

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of 2005. There has been a lot of activity in the ILAE over the past few months. The first phase of the ILAE election process has been decided and a new president has been duly elected. Peter Wolf will take over the mantle from Giuliano Avanzini at the International Epilepsy Congress in Paris. We wish him every success in this role and are confident that the ILAE will go from strength to strength under his guidance, as it has done over the past 4 years under the very capable hands of Giuliano Avanzini. On page 3 we read about the valuable contribution which Peter Wolf has made to the International Epilepsy Community and his future plans. On pages 4, 5 and 6 of this issue we include short biographies of the eight candidates who have been nominated by chapters to stand for the four remaining ILAE Executive Committee posts. We wish them all luck.

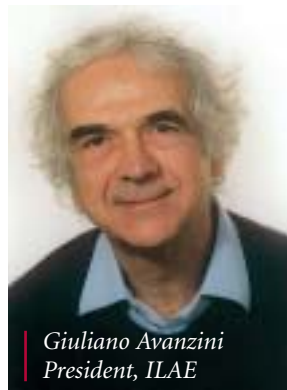
We read about the enormous amount of work that has been undertaken by the different ILAE commissions in the President's Message on pages 1 and 2. All ILAE chapters will be receiving an amended Constitution and Byelaws in advance of the General Assembly meeting in Paris this summer, where it will be discussed.

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President's Message



Giuliano Avanzini
President, ILAE

The present issue of Epigraph comes out when the first phase of the election process has already been completed, with the election of the incoming president, Peter Wolf. His election recognizes his outstanding scientific and professional achievements and his long-lasting experience in the management of our association. It is my special pleasure to congratulate Peter and to wish him good luck. I would also like to express my appreciation to the other two candidates, Natalio Fejerman and Martin Brodie, for their willingness to serve as ILAE President. Their nomination as candidates testifies the high esteem they enjoy among the ILAE Chapters and we count on their further involvement in the ILAE activities.

Meanwhile, the second phase i.e. the election of the Executive Committee members, is ongoing and the profiles of the candidates are carried in this issue, according to the procedures dictated by the new Constitutional rules approved by the ILAE General Assembly in Lisbon. The amendments made to the Constitutional article dealing with the election procedures were drawn up by the ILAE EC to make the crucial step in the running of our association more appropriate to a modern democratic organisation. The resulting

improvement in transparency and fairness has been greatly valued by our associates. As usual in every innovative process, however, not everything about the new rules proved to be perfect and a review of advantages and of the new arrangements will be conducted at the end of the election process so that we may further improve the rules where necessary.

The Constitutional rules for the election of the ILAE EC is one of the items on the agenda of the Task Force for the Revision of the Constitution and Bylaws, chaired by the Secretary General Natalio Fejerman. During the last meeting, held in New Orleans, a general consensus was reached on virtually all the points under discussion. The amended text eliminates several ambiguities and brings the documents into line with the requirements brought about by the rapid development of our association. The strict relationships with our sister association, the IBE, that itself has just completed a profound revision of its own Constitution, are confirmed and better defined in the new text. The amended Constitution and Bylaws will be discussed by the ILAE EC and then circulated among the ILAE Chapters in preparation of the General Assembly meeting in Paris, to which they will be submitted for final decisions.

All the ILAE Commissions have been very productive during the last year in organizing workshops, meetings and courses and in drawing up documents that summarize the state of knowledge and science in their specific field and providing authoritative guidelines. Several Commission documents have been endorsed by the ILAE EC and published by our Journal Epilepsia.

Moreover, the Task Force on Classification, chaired by Pete Engel,

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One of the highlights for the epilepsy community this year is the forthcoming 26th International Epilepsy Congress, to be hosted in Paris from 26th August-1st September. There will be an estimated 4,000 delegates from all over the world. The programme is an ambitious one and much thought has gone into providing a varied menu of topics - a broad spectrum, ranging from clinical epileptology to basic research through to social issues. Page 7 sets the scene for the congress and it is hoped that as many ILAE members as possible will be able to attend.

May I take this opportunity to thank Pfizer for the generous unrestricted educational grant to fund Epigraph.

May we remind all readers that any comments or suggestions regarding the content of Epigraph are as ever more than welcome.

Ley Sander
Editor

THE ELECTION PROCESS

The first phase of the election process for the 2005-2009 officers of the ILAE, the election of the President, was successfully completed.

Professor Peter Wolf of Copenhagen will be the next ILAE president. The second phase of elections has now begun with eight candidates nominated by the chapters for the four remaining offices: Secretary-General, Treasurer, and two Vice Presidents. The candidates are, in alphabetical order: Frederick Andermann (Canada), Michel Baulac (France), Martin Brodie (UK), Alla Guekht (Russia), Solomon L. Moshé (USA), Çigdem Özkara (Turkey), Emilio Perucca (Italy), and Chong-Tin Tan (Malaysia). Information on these candidates is presented on the following pages. Ballots have been issued to all ILAE chapters, and the deadline for

receipt of votes by the ILAE administrative office in Brussels is 31 March, 2005, midnight GMT. The results of the election will be announced on April 15, 2005.

More detailed information concerning the election process can be found in the previous issue of Epigraph. Questions about the election process can be addressed to the ILAE executive office info@ilae-epilepsy.org.

Members of the ILAE Elections Commission:

Jerome Engel, Jr. (Chair, USA)
Esper A. Cavalheiro (Brazil)
Harry Meinardi (Netherlands)
Amel Mrabet (Tunisia)
Masakazu Seino (Japan)

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continued its work of revision of the current classification, taking into account a number of comments, suggestions and criticisms received from individuals or Commissions. Several Commission workshops were actually devoted to topics relevant to specific aspects of the classification of seizures and syndromes. The classification should reflect the state of our knowledge in the field of epileptology: this means that because of the rapid development of our discipline, it should be seen as a work-in-progress and its 'champion' (the task force) should always be open to incorporate relevant new concepts and data.

The appreciation of the ongoing activities and prospective initiatives led to the decision of the ILAE to update the strategic plan that was drawn up on April 15, 2000, and further extended by the General Assembly on May 17, 2001. Thanks to the significant resources generated by congresses and by our journal *Epilepsia*, and very professionally managed by our

administrative structure, we are in a position to be able to support new strategic initiatives that may be considered of special interest. Therefore, a strategic planning meeting of the Commission/Task Force Chairmen was held in New Orleans on December 4, 2004, with the following agenda:

- a) Treatment Gap
- b) Education
- c) Research
- d) Communication
- e) Organization
- f) Relationship with Government and NGOs
- g) Relationship with Industry

Some specific sub-items raised in the various Chapter Convention meetings were taken specifically into account, namely how ILAE could:

- promote, facilitate and support international collaborative studies (e.g. genetics, epidemiology, etc.);
- stimulate training programs in different parts of the world (particularly in developing countries);

- develop tele-education and tele-medicine programs;
- improve relationships with individual Chapters with special regard to developing countries;
- improve the ILAE organization and services provided to the Chapters.

The meeting was very well attended and resulted in several interesting ideas that are being developed and put forward in a comprehensive document, which the present Executive Committee will hand over to the incoming one for any action that it considers appropriate to initiate.

I mentioned above the importance of the ILAE congress activities. In the past years, we witnessed an extraordinary development in their number and size, especially as regards the Regional Congresses. It was possible to cope with the increasing organizational burden thanks to the very effective office of the International Director of Meetings (IDM), which was created jointly by ILAE and IBE. The IDM, Richard Holmes, and his superb staff deserve our

appreciation for their outstanding work in organizing these meetings, which were very successful from both a scientific and social point of view. When the previous IDM contract expired, a review process was undertaken that highlighted its value and limitations. Based on the results of this evaluation, a new contract was drawn up by ILAE and IBE and agreed with Richard Holmes and his staff. It is my great pleasure to inform you that the contract is now almost ready to be signed, pending only a few linguistic adjustments relevant to some minor legal aspects.

Sadly, limitation of space prevents me from mentioning other important aspects of the activity of our association. However, in closing my message I would like to thank all the ILAE members whose support has always been vital to me, and the ILAE Executive Committee, who have been particularly helpful when dealing with several delicate problems that we have had to face. See you in Paris.

Giuliano Avanzini
President, ILAE

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ILAE AND THE INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY COMMUNITY AND FUTURE PLANS OF THE PRESIDENT ELECT



Prof. Peter Wolf

1981-1989 as Chair of Commission on Classification and Terminology responsible for the international syndrome classification.

As a member of the Commission on European Affairs since 1993, I was intimately involved with most of its initiatives, and chair the working group of quality care that keeps updating a master plan for the region. I conceived, and in 1996 established the European Epilepsy Academy (“EUREPA”) as the educational arm of the Commission, and have been chairing it since then. EUREPA is increasingly taking global educational responsibility, and I have assisted with the establishment of regional Academies in the Asian/Oceanian and Eastern Mediterranean regions. A francophone section is active in Africa, distance education has started this year, and education for professions allied with medicine is being developed.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

1985-2003 Medical Director of Epilepsy Centre Bethel (Bielefeld/Germany); development of a comprehensive programme including epilepsy surgery, psychotherapy and rehabilitation.

1993-2001 Secretary General of the ILAE. First establishment of an ILAE Secretariat, reorganisation of the internal structure and communication. Initiatives for the establishment of new chapters in many parts of the world led to doubling of our membership within my term of office.

For the Global Campaign against Epilepsy (with IBE and WHO) I initiated the series of regional conferences “Epilepsy as a Public Health Priority” and co-authored/edited the five regional Declarations on Epilepsy.

FUTURE PLANS FOR ILAE

My highest priorities will be in the fields of education and structural improvements.

EDUCATION

Education is the key to any progress, which attracts and binds young talent. Here is the best investment we can make of our resources, both considering funds, and the enormous educational goodwill of epileptologists which I keep encountering everywhere. From the development of an educational agenda for Europe, I have learned the following:

- we need to direct educational efforts to both the primary, secondary and highest levels of health care (new didactic formats are under development with EUREPA),
- this must include the other professions involved in patient care along with the doctors,
- a large group of teachers and tutors need to be mobilised in all countries, which is very efficiently achieved by train-the-trainers courses for the “middle generation”,
- and
- the optimal structure is one which combines on-site teaching in the good centres and labs, high-quality educational courses, and distance education.

We are now establishing such packages via EUREPA, as a pilot activity for global use.

I would appoint a new Commission on Education, with representation of all regions, to advance rapidly towards a worldwide, regionally balanced, comprehensive and interdisciplinary educational system which will be unmatched by any other medical speciality.

STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS

To give the growing ILAE a regional structure was a great success. Regional commissions have been highly active and innovative, but there is always room for improvement. In my view, the President should closely follow the work of the regional commissions and attend their meetings, to always have a full understanding of the specific problems of epilepsy in the different parts of the world, and contribute to their solution.

All regions should always be represented on the ILAE Executive, which will necessitate a revision of our Constitution.

Epilepsy care needs to become structured to help to close treatment gaps and make adequate management accessible to all patients in all countries. Both the developments which we initiated in Eastern Europe, and Global Campaign projects like in China, have shown that, with well-conceived projects, substantial progress can be made even with moderate funds.

My vision is a world where nobody needs to suffer from

epilepsy just because he or she does not have access to the diagnostic and therapeutic possibilities which exist, and are constantly being improved by the international community of epileptologists. An initiative towards this end is what I would want to mark my Presidency with. A commission would be appointed to survey the situation with all chapters (and non-chapter countries, in cooperation with the regional commissions), and develop planning on global and regional levels. This should also be understood as a new impetus for the Global Campaign.

OTHER PRIORITIES

Research: Epilepsy is full of varied research possibilities. We need to do more to attract the best talent to epileptology, e.g. by facilitating transnational networking, providing more advanced courses and mentorship. These activities would be closely linked to education. The excellent opportunities, at our international and regional congresses, to identify and encourage young talent can be better exploited, and some of the surpluses from congresses should be allocated here.

Classification: The aims are to finalise the ongoing work on the international classification within the next 4-year period of office, and to include both a revised taxonomy for science, and a flexible diagnostic manual for practical purposes.

Peter Wolf
President Elect, ILAE

CANDIDATES

FREDERICK ANDERMANN, MD, FRCP(C)



Title and affiliation: Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery, McGill University, Director, Epilepsy Service, Montreal Neurological Hospital and Institute.

Statement of purpose: The ILAE has an important function to facilitate education and training of young epileptologists from all countries, and, equally important, to support basic research which will provide advances in the field. In addition to my clinical and research activities I have had the opportunity to train fellows in epileptology from over 20 countries, many of whom have set up successful epilepsy units in their home countries; this has been a source of great satisfaction to me.

In recent years, we have witnessed great fusions in the pharmaceutical industry which is now focusing mainly on multibillion-dollar products. There is therefore the ever-present risk that antiepileptic drugs will not be considered a priority, and that interest in this sector will diminish. It is therefore the function of the League to stimulate continued activity in development of new and better antiepileptic medications, as well as antiepileptogenic drugs, employing methods of pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomics respectively, and also to make these drugs more widely available.

Unfortunately, the treatment gap with regard to both medical and surgical therapies remains a major issue in many parts of the world, and it is our role to increase awareness of this and to attempt to remedy it. The activities of the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy need to be supported and expanded. The League has sponsored a marked increase in regional representation and activities, as well as successful organization of regional epilepsy congresses. Continued collaboration with the International Bureau is, I believe, of the essence and constitutes an important link with the grass roots lay organizations.

MICHEL BAULAC, MD



Title and affiliation: Neurologist and head of the clinical department at La Pitie-Salpetriere Hospital and Professor of Neuroanatomy and Neurology at Paris VI University.

Primary area of clinical and research activity: I run the epilepsy medical and surgical programs and coordinate research in different units involved in brain imaging, genetics, EEG non linear analysis, tissue neurophysiology, and drug trials.

Statement of intent: If elected, I will participate fully in the global ILAE tasks and missions, and work to optimize its functioning. I see several specific areas where I would like to contribute, subject to the wishes of the president and EC members.

Besides the questions of availability and quality of care, research is the hallmark of any domain of medicine. The excellence of both clinical and basic research must be promoted both by epilepsy-specific projects and participation in wider programs. The extraordinary multidisciplinary and wide spectrum of ages we cover from development to aging should be used to reinforce the identity and the competitiveness of epilepsy in Neuroscience. We can increase our strength by facilitating the emergence of new research groups. Specifically, centers from less technologically advanced areas should be incorporated in large collaborative projects. Domains including AED trials, genetics, data bases and tissue banks, may help new researchers integrate rapidly into the scientific community. The strong educational value of research must be stressed.

I would contribute to a comprehensive policy on AEDs, in partnership with industry, but maintaining a necessary independence. Some objectives can be stressed; encouraging the development of orphan drugs, obtaining funds for studies on drugs that are less interesting to the Pharma industry, stimulating harmonization between drug agencies and enhancing communications between regulators and our community, in line with my previous experience at the European level. The current trend for more transparency, committing industry to make public all its drug trials results, may suggest future roles for the ILAE, like helping patients and relatives adequately interpret this new information.

MARTIN J. BRODIE, MB, CHB, MRCP, MD, FRCP



Title and affiliation: Professor of Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology, University of Glasgow and Director, Epilepsy Unit, Western Infirmary, Glasgow, Scotland

Statement of purpose: I circulated my vision for the future of ILAE in support of my candidacy during the election for president. The focus was on a range of issues including developing a global education programme, improving communication with the membership, encouraging further regional

development, aiming for financial independence from the pharmaceutical industry, coordinating better political action and closing the treatment gap. Despite being unsuccessful in that campaign, I have not lost my desire to serve the League. I hope that you will give me the opportunity to help Peter Wolf take our organisation forward over the next 4 years. I would, therefore, respectfully request that your chapter votes for me in the forthcoming Executive Committee election.

ALLA GUEKHT, MD, PHD



Title and affiliation: Professor of Neurology, Head of the Division of Neurology and Rehabilitation of the Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Russian State Medical University, Moscow, Russia

Primary area of clinical or research activity:

Epilepsy in the elderly (in particular epilepsy after stroke), epidemiology, quality of life in epilepsy, pharmacoeconomics.

Statement of purpose: I feel honored to be nominated to serve on the Executive Committee from 2005-2009, approaching the Anniversary of the League. I regard the Executive Committee as an active international body working to meet the needs of people with epilepsy around the world and (if elected) would consider the following directions as priorities for my activity

in the team led by the President-Elect, Professor Peter Wolf.

1. Education in epileptology. The key issues:
 - a. Targeting different groups according to: levels of epilepsy care, profession (doctors/other professionals), specialisation (adult/paediatric, etc), regional particularities and other factors.
 - b. Adequate combination of tutorial formats: electronic (internet, CDs), group (courses, meetings) and individual on-site teaching; attention to quality of educational materials.
 - c. Development/support of regional initiatives, reasonable integration with educational "streams" in neurology, paediatrics, etc.

2. Public health/social issues in line with the Global Campaign. Focus on QOL, stigma/social problems, care for vulnerable populations (children, elderly, women). Importance of epidemiology/pharmacoeconomics for rational assessment/implementation of needs, especially in regions in transition.

3. Development of beneficial and productive partnership / networks (regional, informational, research, etc.)

The aim will be to increase the quality of care throughout the world by implementing appropriate standards in accordance with regional/local priorities and needs.

These perspectives are based on experience gained during the years of work in the Commission of European Affairs (chairing the Subcommission for Central/Eastern Europe), Quality Care Group, European Academy of Epilepsy and involvement in many international initiatives in epileptology; I am indebted to my colleagues and friends for this experience.

SOLOMON L. MOSHÉ, MD



Title and affiliation: Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience and Pediatrics, Vice-Chair, Department of Neurology, Director, Pediatric Neurology and Director of Clinical Neurophysiology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Primary area of clinical or research activity: Dr.

Moshé's research has focused on a) understanding the mechanisms underlying epilepsy and its consequences in children. and b) to promote through teaching, basic and clinical research the best care for children with epilepsy throughout the world.

Statement of purpose: As an all encompassing principle, I would like to continue the involvement of the ILAE in the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy intended to improve the

quality of the lives of people with epilepsy and to break down barriers that interfere with their lives. In keeping with this philosophy I would:

- a) Enhance access to care for patients with epilepsy in all countries.
- b) Expand access to electronically transmitted information for epilepsy specialists from around the world to share their experiences and expertise.
- c) Attract the best and the brightest young people into the epileptology field.
- d) Foster world wide collaborative translational research efforts to understand the genetics and pathophysiology of the epilepsies as a function of age and sex.
- e) Promote studies to determine the impact of epilepsy on cognition and especially on autism.

f) Support joint efforts with other medical subspecialties and lay organizations to address life management issues for patients suffering from epilepsy.

g) Identify innovative means of translating care with the goal to cure and eventually eradicate epileptic disorders.

As a physician involved in clinical practice, basic and clinical research and teaching, I have a unique perspective on how to incorporate pioneering cost-effective translational research to provide better services for patients with epilepsy. Using my expertise in pediatric epilepsies, I plan, if elected, to work with President Wolf and the Board to develop financially sound and successful partnerships among the Chapters and Governmental bodies to accomplish these goals.

ÇIĞDEM ÖZKARA, MD



Title and Affiliation: Professor of Neurology, Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty, Department of Neurology.

Primary area of clinical or research activity: Clinical pediatric and adult epilepsy, epilepsy surgery, cognitive functions and psychiatric problems in patients with epilepsy, antiepileptic drugs, immunological and genetic studies as well as experimental research on mechanisms of epileptogenesis.

Statement of Purpose: The ILAE membership consists of diverse countries from all over the world, all of whom have different ways of approaching the treatment of epilepsy depending on their social and cultural backgrounds.

Therefore needs and priorities will differ country to country. However, education, research and patient care are the main areas of improvement in countries at all levels. Education should be tailored to the needs of those groups who are able to use their own facilities and the ILAE must, therefore, develop different strategies that are appropriate and realistic.

Also research can be efficient only when it is utilised by both basic and clinical sciences. A reciprocal interaction between basic and clinical scientists is

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essential if it is to be effective. Regardless of the level of current development, each country should be able to set its own system for better collaboration if they are convinced of its benefits. The ILAE has a pivotal role in encouraging such initiatives and providing scientific support in a systematic way. Patient care with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, taking into consideration all the social aspects, should be our main goal.

The ILAE provides a platform for better knowledge at various levels; it is able to interact with pharmaceutical companies for better drugs and work with governments and other organizations for better social and financial support to achieve a better life for patients with epilepsy.

A balanced composition of executive committee members representing the myriad membership of member countries will enable a better understanding of the individual needs of different regions and will result in better co-operation and more rewarding results.

EMILIO PERUCCA, MD, PHD



Title and affiliation: Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, University of Pavia, and Director of Laboratories for Diagnostics and Applied Biological Research, Institute of Neurology IRCCS C. Mondino Foundation, Pavia, Italy.

Primary area of clinical research activity: Outcome assessment in epilepsy, with special reference to pharmacological treatment

Statement of purpose: The following is a summary of priority objectives to which I feel committed to contribute:

Education: As a result of my experience as Secretary of the ILAE Commission on European Affairs and member of the EUREPA Executive Council, I am aware of the need for educational initiatives worldwide. ILAE should collaborate with Regional Commissions and individual chapters, by 1) allocating resources to bursaries, scholarships and training programs, targeting in particular young physicians; 2) fostering communication based on IT technology, including distant CME activities; 3) producing and disseminating educational material, partly through the action of problem-oriented Commissions.

Promotion of epilepsy services: In line with its traditions, ILAE should coordinate with other organizations (including IBE and WHO) and with governments to increase awareness of the needs of people with epilepsy and stimulate investment and improved legislation.

Support to underprivileged regions: ILAE should allocate resources to promote epilepsy care in these regions, taking advantage from input of local chapters and experience acquired through demonstration projects. ILAE could also negotiate with the pharmaceutical industry programmes to reduce AED costs in developing countries and provide free medications for selected patients groups;

Research: ILAE should catalyze interaction among scientists committed to epilepsy research. In particular, initiatives should be taken to stimulate collaboration between basic and clinical research. ILAE should also work with funding organizations to ensure that epilepsy becomes a priority in research programmes to be funded.

I will be grateful for any comment or suggestion on how to serve best our common cause.

CHONG-TIN TAN, FRCP, MD



Title and affiliation: Professor and Head, Neurology Unit, Department of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Primary area of clinical activity: General neurology, with special interest in epilepsy and neuro-infectious/inflammatory diseases, which are also my primary areas of research interest.

Statement of Purpose: As Asian & Oceania countries account for two thirds of the world population, I believe there should be an Asian & Oceanian representative in the ILAE Executive Committee, and I am happy to be a candidate to represent the region. I have served as the Chair, Commission on Asian and Oceanian Affairs since 2001, and a member of the Commission since 1997. During these years, the Commission has successfully established a comprehensive and robust plan mainly based on education courses, fellowships and regional congresses to promote the development of epilepsy.

Eighty percent of people with epilepsy live in the developing world, which is also true in Asia, where 90% of the populations are in developing or emerging economies. Over the years, I have helped to initiate and build many neurological institutions in Asia, such as my role as past President of the Malaysian Society of Neurosciences, Chairman of the ASEAN Neurological Association (ASEAN is Association of South East Asian Nations), and am currently the Editor-in-Chief of Neurology Asia (formerly Neurological Journal of South East Asia). Limited resources are the hallmark of the developing world. Yet, having received my early training in the University of Melbourne and Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, and authored papers in New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, Annals of Neurology, I understand the demands of the very best. I believe my grass root experiences in the developing world can bring useful input to the Executive Committee, and help make meaningful decisions with impact on the developing world.

PARIS CONFERENCE

26TH INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY CONGRESS 28TH AUGUST – 1ST SEPTEMBER 2005



The 26th International Epilepsy Congress is now in the final planning stages.

Over 4,000 delegates are expected to arrive in Paris for the congress which will take place at the Palais Des Congrès in Porte Maillot. The scientific programme for the meeting has now been confirmed and over 250 eminent speakers from over 40 countries will be presenting current developments and research in the field of epileptology worldwide. The 26th IEC will be a forum to review and debate on the enormous amount of knowledge that is accumulating at an increasing pace in order to offer "A global approach to the epilepsy patient".

The scientific programme will include both didactic lectures and sessions or workshops on recent advances and will still be broad enough to attract physicians, researchers, paramedics and social workers active in the field of epilepsy but also those working in other fields of Neurology, Child Neurology and Psychiatry.

Much effort has been made to provide a comprehensive programme combining clinical epileptology, fundamental research and social issues for

each selected topic. In addition, the Congress will also cover epilepsy issues and those related to co-morbidity and seizures as a manifestation of other neurological disorders.

The programme will consist of seven Main Topics; Sex, Hormones and Pregnancy; Genes and Syndromes; Drug Resistance, Mortality and Surgical Treatment; Seizures and the Developing Brain; Depression, Anxiety and Psychosis; Cross Cultural Aspects of Epilepsy Care; Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders.

These topics will be explored in Main Sessions, Post-Main Discussion Sessions and will also be linked throughout the programme of Satellite Sessions, providing a comprehensive look at each area throughout the meeting. An extensive selection of topics will also be examined throughout the 24 Parallel Sessions and 14 Early Morning Sessions scheduled during the congress.

Young researchers are encouraged to submit their most recent work for inclusion in the Platform and Poster programme for the congress. Abstracts can be submitted on-line at www.epilepsyparis2005.org.

Additional Scientific Activities during the congress include The ILAE Diagnostic Methods Commission Workshops, which are scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 27th. These will consist of three parallel



sessions in the morning followed by a series of case study discussions in the afternoon.

On Sunday, August 28th, a number of events including the IBE Association Day, WONOEP workshop, the EUCARE Symposium, a session on pharmacokinetics of new AEDs (EILAT VIII) and the Merritt-Putnam Symposium will be held, as well as an EEG Technicians Course.

OUR HOST CITY

Paris – the city of lights - captures the imagination like no other city in the world. It has inspired art, music, literature and lovers for centuries. From the romance of a simple walk along the Seine, a cup of coffee at a sidewalk café, to the grandeur of the Louvre and the Eiffel Tower it is impossible to remain untouched by this beautiful city.

Situated in the heart of France, Paris is the ultimate cosmopolitan city rich with diversity, the names of its quartiers alone evoking the senses, the elegant St-Germain, the lively Marais, the romance of Montmartre and the bohemian echoes of the Left Bank.

25 million visitors every year can't be wrong. No matter where your interests lie, Paris will have something to offer; from the gastronomic delights it prides itself on, to the worlds to be discovered through a selection of doors; with shops, museums and theatres to suit every taste and budget.

In order to sample some of the delights that Paris has to offer a full range of hotel accommodation and tour options are available for booking via the congress website.

REGISTRATION

Delegates are invited to register for the congress on-line at www.epilepsyparis2005.org. The deadline for early registrations will be May 20th 2005.

FOR MORE DETAILS...

IOC Chair: Alexis Arzimanoglou
SAC Chair: Philippe Ryvlin
All details concerning the congress can be accessed on the congress website at www.epilepsyparis2005.org.

Alternatively, delegates can contact the ILAE & IBE Congress Secretariat directly at:

26th International Epilepsy Congress
c/o ILAE & IBE Congress Secretariat
16 Mountdown Road
Walkinstown
Dublin 12
Ireland

Phone: +353 1 409 7796

Fax: +353 1 429 1290

E-mail:

paris@epilepsycongress.org /

info@epilepsycongress.org

We look forward to seeing you in Paris...



APRIL 2005

Epilepsy Society of Australia
20th Annual Scientific Meeting, Cairns, Australia
April 13-15 2005

The programme will focus on pragmatic aspects of epilepsy management, with an emphasis on paediatric epilepsy and the approach to recent onset seizures.

Closing date for abstracts-March 18th 2005

For information and to register online go to www.epilepsy-society.org.au

5th Spring Epilepsy Research Conference,
Grand Cayman, British West Indies

April 30th-May 7th 2005

This will be an informal, but intense, scientific conference designed to gather those involved in all basic science and clinical aspects of epilepsy research. Students are encouraged to attend and can register at reduced cost. For additional information, see URL: <http://www.caymanconferences.com/epilepsy>

The International Symposium on Epileptic Syndromes in Infancy and Early Childhood, Tokyo Women Medical University Campus in Tokyo, Japan. 29th April -1st May, 2005

Announcement and Call for Papers

"Evidence-based Taxonomy and its implications in the ILAE classifications"

Abstract deadline is January 31st, 2005. Early Registration is February 28th 2005. For more information contact President Yukio Fukuyama at ISS-8 Secretariat, c/o Child Neurology Institute, 6-1217-201 Minami-Shinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 1400004, Japan.

Tel: +81-3-5781-7680 Fax +81-3-37400874

email: yfukuyam@sc4.so-net.ne.jp

URL: <http://www.iss-jpn.info>

MAY 2005

XIXth Conference on Epilepsy for Polish Society of Epileptology, Warsaw

May 19th-21st 2005

The symposium is mainly on epilepsy and pregnancy. Other topics include characteristics of epilepsy in Poland, standards of therapeutic management, epilepsy and comorbidities, quantitative EEG analysis and diagnosis of epilepsy, neurosurgical treatment of epilepsy, social aspects of epilepsy, and a number of free topics. The Chairwoman of the Organizing Committee is Joanna Jedrzejczak, email: fundacja@epilepsy.org.pl, URL: <http://www.epilepsy.org.pl>

AUGUST 2005

26th International Epilepsy Congress, Paris

August 28th-1st September 2005

The programme will consist of seven main topics; Sex, Hormones and Pregnancy; Genes and Syndromes; Drug Resistance, Mortality and Surgical Treatment; Seizures and the Developing Brain; Depression, Anxiety and Psychosis; Cross Cultural Aspects of Epilepsy Care; Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders.

These topics will be explored in Main Sessions, Post-Main Discussion Sessions and will also be linked throughout the programme of Satellite Sessions, providing a comprehensive look at each area throughout the meeting. An extensive selection of topics will also be examined throughout the 24 Parallel Sessions and 14 Early Morning Sessions scheduled during the congress.

Young researchers are encouraged to submit their most recent work for inclusion in the Platform and Poster programme for the congress. Abstracts can be submitted on-line at www.epilepsy-paris2005.org.

SEPTEMBER 2005

International Educational Course:

Pharmacological Treatment of Epilepsy, Eilat, Israel
September 18-25 2005

Under the auspices of:

Eilat Conferences-Organising Committee (Eilat-OC)

ILAE Commission on European Affairs (CEA)

European Epilepsy Academy (EUREPA)

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

For conference details go to: <http://www.eilat-aeds.com/eilatedu/index.asp>

Abstract deadline-April 1st 2005

Bursary Application-deadline extended to April 1, 2005

For more information go to:

<http://www.eilat-aeds.com/viii/index.asp>

NOVEMBER 2005

World Congress of Neurology, Sydney

November 5th -13th 2005

The World Congress of Neurology, Sydney, Australia.

SEPTEMBER 2006

8th Eilat Conference on new anti-epileptic drugs, Eilat, Israel (with back-up site in Sitges, Barcelona)

September 10th-14th 2006

