

PACES VP Research Personal Statement- R. M. (Bob) Hamilton

Pediatric Electrophysiology has been a blast of a career to date (although I've never done a DC ablation!), and research has been an important part of that career. I started with an interest in autoimmune congenital heart block, which three decades later is now resulting in important discoveries. My interest in inherited arrhythmias also shaped my career, resulted in gene discoveries, and now accurate diagnostic biomarkers for some of these disorders which are being translated (with challenges) to clinical tests.

A key feature to my research has been broad collaboration between clinicians and PhD scientists, across disciplines, and between the multiple centers needed to investigate moderately rare disorders. PACES has been an important part of these collaborations, and I aspire to give back to PACES by furthering this research mission. A remaining challenge is to advocate for protected time and funding for pediatric EP trainees to be able to participate meaningfully in basic and translational science. I also continue to encourage PACES to broaden its membership and representation internationally.

PACES has had tremendous leadership from VPs such as Shu, Prince and others, and if voted to succeed these pioneers, I will endeavor to carry on and expand upon their mandate.

Sincerely,

Bob Hamilton
Professor and Senior Associate Scientist