

Anjan (AJ) Batra, MD, MBA

Dear PACES colleagues. I am writing this letter to ask for your vote and support for my election to the post of Vice President of Finance.

For those that don't know me, I completed my residency, general cardiology and EP training all at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. My initial job was at Indiana University School of Medicine. I subsequently moved to create an EP program at the Children's Hospital of Orange County and University of California, Irvine where I am currently a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and have had the privilege of serving as the Director of the Arrhythmia and Pacing Lab for the past 15 years. I also completed an MBA at UC Irvine in 2016. As the Chief of Pediatric Cardiology at UCI, I oversaw the annual budget and planning for the division and was responsible for business development for the division. I currently chair the planning and budget committee of the college of health sciences at UC Irvine. This has allowed me the opportunity to remain involved in making an organization financially sustainable. As the VP of finance, I plan to apply some of these concepts to further enhance our organization.

Outside of work, I am a proud father of two teenage kids and enjoy my time engaging in outdoor activities like running, skiing and hiking and volunteering for organizations like Camp del Corazon, a camp for children with heart diseases and Orange County department of education.

Having been a part of PACES for the past 20+ years, it feels like family. I look forward to meeting everyone at our annual reunions at the HRS and other events. I have also had the good fortune to work closely with many of you through mutual patients, collaborative research projects and on various PACES committees. I owe a lot of my own personal growth to PACES. Hence, I feel it is now time to pay back.

PACES has made incredible progress over the years since when I first joined it. I have seen some phenomenal leaders come and go and each time, the organization has reached new milestones. I would love to continue to build on the educational platform that PACES has created via web-based tools. Programs like project ECHO have done a wonderful job in enhancing education through PACES all over the World. However, there remains an ongoing need for such programs for medical students, residents, fellows, primary care providers and anybody outside the core pediatric EP circle. I have chaired a Biennial conference on Controversies in Sudden Cardiac Arrest in collaboration with PACES. The conference has become a platform to disseminate information outside the core pediatric EP circle. We were unable to host this conference this year due to Covid but I am hoping we can reach an even wider audience through the web in the future.

I see the next few years as a turning point for our organization as the healthcare landscape around us evolves from volume to value driven care. This brings with it both challenges as well as opportunities to be the leader in creating the value agenda for our own organization. I believe with my experience in clinical, research and the business side of the medicine with my MBA, I can take PACES to the next level.

