

ACFAS 2023  
Meet the Fellow Questionnaire



American College of  
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Stephen L. Smith

Fellowship Program:

San Antonio Sports Medicine Associates Foot & Ankle Surgical Fellowship

City/State:

San Antonio, TX

Program Director:

Marque Allen DPM FACFAS

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

3-5

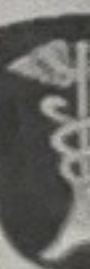
Describe the diversity of your cases so far in fellowship. (For example, has your experience included TAR? Is there an emphasis on: Pediatrics? Sports Medicine? Deformity correction? Complex reconstruction? What percentage of your cases are trauma? Rearfoot/ankle? Forefoot? Please be as descriptive as you'd like.

- 70% { Surgical Sports medicine  
Rearfoot reconstruction  
Hallux Valgus
- 20% - Trauma - ie. rotational injuries, sports (ankle fx, Lisfranc, Achilles)
- 10% - Ankle arthritis; TAR, scopes, fusion

How many days per week do you typically spend in the OR? In clinic? Do you have your own "fellow" clinic?

OR - 5 (1/2 days)  
Clinic - 5 (1/2 days)

No 'fellow' clinic at this time (in development & practice partners dynamic)



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

30-40

What conferences have you attended/are you encouraged to attend?

ACFAS

Industry i.e. Fellows courses/forums

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Dialogue

How is research incorporated into your experience? What resources are provided/available?

- Encouraged & supported
- Attending's at practice have relationships w major institutions locally i.e. IRB, library access.

Do you take any "call"? If so, how often? What type of call? (general vs. trauma, hospital vs. private practice?)

- No, not at primary location
- Pending ongoing development at partner institutions subject to add a "call" rotation (i.e. 2-4 weeks)

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

3

What is your didactic schedule like? What academic opportunities are available to you during fellowship? (Cadaver labs, journal club, radiology conference, etc.)

- ✓ cadaver labs
- ✓ ACFAS Journal Club supported
- ✓ Lectures at local residency program
- ✓ interdisciplinary lectures; i.e. primary care, physical therapy

Is your fellowship affiliated with a residency program? If yes, what are your responsibilities?

How often are you interacting with residents (What % of cases?)

No - however, there are multiple other fellowship programs in this practice. i.e. primary care sports medicine; hand/plastic surgery



Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

Not at this time (primary surgical site  
privileging rules/agreements for  
fellows)

When should interested applicants visit? What does a visit look like?

- Contact current fellow/director for availability
- Shadow/observe clinic & surgery

What is the interview process like at your program?

- Fellow + Director direct interview i.e. telephone, Zoom

Do you have a co-fellow? What percentage of your cases are scrubbed with them?

No

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

Extensive network of relationships in community  
& in Texas

What qualities make an applicant a good fit for your program?

- Self Driven & goal oriented.
- Strong surgical training
- Strong academic baseline
- Flexible

Why did you apply for fellowship? And why did you choose your fellowship program?

- A unique opportunity to be a part of creating the first of its kind in Texas for podiatric foot & ankle surgery.
- Practice environment & opportunity to learn in depth practice management
- Surgical volume

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

- Know why you want a fellowship & what you're looking for
- Have a plan; albeit malleable - it is a starting point & indicator of mindset
- Research & find out information specific to the programs of interest so you can ask specific questions rather than broad ones applicable to any program. This shows you've done your homework.

