout southern New Jersey. Cooper’s physicians are frequently recognized as “Top Doctors” in their field. These world-class physicians are the teachers with whom you will interact during your educational experience.

Coupled with its educational goals, Cooper offers a broad agenda in the field of research. Cooper physicians are involved in ongoing research and development as they keep abreast of changing modalities of medical care.

Cooper’s department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cooper University Hospital offers women of all ages a full range of advanced medical programs and services through all stages of a woman’s life. From the management of pregnancy and delivery, to the prevention, detection and treatment of disorders of the reproductive system, our OB/GYN physicians, nurses and support personnel specialize in all areas of gynecological, maternal-fetal, reproductive, pelvic and sexual health.

Cooper is distinguished as a state-designated Regional Perinatal Center. The Center serves the region’s highest-risk patients in need of the most serious care. In fact, other area hospitals transport their patients in need of the most serious care. In fact, other area hospitals transport their patients to Cooper. The Center serves the region’s highest-risk patients in need of the most serious care. The Center serves the region’s highest-risk patients in need of the most serious care.

The department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has specialists in Minimally Invasive Gynecology and Vulvar Disorders that greatly enhance our services and help provide a well-rounded educational experience.

Although Cooper University Healthcare is the core teaching campus where we see our patients and perform surgeries, we provide urogynecologic care at many of the surrounding community hospitals from Central to Southern New Jersey. Our outpatient facilities are located in the suburbs of New Jersey. We have two offices in Voorhees and Hamilton New Jersey in addition to our fellow run office in Camden. Our offices consist of the most up-to-date diagnostic and treatment modalities in our field.

Our division’s faculty is well respected nationally for their skills in vaginal reconstructive surgery and they are considered key opinion leaders in their field. They are all founders of international mission organizations that provide much needed care to women around the world. Former fellows have had the opportunity to provide mission work around the world and these numerous unique opportunities continue to enhance our program.

Introduction

As part of the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) and The Cooper Health System, the division of FPMRS is committed to providing a comprehensive and state of the art education to our fellows. The division of FPMRS, the largest in southern NJ, was established in 1996 and began to train fellows in 2000.

With over 5000 patient visits and 400 surgeries per year the FPMRS division is able to provide the fellows the experience and expertise to treat the full array of urogynecologic conditions.

The fellowship curriculum has been developed to maximize the exposure of the fellows to the full gamut of urogynecology topics. This is exemplified by the FPMRS Women's Care Center continuity of care clinic where the fellows have their own patients who they follow throughout their care under the supervision of one the core faculty.

General Information about FPMRS

Cooper’s division of Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery was started back in the late 1980’s. Our fellowship was first accredited in 2000 when we accepted our first fellow. The current division consists of three fellowship-trained Urogynecologists and an Advanced Practice Nurse. The division has trained fellows that have gone on to practice in many Universities around the country. After a brief period of reorganization in 2010-2012 we regained our fellowship accreditation under the ACGME in 2012.

Our division works closely with the divisions of Urology, Colorectal Surgery, Plastic Surgery and Physical Therapy in order to provide a breadth of services to help our patients. The department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has specialists in Minimally Invasive Gynecology and Vulvar Disorders that greatly enhance our services and help provide a well-rounded educational experience.

“Urogyn fellowship at Cooper was the best time in my training years. Attendings put an emphasis on education, not service. You are exposed to various approaches of different surgeries. The variety and volume of surgeries is unmatched by any other fellowship program. However, that is not all you learn. Most importantly, they will show you how much you should care about patients.”

Sang Ho Rhee, MD
2014
Attending Urogynecologist
MidAtlantic Urology Associates, LLC
Greenbelt, Maryland
About the Faculty

Karolynn Echols, MD, FACOG, FPMRS
Dr. Echols is the Fellowship Program Director for the FPMRS fellowship and Associate Professor of OB/GYN at CMSRU. She received her medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and completed her OB/GYN residency at the University of Miami/ Jackson Memorial Hospital. Dr. Echols received her FPMRS fellowship training from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. She also received her ABOG board certification in FPMRS as part of the first class of senior applicants in 2013. She is most interested in the diagnosis and management of genital fistulas, and the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS. She is a founding member of the Global Medicine Special Interest Group for the American Urogynecologic Society. Dr. Echols has been chosen to be a principal investigator for the FDA-required research required on the Restonelle graft versus native tissue repair utilizing in pelvic reconstructive surgery and on the Liffs study, a promising new medication developed for Interstitial Cystitis. She has received numerous teaching awards and has been frequently awarded “Top Doc” in SJ and South Jersey Magazine. Currently she is working on NIH funding for research on women’s health in general and FPMRS and would like her fellows significantly involved in this endeavor.

Dr. Echols has vast experience doing mission work in Cameroon, Niger, Kenya, Rwanda and Jamaica. She is currently the president and co-founder of Medicine in Action and on the medical board of advisors for the International Organization of Women and Development. She is also a faculty member in the University of West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica where she teaches annually.

Ricardo Caraballo, MD, FACOG, FPMRS
Dr. Caraballo serves as the Associate Program Director for the FPMRS fellowship and Assistant Professor of OB/GYN at CMSRU. He received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and completed his OB/GYN residency and FPMRS preceptorship at Cooper University Hospital. He was part of the inaugural class of 2013 to receive subspecialty certification in FPMRS from the ABOG. He is most interested in the use of biologically derived grafts in pelvic reconstruction and the use of simulation for teaching of fellows and residents. Dr. Caraballo has been selected as the Cooper principal investigator for an FDA required and industry sponsored research project on the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS as part of the first class of senior applicants in 2013. He is most interested in the diagnosis and management of genital fistulas, and the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS.

Dr. Caraballo has been selected as the Cooper principal investigator for an FDA required and industry sponsored research project on the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS. He received his medical degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and his OB/GYN residency and FPMRS fellowship at Cooper University Hospital. He received his subspecialty certification in FPMRS from the ABOG in the original class of 2013. His area of interest is mesh use in reconstructive surgery where is widely published. He is a founding member of the Mesh Special Interest Group for the American Urogynecologic Society. He serves as the Cooper principal investigator for an FDA required and industry sponsored research project on the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS.

Ben Steinberg, DO
2010
Assistant Clinical Professor,
University of California
San Francisco-Fresno Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, Urology Associates of Central California

“My training at Cooper’s FPMRS fellowship in the highest regards. It has allowed me to succeed in my career by providing me with superior surgical skill, research acumen, and teaching ability. As an assistant FPMRS fellow director, I understand what is needed to educate and produce the best in the field. Cooper exudes this with a world-class faculty and facility. Humanistically, the fellowship provides you with understanding and compassion needed to treat any condition of the pelvic floor.”

Adam Steinberg, DO
2005
Associate Director of Quality Woman’s Health, Assistant FPMRS Fellowship Director, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT
Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Connecticut, School of Medicine

“I hold my training at Cooper’s FPMRS fellowship in the highest regards. It has allowed me to succeed in my career by providing me with superior surgical skill, research acumen, and teaching ability. As an assistant FPMRS fellow director, I understand what is needed to educate and produce the best in the field. Cooper exudes this with a world-class faculty and facility. Humanistically, the fellowship provides you with understanding and compassion needed to treat any condition of the pelvic floor.”

Allen Seftel, MD, FACS
Dr. Seftel is Professor and Chief of Urology in the Department of Surgery at Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ since 2009. He completed his medical training at State University of New York, Brooklyn, NY and his residency at North Shore University Hospital, Manhasset, NY. Dr. Seftel completed a fellowship in Urologic Disease-Impotence. Dr. Seftel has served on multiple editorial boards and is currently Chair of the Department Council. He is diplomate of the American Urological Association Foundation Council. He is widely published and internationally renown and specializes in erectile function/impotence. He is an integral part of the teaching faculty for the FPMRS fellows during their urology rotation.

Dr. Seftel is Professor and Chief of Urology in the Department of Surgery at Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ since 2009. He completed his medical training at State University of New York, Brooklyn, NY and his residency at North Shore University Hospital, Manhasset, NY. Dr. Seftel completed a fellowship in Urologic Disease-Impotence. He is widely published and internationally renown and specializes in erectile function/impotence. He is an integral part of the teaching faculty for the FPMRS fellows during their urology rotation.

Michitaka Kawata, MD, FACS
Dr. Kawata is an Assistant Professor of Surgery and the director of Anal Physiology at CMSRU. He received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and completed his Colon and Rectal Surgery fellowship at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. As a member of the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery with special interest in pelvic floor dysfunction he is an integral part of the FPMRS fellowship as the fellows gain the majority portion of their colorectal experience with him. He serves as the director of the fellowship's colorectal rotations.

Dr. Kawata is an Assistant Professor of Surgery and the director of Anal Physiology at CMSRU. He received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and completed his Colon and Rectal Surgery fellowship at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. As a member of the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery with special interest in pelvic floor dysfunction he is an integral part of the FPMRS fellowship as the fellows gain the majority portion of their colorectal experience with him. He serves as the director of the fellowship's colorectal rotations.

Michael DiSanto, PhD
Dr. DiSanto is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Sciences and the Director of Urology Research. He received his Bachelors Degree in Biochemistry from Albright College and his PhD from Drew University in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He has been awarded multiple federal grants. He is part of our research team and serves as the mentor to our basic science projects.

Martha Mathews, MD, FACS
Dr. Mathews is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College and completed her residency in Plastic Surgery at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine. She serves as the FPMRS fellowship clerkship director for the fellows’ plastic surgery rotation.

Dr. Mathews is an Associate Professor of Surgery, Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery and program director for the plastic surgery residency program. She is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College and completed her residency in Plastic Surgery at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine. She serves as the FPMRS fellowship clerkship director for the fellows’ plastic surgery rotation.

SaiFuddin T. Mama MD, MPH, FACOG, FPMRS
Dr. SaiFuddin T. Mama MD, MPH is Associate Professor and Head, Section of Minimally Invasive Gynecology and Robotics at Cooper University Hospital. A graduate of Yale University School of Medicine and completed his OB/GYN residency and FPMRS fellowship at Cooper University Hospital. He was part of the inaugural class of 2013 to receive subspecialty certification in FPMRS from the ABOG. He is most interested in the use of biologically derived grafts in pelvic reconstruction and the use of simulation for teaching of fellows and residents. Dr. Caraballo has been selected as the Cooper principal investigator for an FDA required and industry sponsored research project on the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS as part of the first class of senior applicants in 2013. He is most interested in the diagnosis and management of genital fistulas, and the use of endoscopy and integrative medicine in FPMRS.

By the end of 2013, he has published extensively in the field of Gynecology, FPMRS, and Urology.

About the Faculty
About the Faculty

University with a Master of Public Health degree. Dr. Mama completed his medical degree at Thomas Jefferson College and his OB/GYN residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He has received numerous teaching awards. Dr. Mama's specialties include pediatric and adolescent gynecology, pelvic reconstructive surgery, and minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. Dr. Mama has ten years of experience in multiple medical missions volunteering abroad in Africa and Asia as a teaching attending and surgeon.

Peter Chen, MD, FACOG
Dr. Chen is currently an Assistant Professor of CMSRU and Director of the Women’s Care Clinic of Cooper University Hospital. He completed his medical degree at Hahnemann University School of Medicine in 1996, and his residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2000. Coming to us from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where he was faculty from 2000-2011, he continues to actively participate in Ob/Gyn medical student, resident and FPMRS fellow teaching. He has co-authored a variety of articles, abstracts and book chapters and has received numerous teaching awards including the “John J. Mikuta, MD Award for Excellence in Professionalism in Women’s Health” by the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, in June, 2011, the Council on the CREOG National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education;” in June, 2012 at Cooper and South Jersey Magazine’s Top Doc in 2013. He specializes in robotic gynecologic surgery and significantly contributes to the fellows’ robotic training.

Robert P. Siefring, MD, FACOG
Dr. Siefring is Assistant Professor of OB/GYN and Medical Director of the Center for Vulvovaginal Disease at Cooper Hospital. He is a graduate of the University of Guadalajara and completed his OB/GYN residency at Cooper Hospital. He has received multiple teaching awards and has been selected as a “Top Doc” in South Jersey Magazine. The fellows gain most of their experience in vulvar diseases with Dr. Siefring during his monthly vulvovaginitis clinic.

Gunda Simpkins, MSN, MPH
Gunda Simpkins is Coordinator of clinical research for the Ob/Gyn department and has over 20 years of experience in Perinatal and Women’s Health nursing. She was educated at the University of Delaware (BSN, Sigma Theta Tau and Villanova University (MSN) and has recently earned a Master’s degree in Public Health from UMDNJ-Stratford (Delta Omega). She participates in coordinating all aspects of FPMRS research including the “John J. Mikuta, MD Award for Excellence in Professionalism in Women’s Health” by the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, in June, 2011, the Council on the CREOG National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education;” in June, 2012 at Cooper and South Jersey Magazine’s Top Doc in 2013. He specializes in robotic gynecologic surgery and significantly contributes to the fellows’ robotic training.

Krystal Hunter, MBA
Krystal Hunter serves as the lead statistician for the Cooper Research Institute. She received her BA in Economics from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA and her MBA from Rutgers University Graduate School of Management, New Brunswick, NJ. She is an integral part of the FPMRS research committee and contributes to all research projects from their inception to publication. She also actively participates in all Journal Clubs for the division. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed papers and instructs the fellows and faculty in statistical analysis.

FPMRS Fellowship Program

Our fellowship is designed to provide the fellow the education and training necessary to function as a consultant in the field of FPMRS. The fellows are given a well rounded experience in Urology, Colorectal Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Research. They are also given the opportunity to explore their interests further in FPMRS during their Clinical Elective rotation in the 3rd year. The educational curriculum has been designed to meet the objectives set forth in the Proposed ACGME Program Requirements for Residency Education in FPMRS. The didactic conference schedule is designed to cover all aspects of FPMRS. However, it is recognized that it would be impossible to provide a specific conference on every single aspect of the curriculum, or for the fellow to be exposed to patients with every possible diagnosis and problem in FPMRS. As a result we have also incorporated quarterly lectures on atypical topics encountered in FPMRS. Also as an adult learner, the fellow is expected to refer to this curriculum to direct his or her learning activities, and to recognize areas of weakness or lack of experience or exposure and bring them to the attention of the program director in order to personalize their curriculum to strengthen those areas. An example of the educational monthly schedule are shown below.

FPMRS Monthly Educational Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Wednesday 4:30 - 5:50 pm</th>
<th>Chapter Review/ Faculty Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 8:00 - 9:00 am</td>
<td>Didactics/Board Review</td>
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<td>9:00 - 10:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Didactics/Board Review</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Research Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Wednesday 6:00 - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Journal Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Friday 8:00 - 9:00 am</td>
<td>WCC Pre-op Conference</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Interesting Case Presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Fellow Didactic Lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Teaching Rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Friday 8:00 - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Make-up Lectures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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FPMRS Fellowship Program

Research
During the FPMRS fellowship, the fellows participate fully in the theoretical and technical aspects of clinical and/or basic science research. Fellows are required to take Statistical Methods for Data Analysis, a graduate level course at Thomas Jefferson University during the first fellowship year. During this course they learn to apply the principles and techniques of basic statistical analysis to research. They are expected to actively conduct research during time away from clinical care responsibilities. The annual didactic sessions include research design, grant writing, research methodology, and scientific writing and presentation skills. They obtain an understanding for how to conduct FPMRS research and learn to work as part of a research team and develop skills and experience needed to critically review others’ research. The FPMRS fellow is required to complete and publish one thesis project and write and receive a grant by the end of the fellowship. This thesis should make a meaningful contribution to the FPMRS literature. Monthly research meetings are scheduled to help with this endeavor. Quarterly meetings are expected to take place between the fellow and the faculty advisor with continuous oversight and direction provided by the director of FPMRS research, the research nurse and the biostatistician.

QI Projects
With the newest policy revision of the ACGME, the fellows are required to describe one learning activity to identify strengths, deficiencies and limits in their knowledge and expertise (self-reflection and self-assessment); set learning improvement goals and identify and perform appropriate learning activities to achieve self-identified goals. One such goal instituted was to improve the efficiency of our fellow-run clinic. This included all aspects of health care i.e patient wait times, improving accessibility of clinic resources, patient education and billing and coding.

International Opportunities
There are several opportunities for international exposure and experience for the fellows. The entire core faculty in FPMRS as well as many faculty in the OB/GYN department and Cooper University Hospital are extensively involved globally and this is translated into the curriculum. The division of FPMRS believes that in order to develop globally sensitive physicians, it is essential for those in training to participate in healthcare in other regions of the world. Thus the division of FPMRS offers the fellows ample opportunity to become active internationally. Such places include but are not limited to Jamaica, Ghana, Rwanda or Vietnam. Additionally to enhance our fellows’ education in the repair of fistula, our division in conjunction with the International Organization of Women and Development and International Healthcare Volunteers send, on a voluntary basis, a fellow along with at least one member of the faculty to either Ghana, West Africa or Rwanda, East Africa for a period of two weeks during their senior year. The fellows can also develop contacts outside of Cooper and make their own arrangements if desired.

The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center
The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center at Cooper University Hospital provides obstetrics and gynecologic care for patients with financial burdens. The two primary goals of this clinic are to provide services for resource poor patients who otherwise cannot afford ob/gyn medical care and to provide education for the residents and fellows. All subspecialty services for obstetrics and gynecology are provided. This is one of few clinics that provide such services to resource poor patients in the entire country. The FPRMS clinic is run by the fellow(s) one half-day session a week for 3 weeks a month with attending supervision. The 1st week is dedicated to the The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center OFF. It is a great opportunity for the fellow to work as a supervisor and clinical instructor. There is always at least one resident assigned to this clinic that evaluates the patients and presents the cases to the fellow then subsequently the attending. The fellows have the opportunity to make independent clinical decisions and teach residents under faculty supervision.

Required Courses
Statistical Methods for Data Analysis
Usually taken during the 1st year of training, this 4-month course is given weekly at Thomas Jefferson University in the early evening. The fellow learns to apply the principles and techniques of basic statistical analysis and by the completion of the course be able to critique the literature more objectively. Lectures and workshop sessions are used to familiarize the fellow with issues relating to both descriptive and inferential statistical methods. The fellow has the opportunity to use a computer package for analysis.

Public Speaking
This 3-month course is given weekly by Camden County Community College at Cooper University Hospital. The fellow is taught and has the opportunity to practice the skills and methods that will ease stage anxiety and allow the fellow to present confidently and effectively. The fellow learns to utilize verbal and non-verbal cues successfully and prepare visual aids to catch and maintain the audience’s attention. The class consists of a small number of students that allows the fellow to apply all the learned skills in a relatively stress-free environment.

International Society of the Study of Women’s Sexual Health
This 2-day intense conference held annually in April or October provides a foundation for our 2nd year fellow to become exposed to the highest standards of ethics, professionalism in education, clinical practice and research as well as accurate and updated information about women’s sexuality and sexual health. The fellow has the opportunity to complete an ISSWSH fellowship during their training if there is significant interest.
The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area

It is extraordinary to have such a high concentration of leadership at one institution but, then, Cooper is an extraordinary hospital.

Cooper University Hospital is the center of a growing health science campus that includes the main hospital, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, the internationally acclaimed Coriell Institute for Research, Three Cooper Plaza medical offices and the Ronald McDonald House.

Adjacent to the Cooper Plaza/Lanning Square neighborhood, Cooper has a long history of outreach and service efforts to its local community. Some of these initiatives include health and wellness programs for the neighborhood, development of three neighborhood parks and playground, and outreach to programs into local schools.

The Hospital's 312,000-square-foot, 10-story Roberts Pavilion houses state-of-the-art patient care facilities, including 120 private patient rooms, a 30-bed medical/surgical intensive care unit, 12 technologically advanced operating room suites with hybrid imaging capabilities, an advanced laboratory automation facility and a 14,000-square-foot Emergency Department. The Emergency Department features 25 beds, dedicated isolation suites and autonomous CT scanning technology. Two new floors in the Roberts Pavilion, each with 30 private patient rooms, opened in August 2014. The two floors are designed to serve specific patient populations with Pavilion 8 serving a growing advanced-care surgery patient population and Pavilion 9 serving the Cooper Heart Institute for hospitalized heart patients. The Pavilion features an expansive lobby and concourse, a restaurant and coffee shop, health resource center, business center, gift shop and chapel.

The Pavilion also houses the 25,000-square-foot Dr. Edward D. Viner Intensive Care Unit. A design showcase for patient and family-centered care, the unit features 30 private patient rooms equipped with the latest in advanced technology, and allowing 360-degree patient access. Five patient rooms are capable of negative pressure isolation, and five rooms have chambered isolation alcoves. In addition, an enlarged room with operating room caliber lighting is outfitted to perform bedside exploratory laparotomy in patients too unstable for transport to the operating room.

In 2013 Cooper celebrated the opening of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, the $100 million, four-story, 103,050-square-foot center located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus in Camden, dedicated to cancer prevention, detection, treatment and research. MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper offers South Jersey's only dedicated inpatient, 30-bed cancer unit adjacent to the new cancer center at Cooper University Hospital. The center includes bright, spacious chemotherapy treatment areas, patient exam rooms, conference centers and advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies. The designers incorporated an aesthetic approach to healing with abundant natural light, a rooftop Tranquility Garden, an illuminated floor-to-ceiling “Tree of Life” centerpiece and more than 100 pieces of original art created by 71 New Jersey artists.

The expansion project at Cooper is a direct reflection of the growth in services that Cooper has experienced over the past several years.

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University Medical Education Building is located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus on South Broadway, between Benson and Washington Streets in Camden. The new $139 million building, which opened in July 2012, was designed for CMSRU’s curriculum with spaces and technologies to support faculty and students in their educational process. In 2012, CMSRU welcomed the class of 2016 with 50 students.

The campus is located in the heart of the Camden’s business district. The academic medical center campus is easily accessible by car or public transportation—the commuter high-speed line and bus terminal are located a half-block from the campus.

Your fellowship is intense, but satisfying work. At the end of the day you will have numerous occasions and opportunities to relax and pursue your favorite interests. The surrounding areas of Cooper University Hospital are very affable and welcoming for newcomers. You can choose between a quiet, convenient and cozy life in such quiet towns as Collingswood, Cherry Hill, Voorhees or Haddonfield, which are just 10 minutes away from Cooper or you can enjoy the hustle and bustle of Philadelphia, the city of Brotherly Love, which is just a mile long drive over the Ben Franklin Bridge or a ferry boat ride. Whether you are single, partnered or married, with or without children, you will find living arrangements, cultural and entertainment options to fit every lifestyle.

Philadelphia has the big city, small town feel that combines a vibrant downtown with the outdoor activities and wildlife of Fairmount Park, which traverses the city with its trails, streams, riverside and noble architecture. It has something for every taste: cool art galleries, and vintage shops of South street, food trucks peddling delicious Philly’s cheesesteaks, and a wide range of exquisite restaurants. You can get a glorious view of Philadelphia after climbing the famous “Rocky” steps at its amazing Art Museum, and begin your exploring from there. There are numerous venues for sports fans as Philadelphia is the host to professional baseball, basketball, football and hockey teams.

If you have an adventurous spirit, and like to travel, South Jersey is the perfect location. Not only does Philadelphia have an international airport for domestic and international travel, you can also take a day or weekend trip to NYC, Baltimore or Washington DC, visit the popular beaches of the Jersey Shore or organize a trip to one of its many fabulous vineyards. Atlantic City, with its many casinos, concert venues and restaurants is also only an hour away.

Closer to home, within a short walk or drive from Camden’s waterfront on the scenic Delaware River boasts the world famous Adventure Aquarium with 8,000 aquatic species including over two dozen sharks. There is also Campbell Field where you can enjoy the River Sharks minor league baseball games and Saturday night fireworks, the Battleship USS New Jersey, and the Susquehanna Bank Center where you can catch all the latest and greatest acts. No matter how you choose to enjoy your free time, you are guaranteed to make the right choice.

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How to Apply

The Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program at Cooper University Hospital/Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, participates in the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and all information is processed through this system without exception. Information regarding the ERAS application process and timeline is available on the Websites listed below.

Association of American Medical Colleges
www.aamc.org/eras

ERAS Fellowship Document Office
www.erasfellowshipdocuments.org

ERAS applications must contain the following information in order for your application to be considered:

- Common application form
- Curriculum vitae
- Medical school transcript
- Three original letters of recommendation, one of which must be from your current or most recent training director
- Personal statement describing your training goals and future career plans
- ECFMG certification (IMG only)
- USLME reports (1, 2 and 3).

The program director and two additional faculty members will review applicant files. Invitation for interview will be based upon their recommendations.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility for the FPMRS Fellowship requires a satisfactory completion of an Obstetrics and Gynecology OR Urology residency approved by the American Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or the Council of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (CRCPSC). Individuals accepted for a position in the fellowship program must be a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident, or hold a J-1 visa.

Annual application deadline is April 30.