



*the* Pediatric & Congenital  
Electrophysiology Society

ANNUAL REPORT  
**2020**

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends

What a year this has been! As I end my term as PACES president on day # 52 of lockdown, I want to thank each and everyone of you for your support, energy and engagement throughout this tumultuous year. I consider myself to be incredibly fortunate to be part of a cohesive, vibrant and compassionate group of colleagues who work tirelessly, not for personal glory, but for the common good of PACES. From volunteering for committees, sharing information, designing websites, collaborating in research, balancing finances, writing educational material, choosing venues, selecting caterers, curating scientific programs, signing up sponsors, and going full steam ahead planning a meeting that never happened....you did it all . This is the ultimate DIY professional society! Throughout the year, no ASK was too big, and no TASK too tough. Even when months of intense planning of PACES events were put to an abrupt halt , you offered words of encouragement. To all of you, THANK YOU !

I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones have remained safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. When we look back at this time, COVID 19 will be a defining moment in all our lives, just as 9/11 was. We will ask ourselves what we did, where we were, whom we lost, how we led, how we served and what kept us safe. One thing is clear- the coronavirus has ignited the scientific community in ways that no other outbreak or medical mystery has before. While political leaders have locked their borders, scientists have been shattering theirs, creating a global collaboration unlike any in history. Collaboration is the past present and future of PACES. Social media and virtual screens are now our new podiums for scientific discourse and debate. While an effective way of communication, I am sorry that we will all not be connecting in person in the near future. The PACES business meeting has always been a focal point where everything and everyone comes together in the true essence of PACES fraternity. I hope we can channelize some of the same energy in a virtual PACES business meeting planned towards the end of the month.

I want to take a moment away from the "COVID -19 noise". I am extremely proud of what PACES has achieved this term. Together, we have forged new alliances, cemented partnerships, created a much needed membership database, spearheaded the first PACES guideline document, raised funds, upgraded the website, amended by-laws, made timely decisions in a rapidly changing environment and stayed connected throughout the year. There is no protected time, extra compensation or medal awarded for PACES activities. So none of this could be possible without your selfless contributions.

As we all learn to manage this new strange world, I want to end my final newsletter with a quote from Haruki Murakari. "And once the storm is over, you won't remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won't even be sure, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in." Let us stay resilient together.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve .

Warm Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mallery Shah".

Mallery Shah , MBBS, FACC, FHRS, CCDS, CEPS-P  
President, PACES

# MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT



Incoming President  
Seshadri Balaji



Balaji's hometown of  
Portland, OR

Dear friends,

It is with much trepidation that I approach this coming year. When I look at the past presidents of PACES, I am humbled and in awe of their accomplishments in their career and their contributions to PACES. My one saving thought is that we have a fantastic group of people on the Executive committee to help support me as I navigate this year. Having been one of the Vice Presidents of PACES for the past 3 years, I have total confidence in the executive team and know we are capable to meeting any challenge we come across.

This role is truly a huge step up for me and, at this juncture, I want to thank a lot of people who have helped me as I progressed in my career. However, for the sake of brevity, I will only thank my two EP mentors, the late Dr Paul Gillette (Figure 1) and Dr Chris Case (Figures 2 & 3). Many of you heard the eulogy I gave for Dr Gillette (PCG as we used to call him) at Heart rhythm in 2018. You all know how highly I regard PCG who was not just THE pioneer for pediatric EP, but also one of the greatest leaders and human beings I have ever met. The people he trained are now giants in our field and rightly so. I am forever grateful for the things he taught me and the opportunities he gave me. I still cherish the copy of his book on pediatric arrhythmia he gave me inscribed with words of encouragement.

The other mentor of mine may not be as familiar to some of you. Chris Case was PCG's right hand man, the second EP and the fellowship program director at MUSC Charleston when I trained there. He was the best mentor I could have asked for. Always available, always kind, guiding the fellows like a big brother as he cajoled us (and wisecracked us) into doing things we barely thought possible. A masterful electrophysiologist who pioneered ablation (his paper on ablation in infants has results that are yet to be surpassed!), meticulous to a fault in preparing for every case, he taught us all by word and deed. His academic contributions were amazing. In the space of 8 years (between 1988 and 1996), Chris co-authored 75 papers and was the 1st author in 29 of them. He also was a contributor on 20 chapters and was the first author in 7 of them. Health issues forced him out of the ablation business some years back and he recently retired from the practice of medicine but he remains dear to his countless patients and trainees. Many of those he mentored (like me) still turn to him for advice and he is always there for us, no matter what the issue. A true gentleman, a star in the field of pediatric electrophysiology, and sadly unrecognized in our field. I am hoping that this missive makes amends to that a little bit.

(cont.)

# MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT (CONT)



Picture #1

Dr Paul Gillette circa 1993.



Picture #2

Dr Chris Case circa 1993



Picture #3

Dr Chris Case circa 2020

Moving on, I want all of you to know that the executive committee works hard to promote the interests of pediatric and congenital EP. We may be a small society but we bat much higher than our numerical or financial strengths. We are recognized by other societies (like Heart Rhythm, ACC, AHA & AAP) for our intellectual prowess, our maturity in dealing with tough issues (Covid is a good example), and no matter what is asked of us, our ability to DELIVER.

Maully Shah's leadership has been fantastic this past year. She has really set the bar very high as the president and in her prior role as VP of Research. I hope I can live up to her example.

Lastly, please be assured that the entire executive team is here to listen to and respond to any of your ideas and concerns. If you can think of anything we should do different, or take on as a society, please reach out. We are here to serve you and not just to hog the glory. Your advancement is our glory and what we measure ourselves by. You can email me directly ([balajis@ohsu.edu](mailto:balajis@ohsu.edu)) or call me on my cell (503 780 7572). I consider it my honor that I get to represent this amazing group for the coming year.

Thank you!

Balaji

# GRATITUDE

Thank you to our Executive Committee and our Committee Chairs for your leadership, support, and energy through out the year as we negotiated and adapted to unprecedeted challenges and experiences.



Incoming President Balaji's Favorite Quote:

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony" -Mohandas K. Gandhi



Past President Bryan's Favorite Quote:

"Do or Do Not. There is no try"  
-Yoda



Past President Mitch's Favorite Quote:

" It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward."  
-Rocky Balboa



VP of Research Prince's Favorite Quote:

"The formula for success in life is work, play and keep your mouth shut. —Albert Einstein



VP of AP Melissa's Favorite Quote:

"The expert in everything was once a beginner "  
-Helen Hayes



VP of International affairs Thomas's Favorite Quote:

"Think Positive"



VP of Finance Tess's Favorite Quote:

" If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." - African Proverb

# GRATITUDE

Despite the uncertainties, you worked tirelessly towards our goals. Thank You.

To our HRS 2020 Pediatric and ACHD Scientific chairs



Mitch Cohen



Kathy Collins



Greg Webster

To our Meeting Planners for the Pre-HRS PACES and ATF Events in San Diego :



Jim Perry



Melissa Ollen



Kara Motonaga



Eric Silver



Doug Mah



Ronn Tanel



Tony McCanta

To our Fund Raisers for the PACES 5K Run/Walk Event and Business Meeting:



Gaurav Arora



Brad Clark



Jeremy Moore



Jen Silva



Shu Sanatani

To the Mike Silka as co-chair of the first PACES generated guideline document (CIED)



Michael Silka

To our member services representative Amalia Paul for seeing us through our Website transition from FASEB to MCI and timely responsiveness to all PACES requests :



Amalia Paul

To our Sponsors for their commitment to PACES :

**Medtronic**  
Further, Together

**ALTATHERA**  
PHARMACEUTICALS

 **BardyDx®**

 **LIFEASURE**  
HOME AED SOLUTIONS  
 **INVITAE**  
 **Blueprint Genetics**

 **Rady Children's**  
Hospital  
San Diego

 **mri**

# GRATITUDE

## PAST PACES PRESIDENTS



2012 Susan Etheridge



A special thank you to George Van Hare for advocating for PACES and fostering the HRS-PACES partnership

We are deeply grateful to our outgoing past president Mitchell Cohen for his immense contributions to the PACES Executive Committee and his continuing commitment to PACES.

Congratulations and Best of Luck to Mitch as he takes on the important task of scientific chair of the 8th World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery.



# FELICITATION



**Seshadri Balaji**  
Incoming President  
PACES



**Jeff Kim**  
VP of Administration  
PACES



**John Triedman**  
Elected to the Board of Trustees  
Heart Rhythm Society



**Steve Seslar**  
Appointed to the Board of Directors  
Intersocietal Accreditation  
Commission-Cardiac EP



**Peter Aziz**  
Chair, GRAD committee  
PACES

# FELICITATION

## 2020 PACES International Travel Award Winners



Dr. Chencheng Dai is a pediatric electrophysiologist and cardiologist from Beijing, China. She is currently working as Associate Chief of Pediatric Cardiology at Beijing Anzhen Hospital in China



Dr. Mani Ram Krishna Singaravelu is a Clinical Assistant Professor and lead Pediatric Electrophysiologist in at the Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, India



Note: Travel postponed to a future meeting

# ASSOCIATED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



Melissa Olen , VP of Associated Health Professionals

## Overview...

- Total of 33 AHP
- We are a unique group that collaborates nationally with EP material with the goal to advance our knowledge and the knowledge that we share with our patients.

"Share seamlessly, and steal shamelessly"



Melissa 's hometown of Miami, FL

## AHP Committee Involvement

### AHP Education Committee

**Melissa Olen (chair)**  
Tony Trela  
Caitlyn Brateng  
Karen Smoots  
Vicki Freedenberg  
Brynn Dechert-Crooks  
Beth Jarosz

### AHP Research Committee

**Vicki Freedenberg (chair)**  
Members...

### (3-5) Members Welcome

## 2019-2020 Accomplishments

- Patient/parent education on PACES website (ongoing)
- Several documents updated, can be converted to pdf with PACES logo
- New addition: EPS and HCM document
- Spanish Patient Ed documents available on website
- Development of survey of the EP AHP role

### AHP Research Committee Update:

Co-Chairs: Vicki Freedenberg and Tony Trela

Members: Alana Balcius, Brynn Dechert, Deb Hanisch, Richard Lamphier, Heather McDonald, Candace Morton, Melissa Olen, Jaclyn Reider, Danielle Sturkey, Virginia Syptak

Current study (survey design): "Cardiac Device Related Stress in Adolescents with Pacemakers or Implanted Cardiac Defibrillators"

Primary aim: Identify self-reported causes of stress, and stress reduction techniques used, if any, for adolescents with either a pacemaker or an ICD. This preliminary data will be used in the future to design and implement a non-pharmacological stress reduction intervention

Currently IRB approved at 9 sites: Children's National, Duke, UVA, NYU, Lurie Children's, Children's Hospital of Atlanta, Stanford, Miami-Nicklaus Children's, Einstein

**The 2020 Patrick Joyce Awards**  
will be announced at the PACES  
Virtual Business meeting.

Stay tuned for updates regarding  
the meeting.

# EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Kara Motonaga,  
Co-Chair Education Committee



Palo Alto, CA, Kara's Hometown



Eric Silver,  
Co-Chair Education Committee



NYC, Eric's Hometown

## PACES Education Committee Members



Akash Patel



Anica Bulic



Andy Blafox



Chalese Richardson Olivier



David Fairbrother



David Gamboa



Jason Garnreiter



Shaun Mohan



Nicholas von Bergen



Peter Fischbach



No Image Available



Louis James Rigos



Sami Chaouki



Santiago Valdes



Sara Cherry



Scott Ceresnak



Shashank Behere



William Goodyer



Kara Motonaga



Eric Silver

## PACES Education Committee Initiatives

### Initiatives (done and in the works . . .)

- PJRT (Pediatric Journal Review by Trainees
  - Winter edition released Feb 2020
  - Coming out with a new Spring edition (created by Sami Chaouki)
  - Discussing with Website committee organizing old and new ones
- Paces Cases
  - 11 cases produced by Education committee members on various EP topics
  - Discussing where they live on the website
- ECG module
  - 100 ECG module with questions and answers
  - Finalizing and discussing revising where the module will live on the website
- Future Directions
  - A moderated list serve for clinical questions and/or interesting cases?
  - Fireside chats?
  - Pre-recorded "live" cases?

## Pre-HRS Symposium (now at Advancing the Field)

PACES Pre-HRS  
Symposium 2020

2020  
PARTY TIME  
SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS  
MAY 6-9 - SAN DIEGO

▪ Working to reconfirm participants for the new date of October 27, 2020

Schedule of Events:  
2:30 pm Course Intro 5 minutes – Kara Motonaga & Eric Silver

2:35 – 3:35 pm TED Talks by 3 Distinguished Guest Speakers  
Dr. Vasav Puri “Building an Ecosystem for Developing Pediatric Devices”  
Dr. Stephen Kingsmore “The Future of Precision Medicine”  
Dr. Mina Tufankci “Digital Health in Arrhythmia Management”

3:35 – 4:35 pm PACES EP Jeopardy

PACES Contests:  
Contestants:  
Andrew Davis

Chris Jansen

Doug Kellman

Lindsey Maloy Walton

Mary Hall

Akash Patel

Zeb Spector

Beth Stepperson

4:35 – 5:30 pm Stump the Chumps

To stump our very own: Anne Dubin, Maury Shah, Ed Walsh

5:30 pm Adjourn

Guest Speakers:



Vasav Puri, MD MPH, FAAP, FACC, FASE  
Chief Medical Officer, Pediatrics and Special Populations  
Center for Devices and Radiological Health  
Food and Drug Administration



Stephen Kingsmore, M.D., DSc  
President/CEO of Rady Children's Institute for Genomic Medicine



Mina Tufankci, M.D., M.A.S.  
Associate Professor of Medicine/Cardiovascular Medicine  
Stanford University  
VA Palo Alto Health Care System Dept of Cardiology

# EMERGING LEADERS



Aarti Dalal, Co-Chair Emerging Leaders



Johannes von Alvensleben, Co-Chair Emerging Leaders

## The PACES Emerging Leaders Group

The PACES Emerging Leaders group was started in 2016 as a way to help organize and engage pediatric electrophysiology fellows and early career faculty. We encourage one another to become active participants in PACES and contributors to the EP community. The group includes current and aspiring pediatric EP fellows and early career faculty practicing < 7 years. We now have over 50 members with ~ 25% international membership.

In 4 short years we have:

- Organized study material to support early career faculty taking the IBHRE (International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners) and summarized current EP guidelines to help support junior faculty practice evidence based medicine
- Created a dedicated listserv for junior faculty and fellows where questions about patient management, jobs, and research projects can be discussed (Pediatric and Congenital EP@listserv.wustl.edu)
- Launched the PACES Expert Sessions Webinar Series: bimonthly interactive webinars series lead by international subject matter experts.
- Helped create and grow PACES Twitter and Instagram accounts
- Developed a 2-part mentorship/career development Webinar Series with invited faculty from HRS, PACES, and ACC leadership
- Forged a collaboration with the SADS Scientific Advisory Committee to publish difficult cases submitted to the Advisory Committee in Heart Rhythm Case Reports
- Help connect, support and amplify the efforts of junior faculty across the globe; We have 5 continents represented!
- Became a recognized subcommittee within the PACES Executive Committee with 7 of our own executive committee and subcommittees:
- Expert Session Webinars: Aarti Dalal and Johannes
- Regional and National Conferences: Allison Hill and Carolina Escudero
- Mentorship/Career Development: Lindsey Malloy-Walton
- Social Media: Bradley Clark and Yuki Asaki
- International Committee: Henry Chubb
- Guidelines: Shaun Mohan and Katy Koch

# FINANCE COMMITTEE



Elizabeth "Tess" Saarel, VP of Finance



Tess in Ann Arbor, MI at the SADS meeting

## Members:

Gaurav Arora, Scott Macicek,  
Jennifer Silva, Yung Lau, Peter Aziz



Membership 2020 – N (#dues UNPAID for 2020 to date):

- Allied Professional 71 (33)
- US Physicians – 212 (88)
- International – 45 (12)
- Fellow/Trainee – 43 (27)
- Emeritus – 6 (NA)
- Honorary – 11 (NA)

Total bank funds:

- April 8, 2020: \$137,020.29\*
- (\*Pre-PACES meeting and business dinner, also have 98 registrants for the 5k!)
- May 8, 2019: \$98,740
- May 7, 2018: \$106,168

Each year, PACES expenses mainly include:

- Website Administration Fees
- International Travel Grants
- PACES Pre-HRS symposium
- PACES-HRS Business meeting
- Research, QA/QI meetings
- Honoraria and travel for speakers
- Supporting Educational Conferences

PACES income largely remains from dues with a smaller percentage from donations by members and charitable organizations. We encourage everyone who has contacts with charitable organizations to remind them to think of PACES . Do remember to pay your dues.

# FDA & INDUSTRY COMMITTEE



Anne Dubin, Chair , FDA committee



Anne's Hometown of Palo Alto, CA.

## Working Group Members:

Bryan Canon, Mally Shah, Yaniv Bar Cohen, Charlie Berul, John Friedman, Tess Saarel, George Van Hare

This working group aims to:

- Increase awareness of pediatric needs for EP in the industry by working closely with FDA and industry representatives
- To look for opportunities to advance pediatric device development

## Accomplishments to date:

### Pediatric and congenital electrophysiology society initiative on device needs in pediatric electrophysiology

[Check for updates](#)

Anne M. Dubin, MD, FHR,<sup>\*</sup> Bryan C. Cannon, MD, FHR,<sup>†</sup>  
Elizabeth V. Saarel, MD, FHR,<sup>‡</sup> John K. Friedman, MD, FHR,<sup>§</sup>  
Charles I. Berul, MD, FHR,<sup>¶</sup> Yaniv Bar-Cohen, MD, FHR,<sup>||</sup>  
Mally J. Shah, MBBS, FHR,<sup>\*\*</sup> Jessica Paulsen, BS,<sup>††</sup> Hetal Patel, MS,<sup>††</sup>  
Jonathan Reich, MD,<sup>††</sup> Mark D. Carlson, MD, FHR,<sup>††</sup> Kenneth Stein, MD, FHR,<sup>§§</sup>  
James O. Gilkerson, DVM,<sup>||</sup> Robert C. Kowal, MD, PhD, FHR,<sup>¶¶</sup> Vasum Peiris, MD, MPH<sup>|||</sup>

- Medtronic to start work on 6 mm tip Cryocatheter with mapping capabilities in May of 2020

## Next Steps:

- PACES survey to assess needs
- Summit with Industry and FDA
- Continue dialogue with FDA and Industry regarding need for pediatric labeling of devices

# GUIDELINE REVIEW & DEVELOPMENT (GRAD)



Jeff Kim, Chair, GRAD Committee



Jeff Kim's Hometown of Houston, TX

## GRAD Committee Members:

Mark Alexander, Chris Anderson, Gaurav Arora, Peter Aziz, Nicole Cain, Jamie Decker, Anne Dubin, Susan Etheridge, Jeffrey Kim, Martin LaPage, Scott Macicek, Christina Miyake, Andy Papez

## Endorsed Documents Published in 2019

- Pediatric and congenital electrophysiology society initiative on device needs in pediatric electrophysiology. Heart Rhythm. 2019 Apr;16(4):e39-e46
- ACC/AHA/HRS Guideline on the Evaluation and Management of Patients with Bradycardia and Cardiac Conduction Delay. Heart Rhythm, Circulation and JACC. Aug 2019
- HRS/EHRA/APHRS/LAQRS expert consensus statement on catheter ablation of ventricular arrhythmias. Heart Rhythm, Europace. May 2019
- HRS Expert Consensus Statement on Evaluation, Risk Stratification, and Management of Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy. Heart Rhythm. 2019 Nov;16(11):e373-e407

## Current Documents in Process

\*HRS Expert Consensus on the Management of Arrhythmic Risk in Neuromuscular Disorders – PACES representative: N Kertesz

\*CIED Guidelines in Pediatrics; PACES Update - Chairs: M Silka & M Shah

\*ACC/AHA Guideline Statement on Risk Stratification and Management of HCM – C Miyake

\*AHA Guideline on Cardiovascular Genetic Testing in Children – Chair: A Landstrom

## Patient Education Documents Reviewed in 2019

- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Education Handout
- EPS Study Patient Education Handout

# HISTORY



Ed Walsh, Chief Historian



Ed's Hometown of Boston, MA

**PACES History Project**



Edward P. Walsh, MD

Boston Children's Hospital

Harvard Medical School

**"If you don't know history, you don't know anything! You're just a dead leaf that didn't realize it was once part of a tree."**

- Michael Crichton

**As our Chief Historian, Ed is cataloging the training locations of our members and institutions where individuals worked as pediatric EPs**

**"The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see."**

- Winston Churchill

## **Objective #1:**

Document all past and present PACES members (staff MD level) during their active years in our organization

Track location and changes in their institutions

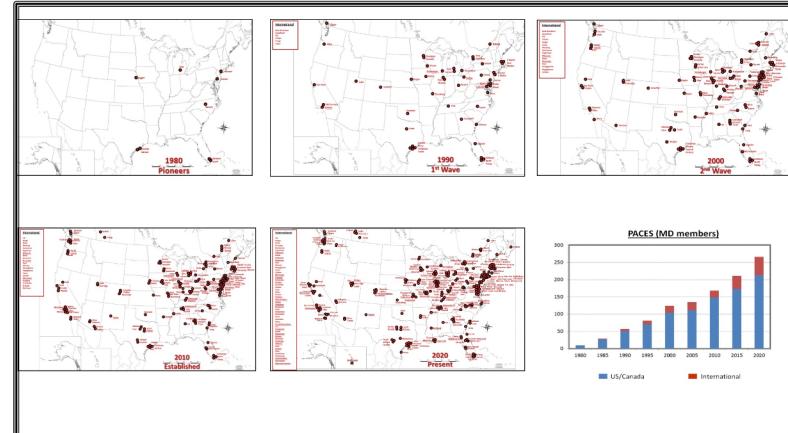
Special attention 1970s – 1990s before data lost!

- old PACES member lists
- archived PACES documents
- response to my bio info request
- my best recollection

Corrections / additions very welcome

## **Objective #2:**

Document fellowship training history for PACES members with attention to both institution and mentor(s).



You may not appear on 2020 map if you didn't pay your PACES dues and didn't respond to my request for data.

**Pay your PACES dues!**

**Program directors: please send me complete list of past trainees**

**All: Check 2020 map on PACES website and provide corrections**

[ed.walsh@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:ed.walsh@childrens.harvard.edu)

**Coming soon:**

**Ed Walsh Unplugged on the PACES Website:  
"The PACES History Project"**

# INTERNATIONAL



Thomas Paul, VP International affairs



Thomas's Hometown of Göttingen, Germany

## PACES travel award:

In 2019/2020, for the forth time PACES offered 2 travel grants for pediatric electrophysiologists from underserved countries to attend the PACES 2020 sessions as well as the HRS 2020 Scientific Sessions in San Diego.

Dr. Chencheng Dai from Beijing, China, and Dr. Mani Ram Krishna Singaravelu from Kochi, India, will be the recipients of our grant worth of \$ 4,000 each this year. This activity will strengthen our aims to promoting pediatric electrophysiology in underserved areas of the world.

Dr. Chencheng Dai is a pediatric electrophysiologist and cardiologist from Beijing, China. She is currently working as Associate Chief of Pediatric Cardiology at Beijing Anzhen Hospital in Beijing, China. Dr. Dai has been engaged in pediatric electrophysiology and pacing for the last ten years. Dr. Dai has worked and published on dyssynchronous left ventricular wall motion in WPW syndrome and left bundle pacing in children. Dr. Dai's intention to visit PACES/HRS 2020 is to learn from and to communicate with international electrophysiologists sharing their perspective and providing valuable information.

Dr. Mani Ram Krishna Singaravelu is currently working as Clinical Assistant Professor and Clinical Lead in Pediatric EP at the Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, India. Dr. Singaravelu has been trained in pediatric EP at the Children's Hospital at Westmead, Australia. Since 2018, he has established pediatric EP services at his institution including an Inherited Arrhythmia Clinic. Dr. Singaravelu has worked and published on congenital junctional ectopic tachycardia, channelopathies and the use of ivabradine in postoperative junctional ectopic tachycardia. Dr. Singaravelu's intention to visit PACES/HRS 2020 is to gain experience in academic pediatric and congenital pediatric EP.

As the PACES meeting has been cancelled in 2020 the recipients will be honored during our meeting next year.

## International 2ndOpinion Forum:

Cecilia Gonzalez (UK), Ulrich Krause (Germany)

In 2019/2020 2 cases have been discussed. The forum is still open for submissions.

## PACES support of EP units in underserved countries:

With the help of Cecilia Gonzalez a children's hospital was identified in Rwanda. At the present time the response of the unit in Rwanda is pending concerning detailed support.

- A virtual meeting was also conducted with pediatric EP and Cardiologists in Venezuela to assess needs

# QA/QI COMMITTEE



Ronn Tanel, Co-Chair, QA/QI Committee



Ronn's Hometown of Mill Valley, CA

## Members:

Robin Clegg, Cari Coons, Aarti Dalal, Brynn Dechert-Crooks, Arnold Fenrich, Jason Garnreiter, Martin LaPage, Lindsey Malloy-Walton, Jen Maldonado, Anthony McCanta, LuAnn Mill, Shaun Mohan, Andrew Radbill, Tess Saarel, Stephen Seslar, Tammy Sweeten, Svjetlana Tisma-Dupanovic, Tony Trella, Sabrina Tsao, Johannes Von Alvensleben

The QI Committee has had a series of conference calls in anticipation of the upcoming PACES meeting (now occurring at the Advancing the Field meeting instead of at pre-HRS). The Committee has identified several goals for the coming year:

- Development of an instructional QI program for PACES members
- Participation of the more global PACES community in collaborative QI work
- Proposal and application of a few small-scale initial pilot QI projects to assess interest amongst the membership
- Continued revision and refinement of the current (EP) and future (CIED) IMPACT modules which are anticipated to be incorporated in IMPACT version 3.

A proposed dedicated QI session has been approved by the PACES Executive Committee. The goal of this session is to provide basic QI education and to establish a forum in which PACES members can be involved in proposing relevant and meaningful projects. This program was initially being developed as part of the pre-HRS PACES program but will now be postponed to the 2020 Advancing the Field program:

- 2-hour session dedicated to QI
- QI speaker and facilitator
- A lecture on the basic fundamentals of QI science and application to clinical EP practice
- Break out session to discuss and propose potential PACES QI projects with facilitators
- Structure of this session will be dependent on the number of registrants
- Presentation of 2 pilot QI project proposals
- Electronic Patient Reported Outcomes after EP study/ablation (Seslar, Kiener)
- Radiation Exposure during CIED Procedures (Patel)

## QA/QI COMMITTEE (CONT.)



Doug's Hometown of Brookline, MA

Douglas Mah, Co-Chair, QA/QI Committee

### IMPACT

Doug and Ronn recently had an informative and encouraging conference call with several members of the ACC IMPACT Registry Steering Committee, including Joan Michaels (Project Manager) and Bob Vincent, MD (Chair of the ACC IMPACT Registry Steering Committee)

- IMPACT version 3 will likely be released in 2021

- EP Module

- The QI Committee submitted a set of revisions for version 3 in early 2019. Based on the current estimated timeline, PACES and the QI committee have until the end of 2020 to make any further revisions and suggestions. Current conversations during QI Committee conference calls are assessing the utility of the registry for meaningful research and QI endeavors. The Committee recognizes that inclusion of input from as many members as possible is important to determine which data fields and how much detail is necessary for broader research and QI work of interest to all PACES members. Further discussion is necessary and ongoing to achieve these goals

- CIED Module

- A CIED registry module is currently under development with Tess Saarel as lead. The current Case Report Form (CRF) is being reviewed via conference calls and is housed in REDCap and sponsored by Cleveland Clinic. Similar to the EP module, the ultimate goal is to have a module ready for IMPACT version 3 in 2021 with focused data fields and variables that will facilitate data entry and lead to meaningful future research, QI, and industry-related projects.

- As an incentive for PACES members to participate in these QI initiatives, the Committee will explore the possibility of members earning MOC credit for their contributions.

# RESEARCH COMMITTEE



Prince Kannankeril, VP of Research



Prince's Hometown of Nashville, TN

Members: Jonathan Kaltman, Ronn Tanel, Bhavya Trivedi, Anne Dubin, Lindsay Malloy, Chris Janson, Robert Hamilton, Ulrich Krause, Georgia Brugada, Andras Bratincsak, Carolina Escudero, Reina Tan, Andrew Landstrom, Natasja de Groot, Ron Kanter

Multicenter Studies reviewed by PRC in 2019/2020:

- His bundle Pacing in CCTGA (PI Jeremy Moore)
- Vancouver Palpitation Score (PI Shu Sanatani)
- KX2.5 Multicenter Study (PI Peter Aziz)
- Leadless Pacing Multicenter Study (PI Mally Shah)

Awards judged by PRC in 2019/2020:

- Paul Gillette Award
- 4 applications
- SADS Young Investigator Awards
- 6 applications

SADS Young Investigator Awards  
(Previous awardees)

- 2008 - Jeff Kim
- 2009 - Stacy Killen
- 2010 - Suraj Kapa and Edward Glasscock
- 2011 - Ahmad Amin and Pete Aziz
- 2012 - Nicole Boczek and Michela Faggioni
- 2013 - David Aurbach and Chris van Der Werf
- 2014 - Nicole Boczek and Jamie Kapplinger
- 2015 - Helen Altman and Thomas Roston
- 2016 - Worowan Limpitkul and Brad Clark
- 2017 - Daniel Matasic and Najim Lahrouchi
- 2018 - Julia Cadrin-Tourigny and Christiaan Veerman
- 2019 - Joon-Chul Kim and Krystien V. Lieve

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE (CONT.)

### **List of Previous awardees:**

#### **Paul Gillette Award**

**2014-2016** Christina Miyake, MD, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX

"Molecular Basis of Circadian Variation in Arrhythmias in CPVT"

**2015-2017** Jeffrey Vincour, MD and Tamara Koopmann, PhD, University of Rochester, NY

"Identification of a Gene Underlying Congenital Junctional Ectopic Tachycardia"

**2016-2018** Andrew P. Landstrom, MD PhD, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX

"The Role of Junctophilin-2 in the Development of Youthful Sinus and Atrioventricular Nodal Disease"

**2017-2019** Mark Shwayder, MD, University of Utah, UT

Applying Advanced Bioinformatic Tools to Uncover the Genetic Basis of Inherited Arrhythmia "Syndromes"

**2018-2020** shared award

Reina Tan, MD, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia , PA, now at NYU, NY

" Dual Chamber vs. Single Chamber Ventricular Pacing in Isolated Congenital Complete Heart Block in Infancy (DAVINCHI Study): A Multi-Institutional Retrospective Study"

AND

Akash Patel, MD, University of California, San Francisco, CA

"Pediatric Risk Factors for Premature Ventricular Contractions Induced Left Ventricular Dysfunction (Pediatric PREVENTION Study)"

**2019-2021**

Rohan N. Kumthekar, MD, Children's National Health System, Washington D.C.

A Novel Tool for Percutaneous Implantation of Pacing and Defibrillation Leads in Small Children and Infants

**The 2020 PACES /Paul C. Gillette Grant & SADS YIA Awards will be announced at the PACES Virtual Business meeting ( Date : TBD)**

**The SADS YIA Awards will also be announced on a Live SADS Facebook session on May 8, 2020**

# SOCIAL MEDIA



Bradley Clark, Co-Chair,  
Social Media



Brad's Hometown of Bergen County, NJ



Yukiko Asaki, Co-Chair,  
Social Media

## Twitter:

The PACES Twitter account was launched in November 2018 and currently has 187 followers, which has increased from 139 since January 2020.

Although our hopeful goal was to use the PACES Twitter to advertise the HRS 5K and promote/highlight our members at HRS 2020, PACES Twitter has served an important purpose to help keep our members updated regarding the cancellation of HRS 2020, PACES events (5K, Business meeting, pre-HRS symposium) and status of grant/award submissions. We hope that we will continue to assist in informing our members during the COVID-19 crisis and look forward to our involvement in the Advancing the Field meeting in October.

Fun Fact 1: The first 2 tweets from the PACES account were sent on the same day, 11/8/2018:

 **PACES Pediatric and Conge...** · 08 Nov 18 ▾  
Great 2nd Annual Advancing the Field  
Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology  
meeting! Congratulations Tony and Bhavya

2 5 0 0

 **PACES Pediatric and Conge...** · 08 Nov 18 ▾  
Just setting up my Twitter. #myfirstTweet

1 0 0 0

Fun Fact 2: The first ever tweet by the PACES account was only "Liked" by one person:  
Seshadri Balaji

## Followers:

-Include pediatric and adult electrophysiologists (both national and international), pediatric and adult cardiologists, EP, pediatric and adult cardiology fellows, patients/families and members of industry

# SOCIAL MEDIA (CONT.)

## 2019 Goals & Accomplishments:

- Promotion of PACES member publications (thanks Prince!)
- Distribution of PACES-approved or co-sponsored guidelines
- Advertisement of PACES 5K, to resume post-coronavirus for the Advancing the Field Meeting
- Highlighting PACES members at national conferences (AHA, ACC and HRS postponed secondary to COVID-19)
- PACES members have frequently tagged the PACES Twitter handle with interesting and challenging cases

## Goals for 2020 and beyond:

- Enhanced PACES member buy-in and Twitter/Instagram involvement  
We believe that the ATF meeting can be a great opportunity to assist (force) members to join Twitter and perhaps consider a brief 10-15 minute session on the process. We had considered doing this at the PACES Business Meeting or pre-HRS symposium.
- Create an official avenue for tracking member publications, grants/awards, presentations and philanthropic endeavors for highlighting on social media
- Perhaps we can consider a special email address ([twitter@pediatricepsociety.org](mailto:twitter@pediatricepsociety.org) or [socialmedia@pediatricepsociety.org](mailto:socialmedia@pediatricepsociety.org) or something along those lines) that members can send information to be sent out via social media
- Assist in distribution/sharing of interesting pediatric EP cases to facilitate member involvement and discussion

## Instagram:

The Instagram account for PACES has just been launched. You can follow @paces\_ep.

The goal for Instagram is somewhat different from Twitter. We envision Instagram as a platform for advocacy and outreach including targeting a more broad audience including trainees, general pediatric and adult cardiologists, pediatricians and patients/families.

We have gotten approval to post information on patients and their stories, in addition to interesting cases. There are official PACES-approved forms that require completion prior to sharing patient photos/stories:

- HIPAA Form for Media
- Media Consent

We are truly excited for this new endeavor and appreciate input and support from our PACES members!

# WEBSITE



Shashank Behere, Chair of Website Committee



Shashank's Hometown of Oklahoma City, OK

## Committee Members

Tammy Sweeten  
(coordinator)  
Cheyenne Beach  
Daniel Cortez  
Jason Imundo  
Adam Keane  
Rohan Kumthekar  
Hoang Nguyen  
Matthew Williams

## PACES Members Surveyed in August, 2019

N=63 respondents

Majority of respondents were physicians

Most people visited the website within the past week to month

Most people think the website is easy to find

Most people are neutral about the website appearance

Most people are neutral/disagreeable about the ease of finding things

## Clear priorities identified in August 2019

1. Timely updates
  2. Updated and easily searchable member directory
  3. Website appearance
  4. Booking annual meeting
  5. Fix the “buggy” mobile experience
- The committee’s immediate aim was to take more ownership of content curation, and play a more active role in making the website function as desired

## Initial steps taken in 2019

- Website committee members oriented as admins– ie minor, frequent updates can be performed by us without depending on tech team
- Website committee pored over the current content in website and its subsections, identified redundant/old info to remove
- Generated a list of initial updates/deletions/rearrangements
- Liaisons identified in research, education, APP subcommittees to “greenlight” the changes identified, and to provide us with ongoing content updates in the future– so the website subsections will be updated to the satisfaction of the relevant subcommittees
- The website mobile experience was revamped- now easier to navigate on phone

# WEBSITE (CONT.)

## Our Big Change: FASEB to MCI

- The website management service was thus far provided by an entity- FASEB, responsible for website maintenance, EP provider registry, and handling online membership and meeting transactions
- For various reasons, FASEB was unable to continue this service
- A new management service was identified in late 2019, to the satisfaction of the PACES exec committee- "MCI"
- MCI to serve PACES through 2020 (and if to PACES satisfaction, beyond 2020)
- MCI representatives met with PACES website chair to go over our goals and future directions for PACES website content
- MCI also provides non-website administrative services- MCI representative had planned to be present at the annual meeting to better understand PACES structure and function

### Successful Transition

- Jan –Feb 2020 was spent transitioning the website services over from FASEB to MCI

## Key goals for Spring 2020

- Maintain website functionality without any loss of service on the front end- this was achieved
- Smooth and easy registration for PACES meeting – this was achieved, though coronavirus had other plans...
- Allow the website committee to continue with the content curation during this transition- this was achieved
- During this transition, the backend technical machinery of the website has been unaltered- to facilitate the transition
- However, we are limited in achieving our long-term goals with the current backend software
- MCI will provide us with a new backend for the website which will allow us to make more "broad stroke" changes

## Progress made in 2020

- Our content changes were approved by relevant subcommittees, and the structure is in place now for smooth content curation moving forward
- Majority of redundant materials and out-of-date materials are now removed, majority of desired updated content is now uploaded
- Can expect to see more content updates (especially the "Research" subsection) in April 2020
- New education subsection coming in April-May 2020, will be a home for all the educational modules and materials generated by education committee
- Moving forward content update requests from various subcommittees can be sent straight to us and we will perform them within a 48 hr turnaround (we have already started helping with job postings). If requests are sent straight to us, we will still plan to request approval from the subcommittee liaison before enacting the update

## Next Steps for 2020

- With the change from FASEB to MCI managing the website, we are in a good position to address identified priorities
- Getting our twitter feed, Instagram feed embedded into the website
- Creating a searchable and updated member directory
- Improve website aesthetics (within the constraints of the existing system), with a separate website experience for patients vs professionals
- Adding subsections for emerging leaders
- Adding a robust PACES community discussion forum
- Facilitating anything else PACES members desire from the website experience

## Beyond 2020

- Fresh survey of PACES members mid-late 2020 to solicit new directions for improvement

# PARTNERSHIPS & PACES MEMBER REPRESENTATION



## International Collaborations with:

- Association of European Paediatric & Congenital Cardiology
- Japanese Cardiology Society
- Pediatric Cardiology of India
- International Society for Adults with Congenital Heart Disease
- Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society
- Latin American Heart Rhythm Society

We are pleased to report continuing collaboration with several other professional societies. The following PACES members hold important committee positions:

### American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery :

- Christopher Snyder, MD, FAAP: Chairperson, Executive Committee
- Michael Ackerman, MD, PhD, FAAP: Executive Committee member
- Elizabeth Saarel, MD, FAAP: Executive Committee member
- Stuart Berger, MD, FAAP: Chair, Advocacy & Public Policy

### American Heart Association:

- Jaun Villafane, MD: Young Hearts & CLCD ACHD committee member
- Susan Etheridge, MD: Young Hearts & Early career mentoring committee member, SCILL committee member
- Prince Kannankeril, MD: Young Hearts & Early career mentoring committee member
- Charles Berul, MD: Chair, SCILL, Young Hearts Leadership committee member
- Elizabeth Saarel, MD: Young Hearts Nominating committee member

### American College of Cardiology:

- Mitchell Cohen, MD: Electrophysiology Section member
- Susan Etheridge, MD: ACPC Section member
- Elizabeth Saarel, MD: NCDR IMPACT Steering committee member
- Maully Shah, MBBS: NCDR IMPACT R&P committee member

### Heart Rhythm Society:

- George Van Hare, MD: Board of Trustees, Audit, Ethics, Nomination committee member
- Edward Walsh, MD: History committee member
- Maully Shah, MBBS: Journal sub-committee member
- Peter Aziz, MD: Education committee member
- Aarti Dalal, DO: Education programs & Services sub-committee member
- Scott Macicek, MD: Finance committee
- Elizabeth Stephenson, MD: Governance committee
- Andrew Blaufox, MD: Health Policy committee, Reimbursement & Regulatory sub-committee
- Jonathan Kaltman, MD: Research committee member
- Prince Kannankeril, MD: Research committee member
- Bryn Dechert: Patient & Caregiver committee member
- Jennifer Silva, MD: Membership committee member
- Ian Law, MD: Membership committee member
- Bryan Cannon, MD: Member Engagement sub-committee member
- Susan Etheridge, MD: Communication committee, Education committee member
- Anne Dubin, MD: Scientific and Clinical Document committee member
- Elizabeth Saarel, MD: Scientific and Clinical Document committee member
- Martin LaPage, MD, MS: Quality Improvement committee member
- Charles I Berul, MD: Associate Editor, Heart Rhythm Journal
- Christina Miyake, MD: Section Editor, Heart Rhythm Case Reports Journal

### Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (Cardiac Electrophysiology):

The Annual HRS -PACES Leadership Meeting took place virtually this year on May 5.

- There was an excellent exchange of ideas and endorsement for continuing partnership
- The meeting was attended by HRS leaders Andrea Russo, Christine Albert, Fred Kusomoto, Pat Blake and PACES leaders Maully Shah, Seshadri Balaji, Prince Kannankeril, Tess Saarel, Melissa Olen, Bryan Cannon, George Van Hare and John Triedman

# PARTNERSHIPS (CONT.)

## SADS Foundation Report to PACES 2020

### Young Investigator Awards

In conjunction with PACES, the SADS Foundation offers young investigator awards in channelopathies.YIA winners and their mentors were announced in a Facebook Live session with Drs. Michael Ackerman and Prince Kannankeril on May 8, 2020.

Young Investigator Awardees are Aravind Gade, PhD, and mentor, Geoffrey Pitt, MD, PhD of Cornell Weill Medicine, New York City for basic science and Yukiko Asaki, MD and mentor, Susan Etheridge, MD of Primary Children's Hospital/University of Utah, Salt Lake City for clinical/translational science category.

### Facebook Live Video Sessions with Dr. Michael Ackerman & SADS Scientific Advisors

Since March and through May 2020, Dr. Michael Ackerman and SADS Foundation scientific experts are answering questions from families about their SADS condition and about COVID-19 through a series of Facebook Live Q & A video sessions. All are recorded and available here:

<https://www.sads.org/living-with-sads/Staying-Healthy/Coronavirus/Facebook-Live>

### SADS Foundation Partners with Pediheart for monthly podcasts

The SADS Foundation is pleased to partner with Dr. Robert H. Pass' PediHeart podcasts for a monthly topic related to SADS conditions and genetic arrhythmias.Dr. Pass has weekly podcasts and interviews authors of recent publications of interest to pediatric cardiologists.

<https://www.sads.org/Medical-Professional-Education/Podcast-Series#>

### Difficult Cases for SADS Foundation Scientific Advisory Council

A special thank you from the SADS Foundation to Aarti Dalal, DO, St. Louis, Missouri, PACES Emerging Leaders co-chair.Dr. Dalal is leading the preparation to publish the conversations and suggestions of SADS Foundation Scientific Advisory Council who have addressed challenging cases submitted. The first case will be submitted to HeartRhythm Case Reports this month--first author is Johannes von Alvensleben.

### SADS Foundation Webinar featuring Dr. Dan Roden

With HRS cancelled, SADS Foundation has reformatted our dinner meeting presentation to a live webinar with Dr. Dan Roden entitled "Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndromes and Precision Medicine: Current and Emerging Opportunities".It will be hosted on June 11 at 6 pm EDT.

Notify [SADS@SADS.org](mailto:SADS@SADS.org) if interested in more information.



# WOMEN IN PACES

Ad Hoc Committee Members:

Maully Shah, Susan Etheridge, Anne Dubin, Tess Saarel, Melissa Olen, Vicki Freedenberg, Gabriele Hessling, Elizabeth Stephenson, Kathy Collins, Mary Niu

2019 and 2020 showcase Women Leadership in Cardiology



Judy Hung, MD, president-elect of the American Society of Echocardiography; Maully Shah, MD, president of the Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology Society; Sharmila Dorbala, MD, MPH, president of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology; Andrea Russo, MD, outgoing president of the HRS; and Barbara Casadei, MD, president of the European Society of Cardiology

PACES currently has 60 women members (20%) including physicians, trainees and associated health professionals. During the 1st Annual Women in PACES meeting in San Francisco, CA , the group identified two main topics of interest: 1) Mentorship and 2) Professional equity.

- ▶ Using a survey method to assess interest and compatibility, we identified senior women interested in long distance mentoring of junior PACES colleagues.
- ▶ We conducted a survey to assess professional variations in practice and compensation with and hope htat the survey results will be useful to ALL PACES physicians
- ▶ Our goal is to ensure that there is equal representation of women in all PACES initiatives including guideline documents, committees and scientific meetings
- ▶ We plan to continue our annual Women in PACES meetings at the pre-HRS events
- ▶ Lectures, fire side chats and executive coaching sessions will be planned

# SURVEYS

We have sent out multiple surveys this year to assess interest in topics, variations in practice, as well as to gauge interest in meetings. We typically receive a response rate of 50-100 ( 15-30%) of our total membership. Some surveys might be more relevant to a particular group of members than others.

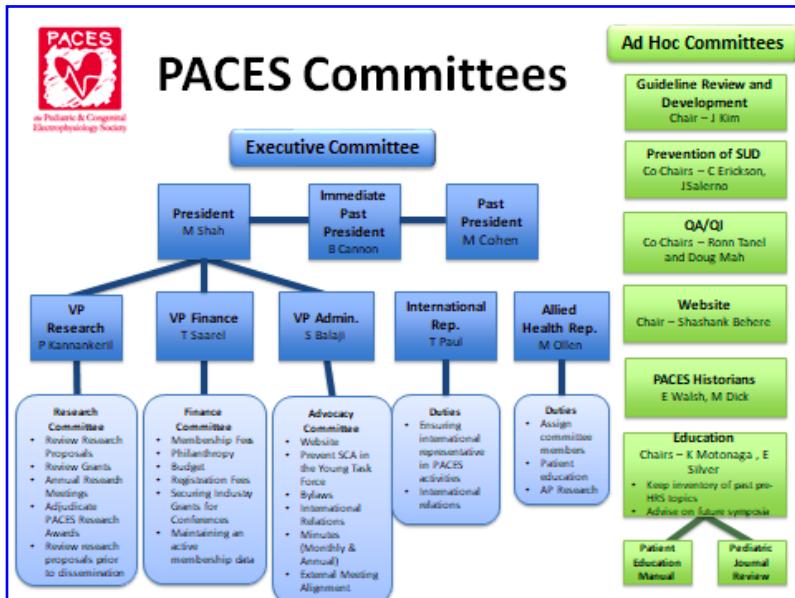
We encourage ALL PACES members to respond to surveys as the data generated from the surveys is only as powerful as its denominator.

All PACES generated survey results will be available either through the website or directly from the survey sponsor.

Description	Date
PACES Website Survey	8/1/19
PACES Survey on Arrhythmias and Electronic Gaming	10/11/19
Current Practices in Exercise Testing	10/14/19
Survey On Immunizations In Pediatric Cardiology Patients	12/5/19
PACES International Partnership Survey	12/6/19
Telemetry Benchmarking Survey	12/10/19
PACES Survey on Central Lines in CIED Patients	12/18/19
PACES CIED Follow up variation survey	2/21/20
Pediatric EP Physician Professional Survey	3/12/20
Fontan Survey	3/17/20
PACES COVID-19 Survey	3/30/20
PACES Advancing The Field Attendance Meeting Survey	4/13/20
PACES/FDA Survey	4/22/20

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

## LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE: 2019-2020



The Executive Committee amended PACES BY-LAWS in May 2020

-Check the PACES website for amended Bylaws



## PACES 2020 Conferences :

Due to the COVID -19 Pandemic, please note that all in person PACES conferences are cancelled unless otherwise specified on the PACES website!

Please visit the PACES website for updates

## PACES Contact:

**Website:**  
<http://pediatricepsociety.org>

**PACES Members Services Representative :**  
 Amalia Paul

**Website host and management by :**  
 MCI Group (<https://www.mci-group.com/en-us/>)

**PACES Membership Services**  
 7918 Iones Branch Drive, Suite 300  
 McLean, VA 22102  
 Email: [membership@pediatricepsociety.org](mailto:membership@pediatricepsociety.org)



Telephone: 301-634-7401

# THE LAST WORD

Thank you PACES

Stay Safe

Stay Healthy

Stay Positive

Stay Awesome

Stay Connected