

# PACES NEWSLETTER SUMMER/FALL 2021

## Personal Statement from the President:

Dear PACES Members,

This continues to be an unprecedented time for our members, patients and families, and worldwide societies as we wade our way through the global COVID-19 pandemic! I hope that all of you are finding a way to stay “positive” for your own sake and for the benefit of our community and patients. For me, PACES - our members, our mission and vision, and our patients - has been a ray of hope in a world that otherwise seems dominated by public disinformation, mistrust, and failure of political leadership to effectively protect citizens.

Earlier this week the Governor of Idaho, the state where I live and practice medicine, issued a statewide mandate for medical Crisis Standard of Care.

IDAHO IS UNDER STATEWIDE  
**CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE**  
LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW  
THIS COULD AFFECT YOU AT  
[healthandwelfare.idaho.gov](https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov)

Never before in my career have I been told NOT to try and perform CPR or resuscitate a patient by authorities. This mandate supersedes all shared decision making and all personal healthcare decisions made by patients and providers as we don't have enough resources to try and save everyone who is sick in Idaho. I feel angry at all the folks in our state who have put me in this terrible situation – all those who have CHOSEN not to get vaccinated against COVID 19 and have chosen NOT to wear a mask in public venues due to their personal beliefs or due to public disinformation about vaccine safety. The facts about the vaccination rate

in my state are listed here: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/covid-19-vaccine-doses.html>, and the facts are dismal. I strongly believe the current situation in my state and many parts of the United States is due to a failure of our education system so that citizens are unable to effectively understand the difference between fact and fiction, between possible and probable. The lack of effective education, and perhaps between separation of church and state (between faith and fact), has led to our election of poor leaders.

That said, PACES and its members has continued to make positive strides as an organization over the past several months. A few past and upcoming highlights are listed below.

## **PACES at the HRS Scientific Sessions – July**

- Our esteemed member and past-President of PACES, Charlie Berul received the coveted HRS **Pioneer in Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology Award 2021** – well deserved Charlie!

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- **PACES Joint Sessions and Pediatric & Congenital Educational and Scientific session were well received! Sessions were a hybrid between live and virtual venues.**

<https://hrsonline.force.com/helpcenter/s/topic/0TO1H000000giz6WAA/he-art-rhythm-annual-meeting>

- Congratulations to the HRS Program committee members Mitch Cohen, Doug Mah and Greg Webster for putting together an excellent program
- **First PACES lead Scientific Statement announced July 28**
  - Congratulations to PACES especially Maully Shah and Mike Silka!
  - 2021 PACES Expert Consensus Statement on the Indications and Management of Cardiovascular Implantable Electronic Devices in Pediatric Patients

[https://www.heartrhythmjournal.com/article/S1547-5271\(21\)01916-0/fulltext](https://www.heartrhythmjournal.com/article/S1547-5271(21)01916-0/fulltext)



- **PACES Award Winners 2021**
  - **Paul Gillette PACES Research Grant**
    - **Brad Clark MD**



- **PACES Research Patrick Joyce Allied Professional Award**
  - **Brynn Dechert-Crooks**
  - **Jessica Posey**
  - **Karen Smoots**
- **SADS Foundation Courts K. Cleveland, Jr. Young Investigator Awards in Pediatric Cardiac Channelopathy Research**
  - **Steven M. Dotzler (Mentor: Mike Ackerman)**
  - **Puck J Peltenburg (Mentor: Arthur Wide)**



- **PACES Social Hour at HRS 2021 – July 28**

- Great event -sponsored by Alta Thera, Atrility and Sentiar – thanks to our sponsors!



- **Women in PACES Event – July 29**

- Great event – thanks to Medtronic for sponsoring!



## Future Highlights – Upcoming Changes & Save the Date

- Coming soon to the PACES-EP website: PACES shared Calendar
- PACES Annual QI Meeting – 100% Virtual – October 2021
- PACES Annual Education Meeting, held jointly with SADS – 100% Virtual – December 2021
- **2022**
  - **Live Event -PACES Awards Ceremony** – Friday April 29 in San Francisco – venue TBD
    - **Barbara Deal: PACES Lifetime Achievement Award**
    - Paul Gillette PACES Research Grant
    - Patrick Joyce Allied Professional Travel Award
    - SADS Foundation Courts K. Cleveland, Jr. Young Investigator Awards in Pediatric Cardiac Channelopathy Research
  - ***Annual PACES Business, Research, Education and QI meetings will be virtual again in 2022***
    - *This decision was made in large part with a view to promoting Diversity and Inclusion in PACES events, knowing that many of our members will not be able to travel to the HRS Scientific Sessions again next year*

**Thanks to all of you for all you do for PACES – for our members, our patients and families. Please try to stay positive and safe!**

**Tess  
PACES President 2021-22**