



Epigraph Centenary Issue

Welcome to the 28th International Epilepsy Congress & ILAE Centenary

It is with great pleasure and pride that we welcome you to the 28th International Epilepsy Congress organized jointly by the International League Against Epilepsy and the International Bureau for Epilepsy, in Budapest, Hungary from 28 June to 2 July 2009. This year marks the Centenary of the founding of ILAE, which took place in Budapest in 1909, and this historic event will be celebrated throughout the Congress.

The Scientific Program for this Centenary meeting is impressive. Seven topics carefully selected by the Joint Executive Committee of ILAE and IBE will comprise the main topics:

- Autonomic Functions and Biorhythmicity
- Searching for a Cure – Experimental Models and Human Epilepsy
- Comprehensive Care around the World
- The Family and Epilepsy – Clinical and Social Dimensions
- Brain Development, Plasticity and Epilepsy
- Imaging Epilepsy Networks and Cortical Dysplasia
- Non-Specialist Management of Epilepsy

We hope you will participate in some of the special offerings of the Centenary celebration as well, such as viewing the Film Competition entries, attending the Centenary Dinner at the Hungarian National Gallery or obtaining a copy of the Centenary book about the history of the League and its leaders. [Turn the page for details.](#)

While here we hope you take some time to visit the many historical and cultural sites and events that Budapest and Hungary offer. Budapest, the capital of Hungary, was created out of the unification of the separate historic towns of Buda, Pest and Obuda in 1873. The River Danube flows majestically through the center of this modern city, with Buda located on the west bank of the river and Pest on the plains to the east. The city possesses a rich and vibrant cultural heritage and there are many wonderful places to visit, including the Parliament, Heroes Square, Gellért Hill, the Opera House and Matthias Church. You may enjoy the spectacular view of Buda Castle and the Bank of the Danube which have been cited by the World Heritage.



The International League Against Epilepsy and the International Bureau welcome you to Budapest, and we hope that you will benefit from the scientific program, renew old friendships, and make new acquaintances on this great occasion.

With warm regards,
The Organizing Committee



József Janszky (Hungary)
Co-chair
International Organizing
Committee



Peter Wolf (Denmark)
Co-chair
International Organizing
Committee



Péter Halász (Hungary)
Co-chair
Scientific Advisory Committee



Susanne Lund (Sweden)
Co-chair
Scientific
Advisory Committee

ILAE Centenary

The ILAE Centenary in Budapest

2009 is a very special year for the ILAE. It is celebrating its first 100 years, founded on August 30, 1909 at a meeting in Budapest held during the International Medical Congress of that year. Reaching this landmark is a remarkable achievement for any voluntary organization and, in fact, the League is the oldest such international subspecialty organization in the field of neurology, and one of the oldest in medicine. To mark its centenary, the ILAE has several centenary activities at the Congress, and we do hope that all participants will enjoy them. (See page 11.)

ILAE 1909-2009: A Centenary History

To mark its centenary, the ILAE Executive decided to document its history in a scholarly manner, and have produced a book that we hope is an entertaining, as well as informative and definitive, text. The aim of the book is threefold: to document the course of the ILAE in its first 100 years; to interpret this within its historical context; and to bring together as much source material as possible. Many sources have been cited from many repositories and in many different languages, and much of this material is fragmentary or incomplete.

We consider it important to produce this book, as documenting the history of any organization is needed for that organization to operate effectively and wisely. It is also important to identify the context and provenance which are essential ingredients for the success of any organization such as the ILAE in its efforts to avoid reinventing the wheel while avoiding the mistakes of the past.

The book is over 340 pages in length and is lavishly illustrated with over 100 photographs and other illustrations — some of great historical interest. It is published to very high production standards and is available in a limited edition of 1,000 copies with each copy including an individually numbered bookplate. It is designed to be a collector's item and should grace the library of anyone interested in the history of their organization.

The book is on display here at the Congress, and available to participants at a discounted price. If you still

have not ordered your copy, we hope you will do so at the ILAE booth.

ILAE Centenary Historical Exhibition

A poster exhibition of the 'History of the ILAE' will be on display as part of the ILAE exhibit in Pavilion F. The exhibition comprises 60 or so posters covering many aspects of ILAE history and an historical timeline. Much of the material is taken from the Centenary book and the Centenary supplement in *Epilepsia*, and there is also a 'Budapest' flavor and design. The exhibition is free to all participants and we do hope you will visit it and find it instructive and entertaining.

Centenary Film Festival

ILAE has also organized a centenary film festival, looking at 'Epilepsy as a Cultural Phenomenon.' Epilepsy has been featured in films for almost 100 years and continues to be a strong plot device for modern film makers. Four films have been selected for screening as part of the ILAE centenary celebration to showcase the history and development of the representation of epilepsy on the silver screen

from the 1920's to the 21st Century. The showing of each film will be preceded by a brief introduction and followed by a short debate about the way epilepsy is depicted. As part of the festival, there will also be a session devoted to "Epilepsy in Literature" featuring a debate with the audience. Films will be shown all week in Hall 7.



ILAE Centenary Film Competition

A *Centenary Film Competition* has been organized as part of its centenary celebration, to encourage fresh perspectives on epilepsy and seizures in film. The competition was for the best film, in the opinion of the judges, made since January of 2000 which was inspired by, or related to epilepsy or seizures. The competition was not for educational or clinical films, but rather for creative

or artistic works which used epilepsy as a theme directly or tangentially. The judging criterion was creative merit. The competition attracted entries from Europe, Asia, North & South America, Africa, and the Middle East, representing many different film genres. These films were judged by a distinguished panel and the award will be presented to the overall winner of this competition — Gus Cummins — for his short film *lctal*. Please join us for the world premiere screening of this short film on Tuesday, June 30 at 18:00 hours in Hall 4.

ILAE Gala Dinner

A gala dinner celebrating the centenary of the ILAE will be held in the Hungarian National Gallery. This is a magnificent setting and the evening should be a wonderful chance to relax during the conference and enjoy the company of friends and colleagues. Tickets are available at the registration desk.

The *Epilepsia* Centenary, Parallel Session, and Historical Supplement

2009 is also the centenary of the Journal *Epilepsia*. The first edition was published in March 1909 (almost certainly) and *Epilepsia* was then formally adopted as 'the official organ' of the ILAE in September of 1909. Since then, it has published many important papers in the field of epilepsy and its current publisher, Wiley Blackwell, will be having centenary celebrations at its booth at the conference. On display will be the historical supplement which was published with the centenary issue in March of 2009. This supplement contains ten chapters covering aspects of the history of epilepsy during the past 100 years. There is also a special session at the conference devoted to four landmark papers in the journal and the impact these had on the subsequent course of epilepsy (Monday June 29th - 10:30 - 12:00 - *100 years of Epilepsia - landmark papers and their influence*).

These events have been organized by the centenary committee of the ILAE, and we do hope you will be entertained and instructed by the various events and productions.

Simon Shorvon
(For the ILAE Centenary Committee)

President's Message

Dear Friends,
This is my farewell message to you at the end of my four-year term as President. It was a challenging period, but also one in which important progress has been made. The League has grown further and, very appropriate for our centenary, our membership has now for the first time in history reached and surpassed the number of 100 national chapters. With the advent of a chapter in the world's largest country, China, the vast majority of the global population can now benefit from the activities and services of our organization. But there continues to be a potential and a necessity to grow, because the world map of the ILAE still has many blank spots, especially in Africa.

For the 2005-2009 term, we had set well-defined priorities. The first of these, the development of an educational system



*Peter Wolf
President, ILAE*

in epilepsy, has undoubtedly made the most visible progress, with the establishment of summer schools and other residential courses in different regions and sub-regions; with the ambitious VIREPA distance education program; with programs of cooperation, exchange, and mentorship; with the establishment of a large faculty of volunteers; and with a dedicated commission who built up a program that, if it is followed, will bring us a long way towards the aim of establishing an educational system which will be second to none in all medical specialities. The other priority, the development of epilepsy care, is closely related to the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy, our joint program with the

International Bureau for Epilepsy and the World Health Organization. New initiatives have been taken, and several of these focus on Africa, where the need is greatest. Here it has also been possible to establish alliances with other organizations that are likely to improve the efficiency of our actions.

An important highlight of my period in office was the leadership meeting of the Executive with the Commission Chairs in Brussels in the fall of 2007. Everybody who attended was excited to see the large range of activities we have developed. They provide witness to a multifaceted, highly active, and dynamic organization. Great thanks are due to all the members of our Commissions for the outstanding work they have done in these four years and the important reports and recommendations they have produced.

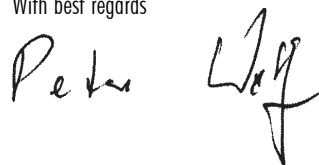
A centenary book has been published and will be available at the Congress in Budapest. It documents in much detail, with some half-forgotten and even some newly discovered facts, the history of our

organization over its first 100 years of existence. This is the oldest existing professional and scientific society of any speciality within the neurosciences. The book proudly reminds us of the many excellent and outstanding people who have brought the League forward and made it such a successful organization. Their contributions will not be forgotten.

I wish the new leadership wisdom and awareness of the great responsibility they are being entrusted with.

I thank all of our membership around the world for their good will and for helping us improve epileptology and epilepsy care globally. I wish those of you who will attend the Budapest Congress a fruitful and a memorable centenary celebration, and I wish the rest of you the best success in your work toward our common goals.

With best regards



A Special Partnership

As President of IBE, it is very satisfying to look at the history of IBE and ILAE - working jointly in different areas to improve life for people with epilepsy worldwide. The great efforts of the ILAE are to be applauded! I am very impressed by the dedicated commitment of ILAE individual



Susanne Lund

members and chapters, sometimes struggling with great lack of resources, to provide treatment and medication for their patients. Often working with very limited resources, they achieve astonishing results that bring inspiration to people with epilepsy and encourage them to become empowered in their lives. I have learned that in many places, particularly in developing countries, it is often the ILAE

members who recognize the urgent need for medical treatment and the urgent need for social support and for the creation of self help groups. That experience is often the seed that starts the life of a new organization for people with epilepsy. The joint efforts of people with epilepsy and people working in the epilepsy health care area can often succeed in making a new epilepsy organization grow and develop. With some tender care and support, a new IBE member can sometimes be the result, as we have seen occur regularly through the years.

IBE and ILAE also have a long record of collaboration in other spheres and on other initiatives such as the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy — which is now in its 13th year, — EUCARE and our joint international and regional congresses. This collaboration and ongoing mutual respect continues to be highlighted in the discussions and decisions of the IBE and ILAE executive committees working jointly. I would like to thank President Peter Wolf and the Members of the ILAE Executive Committee for their great support and cooperation, which is much appreciated by the IBE International Executive Committee.

I am convinced that the future is looking bright for continued collaboration with the new President Nico Moshé and the newly elected members of the ILAE Executive Committee. I look forward to seeing the combined strength of IBE and ILAE grow even stronger in the coming years as the organizations identify further

opportunities for joint initiatives, which will serve to improve both the medical and social services for people with epilepsy and those who care for them.

On behalf of myself and the Members of the IBE International Executive Committee I wish ILAE a wonderful celebration of their Centenary and great success in future projects.

*Susanne Lund
President
International Bureau for Epilepsy*



Executive Committee Election Results

The ILAE is overseen by an Executive Committee, currently made up of 12 people. The President is elected by a ballot of national chapters for a four-year term. The Secretary-General, Treasurer, and three Vice Presidents are also elected by a ballot of national chapters for a four-year term. The Information Officer and the Editors-in-Chief of *Epilepsia* are appointed by the President and the Executive Committee. The Past President serves for a four-year term. There is also a Regional Representative from any active region that is not represented by one of the officers. The President, Secretary-General and Treasurer of the sister organization, the International Bureau for Epilepsy, are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

The ILAE Executive Committee (EC) election process that started two years ago with the definition of the criteria for identifying the eligible candidates is now complete. We thank the Chapters for their enthusiastic participation in this important process. We were very pleased to see that we had such a qualified group of prominent epileptologists who were willing to serve in the ILAE EC, and we thank all of them on behalf of the ILAE. Each position on the EC is for a four-year term and the dedication of the elected volunteers is greatly appreciated by all members of the League.

The first stage of the process was completed late in 2008. From a list of three highly qualified candidates, chapters elected Solomon (Nico) Moshé as incoming ILAE President.

In March of 2009, a list of 12 officer candidates from five regions was circulated for the second phase of the election process. At the close of balloting, the four people with the largest number of votes fulfilled the requirement of representing at least three ILAE regions and were duly elected. President-elect Moshé participated in the Election Committee's assignment of officer positions.

Elections for the 2009-2013 term of office have just been concluded and the new officers will assume their positions during the 28th International Epilepsy Congress.

Effective May 6, 2009, the following Officers had been placed:

Secretary-General:	Samuel Wiebe
Treasurer:	Emilio Perucca
First Vice President:	Tatsuya Tanaka
Second Vice President:	Michel Baulac

Note: The election for Vice President from the Latin American Region had not yet been completed by press time.

We warmly congratulate the elected members and wish them well for their work for the ILAE. We also would like to thank all the candidates for their willingness to participate in the elections. We hope that they will continue to contribute to the life of the ILAE.

According to the ILAE Constitution: "In the event that after the global elections . . . any fully operational region of the ILAE (as determined by the Executive Committee) is not present on the Executive Committee, the Chapters of this region shall elect an additional Vice President." Therefore, a supplementary election phase for an additional Vice President from Latin America was begun.

Regional Commission Chairs have been appointed for the 2009-2013 term of office. Please join me in welcoming the following to their positions:

Meir Bialer — Commission on European Affairs
Jacqueline French — North American Commission
Manuel Campos — Latin American Commission
Ahmad Beydoun — Commission on Eastern Mediterranean Affairs
Byung-In Lee — Commission on Asian and Oceanian Affairs

Giuliano Avanzini
Chair, Election Committee

Solomon (Nico) Moshé, President

Solomon L. Moshé, MD, is professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Pediatrics at the Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York. He is Vice Chairman of the Department of Neurology and Director of Child Neurology and Clinical Neurophysiology. Since 1979, his research has focused on understanding the mechanisms underlying age- and sex-related differences in epilepsy in humans and animal models. In addition to his laboratory research, he is actively involved



Solomon Moshé

in several large multicenter studies examining the consequences of prolonged febrile seizures, absence epilepsy, and the Epilepsy Phenome-Genome Project. Over the last 20 years, Dr. Moshé has mentored over 200 scientists and clinicians from around the world in clinical epilepsy and basic science epilepsy-related research.

Dr. Moshé has served as President of the American Epilepsy Society (2000-2001), the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (1996-1997), and the Eastern Association of Electroencephalographers (1992-1994). He has been a member of the Executive Committee and the Professional Advisory Board of the Epilepsy Foundation and has served as the Secretary-General of the Executive Committee of the International League Against Epilepsy from 2005-2009. He has received a number of honors and awards, including a Teacher-Investigator Development Award and a Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award from the NIH, the Michael Prize for achievement in epilepsy research, the American Epilepsy Society Research Award, the Ambassador for Epilepsy Award from the International League against Epilepsy, the Gloor Award from the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society, and the J.E. Purkyne Honorary Medal in Biomedical Research by the Czech Academy of Sciences. He has also received the Mentor of the Year award from his own institution and the Distinguished Service Award from the Epilepsy Foundation of Southern New York. He is an elected member of the American Neurological Association and the American Pediatric Society. He has authored or co-authored over 300 publications.

Samuel Wiebe, Secretary-General

Current Position: Professor and Head, Division of Neurology in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary, Canada, Director of the Calgary Comprehensive Epilepsy Programme and Director of Clinical Research at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute in Calgary, Canada. Kinsmen Chair in Paediatric Neurosciences.



Samuel Wiebe

Primary Clinical and Research Activities: Broad areas of academic interest are outcomes and epidemiological research in epilepsy with notable contributions in surgical randomized trials, epidemiological studies, quality of life, and economics in epilepsy. Research endeavours overlap with evidence-based neurology, an area he has pioneered in North America through training programs and production of evidence-based practice guidelines. Dr. Wiebe is an experienced epileptologist, focusing on medical and surgical management of complex epilepsies. He has mentored numerous national and international clinical and research trainees.

Significant Service Activity within the League: He has been active in ILAE activities for the last ten years. He is past-President of the Canadian League Against Epilepsy, currently chairs the ILAE North American Regional Commission, and is the Secretary to the Epilepsy Care Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy, which oversees activities of the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy. He has served on the ILAE Task Force on the Definition of Intractable Epilepsy and on the sub-committees on Quality of Life and Health Care Policy.

Emilio Perucca, Treasurer

Training experience and current position. Dr. Perucca obtained his M.D. and a Specialization in Neurology at the University of Pavia in Italy, and a Ph.D. at the University of London, where he trained as a clinical pharmacologist and neurologist. He is currently Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Pavia and Director of the Clinical Trial Centre at the Institute of Neurology in Pavia.



Emilio Perucca

Research activities. His research interests have been focused on the treatment of epilepsy, with special reference to clinical pharmacokinetics, clinical trial methodology, and outcome assessment. He has authored many articles and textbooks on these topics. He serves in the editorial/advisory board of many journals, including *Epilepsia*, *Epileptic Disorders*, *Epilepsy Research*, *Seizure*, *CNS Drugs*, and *Lancet Neurology*.

(continued on page 4)

Executive Committee

(continued from page 3)

Services to ILAE. Dr. Perucca contributed actively to ILAE activities for over 20 years and has been a member of various Commissions, including those on Outcome Measurement, Therapeutic Strategies, and Education. Between 2001-2005, he served as Secretary to the Commission of European Affairs, and between 2005-2009 as First Vice-President of ILAE. During the last four years he also chaired the Faculty of 1000 Task Force and coordinated ILAE activities in Africa. At a national level, he has been President of the Italian ILAE Chapter. In 1997, he received the Ambassador for Epilepsy Award, and in 1999 he was awarded honorary membership to the Polish Epilepsy Society.

Tatsuya Tanaka, First Vice President

Current Position: Professor Emeritus, Department of Neurosurgery, Asahikawa Medical College, Hokkaido, Japan. President of Japan Epilepsy Society (2005-2009). President of Hokkaido Epilepsy Society (1989-). Honorary Director, Yamabiko Medical Welfare Center, Kagoshima, Japan



Tatsuya Tanaka

Primary Clinical and Research Activities: He started to develop an international perspective under Professor Robert Naquet in France (1973), when he studied basic research using techniques such as kindling and kainic acid-induced seizures. His international experience continued under Professor Andre Olivier at the Montreal Neurological Institute, where he acquired clinical experience in epilepsy surgery. His basic research background has been extremely important to his understanding of the pathophysiology of epilepsy, in order to develop therapeutic and surgical strategies for patients with intractable epilepsy. These experiences have resulted in more than 250 publications in English, French or in Japanese. He has mentored national and international clinical and research trainees.

Significant Service Activity within the League: He has been involved in ILAE activities for the last ten years. He was a member of Commission on Neurosurgery (2001-2005) and served on the Commission on Asian Oceanian Association (CAOA) Task Force as a chair of the Basic Research Committee. He is the current president the Japan Epilepsy Society.

Michel Baulac, Second Vice President

Current Position: Professor of Neurology and Neuroanatomy at University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), Head of Neurology Department at la Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital in Paris, APHP, Director of Epileptology Unit, and Coordinator of Epilepsy Research at the CRICM (Centre de Recherches-Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle, INSERM), Co-director of the National Centre for Rare Epileptic diseases (adults)



Michel Baulac

Primary clinical and research activities: The epilepsy program at la Pitié Salpêtrière includes all the medical and surgical aspects of epilepsy care, including genetics and clinical pharmacology.

Main domains in Research: neurophysiology of post operative tissues; structural and functional brain imaging, development of AEDs (methodological aspects); seizure emergence, pre-ictal changes and seizure prediction. Our group, (Eric Le Guern and Stephanie Baulac) contributed to the discovery of two major epilepsy genes SCN1A and GABRG2, our focus being now genetics of temporal lobe epilepsies.

Significant Service Activities within the League: Member (2001-2005) and then Chair (2005-2009) of the Commission on European Affairs, former Vice President of the French Chapter. This work included development of Epilepsy Congresses, an agenda of international courses across Europe, while dedicating parts of the European Budget to Extra-European activities. Some of them were run through EUREPA, and I am involved in the revision of the ILAE-EUREPA partnership. Managing the European Region means communication with more than 40 Chapters, motivation of sub-regional initiatives and synchronies, and allocating financial supports, primarily to the less-advantaged countries.

We also invested in other domains of general interest: establishing contact with the European Drug Agency, investing in consensus actions on Status Epilepticus, opening the concept of "rare" epileptic diseases, or promoting the funding for Epilepsy Research at the level of the EU institutions.

Scenes from a Recent International Conference



is coordinated by Edward Bertram with the assistance of Cheryl-Ann Tubby in the ILAE Hartford office. The print edition is kindly sponsored by an unrestricted educational grant from Pfizer.

All communications should be directed to Cheryl-Ann Tubby at epigraph@ilae.org, or by telephone 860.586.7547, or fax 860.586.7550

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ILAE Develops its 2009 Strategic Plan under President-elect Nico Moshé

Volunteer professional medical organizations like the ILAE struggle to identify their most important goals and to determine how to make the best use of limited resources and volunteer time. Strategic plans are a means for organizations to guide the leadership and shape organizational structure. The celebration of our Centenary is an opportune time for the ILAE to reevaluate our core goals and objectives and to develop an updated strategic plan. President-elect Nico Moshé has initiated the strategic planning process to cover the next four years. Under the leadership of Gary Mathern and with the assistance of Fazio International Ltd., a team of senior ILAE members is developing the 2009 Strategic Plan for the new Executive Committee. The formal planning session will take place immediately after the Budapest Congress.

The ILAE's vision is for a world in which no person's life is limited by epilepsy. Its mission statement emphasizes the development of the educational and research resources to enhance the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of persons with epilepsy. Four strategic goals (summarized below) have been identified and each goal has been assigned to a group with members from all regions of the ILAE. The groups will prioritize the goals and provide guidance for their implementation.

Goal I (Chairs: J. Helen Cross and Torbjorn Tomson): This group has been charged with articulating internationally applicable guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of persons with epilepsy. It is examining means of enhancing international education, training, and research opportunities that concentrate on improving the care and treatment of persons with epilepsy and on preventing the development of epilepsy. A major point for discussion in this group is whether the ILAE should take a more active role in research, and, if so, in what way.



Gary Mathern

Goal II (Chairs: Sam Berkovic and John Swann). This group will help the ILAE develop as the primary international resource and champion for optimal epilepsy care. The League will build upon the foundation laid by the past cooperative efforts of the ILAE, IBE and WHO through the Global Campaign. In following the guidelines established by this group the League will identify areas in which it can develop region specific systems of epilepsy care. Region specific care involves developing models for cost-effective interventions, taking into account unique local conditions within a society and differences in the availability of resources. Achieving this goal will also involve identifying and mentoring new ILAE leaders. In countries where resources are limited, it is imperative that the League develop ways that isolated clinicians can become involved in the larger international epilepsy community.

Goal III (Chairs: CT Tan and Sam Wiebe): This group is addressing the infrastructure of the League including its

organizational and financial viability. Its charge includes an examination of the organizational structure that would enhance efficiency in achieving the League's goals and missions. This group is also determining how to improve the League's financial resources and to ensure that these resources are used to best effect. The final task for this group is to recommend ways to improve communications with the League's chapters and individual members. In developing this goal it became clear that the future of the ILAE is dependent upon the availability and willingness of ILAE members to commit their personal time to the League's aims and to continue the momentum developed during the preparation of the Strategic Plan.

Goal IV (Chair: Gary Mathern) This group includes the past, current and incoming presidents of the ILAE along with the Co-Chairs of goals I, II and III. The goal for this group is to define what the ILAE should become as an international organization in the coming decade.

We encourage anyone with ideas related to the Strategic Plan to speak to members of the planning groups during the Budapest Congress. The teams and their members are listed here. We look forward to working with Chapters, Regional and Task-Oriented Commissions, along with all members in creating this plan and implementing it as the League begins its second century.

The 2009 ILAE Strategic Plan Task Force

Chair: Gary W. Mathern

Group I:

J Helen Cross, Torbjorn Tomson, Cigdem Ozkara, Sunita Dergalust, Jackie French, Sue Berry, Jaideep Kapur, Fernando Cendes, Cuong Le Quang, Byung-In Lee.

Group II:

John Swann, Sam Berkovic, Hanneka de Boer, Edward Bertram, Chris Underhill, Mike Glynn, Alicia Bogacz, Ahmad Beydoun, Steve Schachter, Judit Jerney, Dale Hesdorffer, Michel Baulac, Tarun Dua.

Group III:

CT Tan, Sam Wiebe, Simon Shorvon, Meir Bialer, Christoph Pachlatko, Masako Watanabe, Jack Pellock, Manuel Campos, Tatsuya Tanaka, and the vice President from the Latin American region (to be elected by June 10) .

Group IV:

Gary Mathern, Nico Moshé, Giuliano Avanzini, Peter Wolf, Pete Engel, Emilio Perucca and the co-chairs of Groups I-III.

Facilitators: Carolyn Fazio and James Bruns, Fazio International. Ltd.

Members in the News

The City of Paris selected ten Ambassadors to honor their presence at the origin of a major event that took place in Paris during the last five years.

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Alexis Arzimanoglou, President of the French League Against Epilepsy, was privileged to be selected as one of the ten and received the Silver Medal of the city of Paris, for the organization of the 26th International Epilepsy Congress held in 2005.

During the award presentation Dr. Arzimanoglou had the opportunity to educate the audience about epilepsy. The audience was comprised of politicians, industry and commerce representatives and others. He announced that he would be sharing this award with Philippe Ryvlin, Chair of the Scientific Committee of the 26th IEC and dedicated the Silver Medal to the ILAE, the IBE and the French League Against Epilepsy.



Awards Presented at the 28th International Epilepsy Congress

Awards from the ILAE and IBE

The following awards will be presented at the Opening Ceremonies, June 28 at 19:00 hrs in Hall 1.

The **2009 Ambassador for Epilepsy Awards** are presented in recognition of outstanding international contributions to the cause of epilepsy. These activities have either been performed at an international level or have had international impact.

Twelve people will be presented with this honor during the Opening Ceremony of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress in Budapest. The award consists of an 'Ambassador for Epilepsy' pin and is intended to reflect peer recognition of individual contributions to the international cause of epilepsy.

- Ettore Beghi, Italy
- Anne T. Berg, USA
- Warren Blume, Canada
- Carol D'Souza, India
- Norman Delanty, Ireland
- Jacqueline A. French, USA
- Shung-Ion Lai, Taiwan
- Shichuo Li, China
- Lilia Nuñez, Mexico
- Cigdem Ozkara, Turkey
- Ernest Somerville, Australia
- William H. Theodore, USA

The **2009 Social Accomplishment Award** is given every two years, one person who has accomplished outstanding activities aimed at the social benefit of people with epilepsy, is recognized by the International Bureau for Epilepsy and the International League Against Epilepsy.

Mike Hills of New Zealand, will be awarded this honor during the Opening Ceremonies of the 28th International



Mike Hills

Epilepsy Congress in Budapest.

The **2009 Lifetime Achievement Award** is given every two years by the Joint Executive Committee of the International Bureau for Epilepsy and the International League Against Epilepsy to honor those truly exceptional persons with a record of achievement in work against epilepsy, which exceeds even

that of those who have been awarded the Ambassador for Epilepsy Award or the Award for Social Accomplishment.

During the Opening Ceremonies of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress the following individuals will be presented with two silver candlesticks, upon which will be engraved the logos of IBE and ILAE, the name of the Award and the name of the recipient.

- Jean Aicardi, France
- Hanneke de Boer, Netherlands

Additional Epilepsy Awards

The **Michael Prize** is presented every two years by Stiftung Michael from Germany. This award is for the best contribution to scientific and clinical research which promotes further development in epileptology performed by young investigators (under the age of 45). The 2009 Michael Prize will be announced during the Opening Ceremony of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress in Budapest. The Prize will be presented at the Opening Ceremonies of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress

in Budapest to Ivan Soltesz of the University of California, Irvine and Chrysanthy Ikonomidou of the Technical University of Dresden (now at the University of Wisconsin).

The Stiftung Michael (Michael Foundation) was founded in 1962 in Germany by Dr. Fritz Harzendorf and was named for his son Michael, who suffered from epilepsy. His intent was to improve the care of patients with epilepsy as well as to encourage research in the field. Over the years it has supported the development of expertise in epilepsy in Germany as well as other countries through, among other endeavors, and educational programs.

Morris-Cooile Prize, is an annual ILAE award that is given in recognition of an outstanding research paper published in *Epilepsia* the previous year on any field of epilepsy research, either clinical or basic. Papers are nominated to the selection committee by the associate editors of *Epilepsia*. The prize was established to stimulate excellence in epilepsy research as well as rewarding young researchers for outstanding contributions to the field.

The 2008 Morris-Cooile Prize will be awarded to Dr. Julia Jacobs during the Opening Ceremonies of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress in Budapest. Her paper was titled: "Interictal high-frequency oscillations (80–500 Hz) are an indicator of seizure onset areas independent of spikes in the human epileptic brain." (*Epilepsia*, 49: Issue 11, pages 1863-1907, 2008). She is now completing her residency with Professor Korinthenberg in the neuropediatric department at the University of Freiburg. She is also continuing the evaluation of high frequency oscillation as a research fellow in the group of Professor Schulze-Bonhage at the Freiburg Epilepsy Centre. Dr. Jacobs has published 19 refereed articles.



Julia Jacobs

For more information on these awards including biographies of the winners, go to the ILAE web site at <http://www.ilae.org/Visitors/Archive/Awards.cfm>.

Awardees

Lifetime Achievement



Jean Aicardi



Hanneke de Boer

Ambassador for Epilepsy



Ann T. Berg



Warren Blume



Carol D'Souza



Jacqueline A. French



Shung-Ion Lai



Shichuo Li



Lilia Nuñez



Cigdem Ozkara



Ernest Somerville



William H. Theodore

An Introduction to ILAE

The ILAE is constituted as an international nonprofit organization and is registered in the United States. ILAE is the premiere international professional association of physicians and other health professionals in the field of epilepsy. It was founded in 1909 and has grown greatly in size and influence in recent years. From its earliest years, it has been organized in the form of a federation of national chapters. Currently there are chapters in over 100 countries and over ten-thousand members worldwide.

The mission of the ILAE is to work towards a world where no person's life is limited by epilepsy. Its mission is to provide the highest quality of care and well-being for those afflicted with the condition and other related seizure disorders.

Over the years, ILAE has grown in complexity and size, and now seems a good time, briefly, to lay out its structure and component parts. For more details, readers can consult the ILAE Web site at www.ilae.org.

Executive Committee

The ILAE is overseen by an Executive Committee, currently made up of 12 people. The President is elected by a ballot of national chapters for a four-year term. The Secretary-General, Treasurer, and three Vice Presidents are also elected by a ballot of national chapters for four-year terms. The Information Officer and the Editors-in-Chief of *Epilepsia* are appointed by the President and the Executive Committee. The Past President serves for a four-year term. There is also a Regional Representative from any active region that is not represented by one of the officers. The President, Secretary-General and Treasurer of the sister organization — the International Bureau for Epilepsy — are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

Elections for the 2009-2013 term of office have just been concluded and the new officers will assume their positions during the 28th International Epilepsy Congress.

Constitution and Bylaws

The ILAE is governed by a written constitution and bylaws, and these are posted on the ILAE Web site. The constitution has sixteen articles, and the bylaws have fourteen sections, and these

cover the objectives, membership, governance, and the range of the ILAE activities and its structure. The constitution can be amended at the General Assembly of the ILAE. There is a standing Constitutional and Elections Task Force to oversee changes to the constitution. Proposed changes to the constitution are explained elsewhere in this publication.

National Chapters

Each national chapter has its own constitution and bylaws, and its own President and officers, elected by individual members of each chapter. The constitutional and leadership arrangements vary from chapter to chapter, within stipulations defined in the ILAE constitution, as do the details of membership eligibility. However, generally speaking, membership is open to any doctor and health professional interested in epilepsy.

There are currently over 100 chapters in the ILAE, which is the greatest number in its history. National chapters range in size from almost 2,000 to just seven voting members. The role of the national chapters is generally to establish and maintain good communication between people active in the field of epilepsy, assist in the care of epilepsy and maintain standards of this care in their own countries, promote publications in the field of epilepsy, organize or sponsor national meetings, appoint commissions or individuals for specific problems, and develop or apply other methods for the furtherance of the objectives of the ILAE.

Regional Bodies

ILAE is also divided into six regions (North America, Latin America, Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, Asia and Oceania, and Africa). Each region is made up of a grouping of national chapters — the largest is Europe with 46 chapters and the smallest is North America with three national chapters. Fully developed regions each have a Regional Commission and a Regional Council, and regional scientific conferences are held every two years. Active regions also conduct research and education, and have a role in influencing public policy in epilepsy at a regional level.

ILAE Commissions and Task Forces

Every four-year term, the President and the Executive Committee appoint

commissions and task forces to carry out work for the ILAE. These bodies involve individual members transnationally. New commissions and task forces will be organized by the newly elected Executive Committee.

Administrative Offices

The ILAE has two administrative offices. The Financial Office is in Hartford, Connecticut, USA and the ILAE Headquarters is in Brussels, Belgium. The Hartford office oversees the administration and is led by Mr. Peter Berry. There are four staff employed in the service of ILAE at these two offices: Peter Berry (Chief Staff Officer), Sofie Peeters (Membership Services), Donna Cunard (Finance Director), and Cheryl-Ann Tubby (Web Site Project Manager).

ILAE Conferences and the Office of the IDM

ILAE holds a global scientific conference once every two years (Epilepsy International Congress). Each region holds a regional scientific conference every two years, in the years when there is no global conference, and every national chapter holds a national scientific conference every year. At the national conferences, the chapters also hold their Annual General Meetings, and at the International Congresses, the ILAE also holds its General Assembly of all its national chapters. The regional and international conferences of the ILAE are organized by its own conference organizer (R. Holmes, International Director of Meetings) and his office.

Global Campaign

This is a joint ILAE, IBE and WHO initiative, launched in 1997. The first phase of the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy was devoted primarily to increasing public and professional awareness of epilepsy as a universal treatable brain disorder, and raising epilepsy to a new plane of acceptability in the public domain. The second phase of the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy was launched in 2001 and was devoted primarily to activities that promote public and professional education about epilepsy, identify the needs of people with epilepsy on a national and regional basis, and encourage governments and departments

of health to address the needs of people with epilepsy. The third phase was launched in 2005 and is focused on special projects in different parts of the world and on assisting health care authorities worldwide in the field of epilepsy.

Epilepsia

Epilepsia is the scientific journal of the ILAE and the leading journal in the field of epilepsy. It is published by Wiley-Blackwell and edited by an Editor-in-Chief, (or currently, two Editors-in-Chief; P. Schwartzkroin, and S. Shorvon) who also appoint an editorial board and Associate Editors (currently: E. Behgi, E. Bertram, A. Brooks-Kayal, M. Cook, M. Duchowney, R. Guerrini, B. Hermann, P. Patsalos, M. Sperling, T. Tomson, A. Vezzani, and M. Walker). *Epilepsia* was started in 1909, and currently is published monthly. It has an annual profit of \$757,000 and a subscription base of over 11,000 (consortia, individual and institutional).

Epigraph and the ILAE Web Site

In 1994, the ILAE launched its own newsletter, *Epigraph*, to be sent individually to all members. This was initially sent out two-to-three times a year. Since 2006, four issues a year have been published — three online and one (the current issue) in print. The first online edition in 2006 was emailed to 10,587 people. The newsletter is designed to facilitate communication of ILAE news from the central bodies to individual members in each country. ILAE also has a Web site: www.ilae.org. This has grown in size and complexity and in 2008 there were over 714,304 visits. *Epigraph* and the Web site are overseen by the ILAE Information Officer and the Web Site Task Force.

ILAE Finances

With the assistance of the Financial Office, ILAE finances are overseen by Martin J. Brodie, Treasurer, who reports to the Executive Committee on all financial matters. The current Executive Committee has adopted a policy committing 3% of the investment portfolio to underwriting new projects and programs that emphasize education, epilepsy care, and translational research.

(continued on page 8)

ILAE Chapters

Albania	France
Algeria	Georgia
Argentina	Germany
Armenia	Ghana
Australia	Greece
Austria	Guatemala
Azerbaijan	Guinea
Bangladesh	Honduras
Belgium	Hong Kong
Brazil	Hungary
Bulgaria	India
Canada	Indonesia
Chile	Iraq
China	Ireland
Colombia	Israel
Costa Rica	Italy
Croatia	Jamaica
Cuba	Japan
Cyprus	Jordan
Czech Republic	Kazakhstan
Denmark	Kenya
Dominican Republic	Kyrgyzstan
Ecuador	Latvia
Egypt	Lebanon
Emirates	Lithuania
Estonia	Macedonia
Finland	Malaysia



Malta	Paraguay	Slovenia	Tunisia
Mexico	Peru	South Africa	Turkey
Moldova	Philippines	South Korea	Uganda
Mongolia	Poland	Spain	UK
Morocco	Portugal	Sri Lanka	Ukraine
Nepal	Qatar	Sweden	Uruguay
New Zeland	Romania	Switzerland	USA
Nicaragua	Russia	Syria	Venezuela
Norway	Saudi Arabia	Taiwan	Vietnam
Pakistan	Senegal	Tanzania	Yugoslavia
Palestine	Singapore	Thailand	Zimbabwe
Panama	Slovakia	The Netherlands	

An Introduction to ILAE

(continued from page 7)

Membership of the Executive Committee, regional bodies, commissions and task forces is honorary and members are not paid for their work. The editorships of *Epilepsia* and *Epigraph* are also unpaid. Salaried staff is located in three administrative offices: Headquarters office located in Brussels, Belgium; the finance office in Hartford, Connecticut, USA; and the meeting planning office located in Dublin, Ireland.

Income is derived from national chapter dues, sponsorship, *Epilepsia* royalties, international and regional congresses, and investment income. The annual dues of each chapter to ILAE are a minimum of \$10 per year per chapter, except for countries with low GDPs (World Bank categories of low and lower middle) for whom membership is supported by a solidarity fund.

How to Join the International League Against Epilepsy

The ILAE is a federation of over 100 national chapters and a person can join the ILAE by becoming a member of their national chapter.

Benefits of membership of a national chapter include:

- Full participation in national and international activities of the ILAE
- National chapter conferences and other benefits of individual national chapters
- Complimentary copy of *Epigraph*
- Heavily discounted subscription rates to *Epilepsia* and other epilepsy journals
- Eligibility for membership of ILAE Commission/Task Forces
- Access to the Web site features.

Individual chapters vary in exact criteria for membership, but generally speaking, any doctor or health professional with an interest in epilepsy is eligible for membership. To join, write to the Secretary of your national chapter. You can find the contact addresses on the ILAE Web site at www.ilae.org.

Your membership in the International League Against Epilepsy is vital. Of greatest importance is the fact that membership strengthens the authority of ILAE in its mission to influence and improve epilepsy care worldwide. Your membership counts — become part of the League!

The ILAE Web Site — www.ILAE.org

In the past few years, the ILAE Web site has grown steadily and now plays a key role in communicating League activities. The Web site is managed by the Information Officer with the help of the Web Site Task Force. The site has three main roles:

- To present information about ILAE personnel, structure, and purpose
- To convey information about epilepsy for the benefit of ILAE members (including interactive areas)
- To assist in ILAE administrative activities.

The site continues to grow. New content is always being developed. Recent additions include access to international faculty, a page for obituaries, and book listings. Following is an outline of the current Web site.

Additional content is welcome on any of the pages of this Web site. Feel free to contact Information Officer Ed Bertram at ehb2z@virginia.edu to discuss submitting documents.

About the ILAE

This area contains information about the Executive Committee, Commissions and Task Forces, the ILAE Constitution and Bylaws, and the current Strategic Plan.

ILAE Resource Central

This area contains resources for members. Among the entries are:

- Epilepsy Bibliography. This is a list of books and monographs published in the field of epilepsy. It is compiled by Dr. Fukuyama and is in a fully searchable format.
- A worldwide AED database, compiled by Bob Fisher, allows members to view a comprehensive list of antiepileptic drugs (with generic and proprietary names) that are available around the world. The database can be searched by brand name, generic name, and/or the country certain medications can be found.
- The ILAE Worldwide Resource Directory, a searchable database of the EIC collection of 1,500 epilepsy-related publications and videos held in Zurich. This database is updated regularly in collaboration with the EIC. Almost all of the videos and documents have now been copied into digital format.
- Epilepsy Brochures. Fifteen brochures about epilepsy have been copied and

put online; some of the brochures have been translated into four languages. It is planned to post further selected items and eventually to have 50-100 documents on the site.

- The global campaign section presents details of the ILAE/WHO/IBE global campaign and links to the WHO Web site.
- Guidelines — Recently published ILAE guidelines are posted here, as are National Guidelines shared by Chapters
- A links section provides links to other professional organizations and the Epilepsy Partners section provides links to ILAE's partners.

Regions and Chapter Section

This area contains information about Regional Commissions, ILAE chapters worldwide and their activities:

- Details of ILAE national chapters, their officers, and council members. There are links to the chapter Web site (where available) and email contact details.
- The annual reports of individual chapters are also posted when available.
- A map showing geographic location of each chapter, with a clickable search facility.
- Access for chapters to update their information.

Education

This section provides easy links to ILAE congresses, regional and chapter-

sponsored congresses and meetings, Web-based education through EUREPA, VIREPA and other educational programs.

Classification and Terminology

The Classification and Terminology Commission completed an update to this material in 2008. The latest version is posted here for all to use.

Bookstore

ILAE invites book publishers to advertise on these pages to let you know about the latest books in the epilepsy field.

Commission Reports and Activities

These pages allow Regional and Problem Oriented Commissions to publish reports of their activities.

Meeting Proceedings and Position Papers

In these pages, you will find meeting proceedings provided by regions and chapters, as well as Position Statements and Guidelines submitted by regions and chapters.

Publications Section

This area contains information about ILAE publications:

- The current edition of the ILAE newsletter, *Epigraph*.
- Information about *Epilepsia* and links to the journal Web site.
- An area for discounted subscriptions available to ILAE members for *Epilepsia* and six other epilepsy journals.

- The most recent ILAE Annual Report.

Archive Section

This area contains archived copies of recent ILAE documents:

- Non-current copies of *Epigraph* (from 1999).
- Annual reports
- Awards section with details of ILAE awards and the recipients, since 1999, of the following awards: Ambassador, Lifetime Achievement, Michael Prize, Social Achievement, Young Investigators Award, and the new Morris-Cooile Prize.
- The new ILAE archive is a searchable index of minutes, reports, programs, scientific papers, and correspondence.

Contact Details

This section contains contact information for the Brussels and Hartford, Connecticut offices and personnel.

Farewells

This new addition to the Web site provides space to publicly acknowledge the passing of those actively involved in ILAE or the field of epilepsy. Submission instructions are on the Web site.

League Initiatives and Projects

Initiatives and projects of the League, via its regions and chapters, are reported here.



Educational Opportunities in Epilepsy and Neurology

VIREPA, EUREPA, ASEPA and LASSE

Four distance learning courses are available:

- Clinical Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapy
- EEG in the diagnosis & management of epilepsy
- Genetics of Epilepsy
- Neuroimaging

All four distance learning courses are internet based, e-moderated courses with downloadable learning material. For credits in each learning unit, tasks are to be solved within an active communication process among all participants, guided by the experts. The tasks will strengthen the theoretically gained knowledge and enable the transfer of this knowledge to the clinical practice of each learner.

Introductions to the 2009/2010 courses for potential participants will be presented in four early morning sessions during the 28th International Epilepsy Congress in Budapest, 28 June - 2 July 2009. Deadline for application is 31 July 2009. For more information go to www.epilepsy-academy.org or email: office@epilepsyacademy.org.

Many breakfast seminar presentations from the 8th ECE in Berlin 2008 can now be found on the VIREPA internet platform, as well as the breakfast seminars on Automatism from the 27th ICE in Singapore 2007. All members can have access - just login (if you have already registered), or register a new account, and we will give you "user" status shortly. <http://virepa.epilepsy-academy.org>

EUREPA Onsite Training

The **EUREPA Certification in Epileptology for Medical Doctors** offers a curriculum and onsite training program to achieve a specialization in epileptology. Details of the curriculum/certification can be found at www.epilepsy-academy.org. For participants in this program, a network of educational training centers guarantees onsite training possibilities in many European countries.

EUREPA accredited courses are underlined in the following calendar list.

Calendar of Events

26 - 29 August 2009: **6th Annual World Congress for Brain Mapping and Image Guided Therapy**
Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA
<http://www.ibmisp-worldcongress.org>

06 - 13 September 2009: **3rd Eilat International Educational Course: Pharmacological Treatment of Epilepsy**
Eilat, Israel
www.eilat-aeds.com

23 - 26 September 2009: **82. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Neurologie mit Fortbildungsakademie**
Nürnberg, Germany
www.akmcongress.com/dgn2009
E-mail: info@akmcongress.com

October 2009: **4th Practical Epileptology School**
Radovljica, Slovenia
Email: epilepsija@epilepsija.org, Ms. Svetlana Simic

5 - 9 October 2009: **2nd Caucasian Regional Summer School on Clinical Epileptology**
Bazaleti, Georgia
Email: n_tatishvili@mail.ru

8 - 11 October, 2009: **The 3rd World Congress on Controversies in Neurology (CONY)**
Prague, Czech Republic
www.comtecmed.com/cony/2009
Email: cony@comtecmed.com

15 - 18 October 2009: **3rd Beijing International Epilepsy Forum**
Beijing, People's Republic of China
caae2008@sina.com or
caae@caae.org.cn
www.caae.org.cn

22 - 23 October 2009
43rd Congress of the Japan Epilepsy Society
Hirasaki City, Japan
www.c-linkage.co.jp/jes43

24 - 30 October 2009 **19th World Congress on Neurology**
Bangkok, Thailand
www.wcn2009bangkok.com

2 - 4 November 2009
Annual Scientific Meeting of the Epilepsy Society of Australia
Perth, Australia

4 - 8 December 2009
American Epilepsy Society 63rd Annual Meeting
Boston, MA, USA
<http://www.aesnet.org>

2010
17 - 20 March 2010: **1st International Congress on Epilepsy, Brain, and Mind**
Prague, Czech Republic
www.epilepsy-brain-mind2010.eu

25 - 29 April 2010: **10th Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs (EILAT X)**
Eilat, Israel
Email: eilatx@targetconf.com
www.eilat-aeds.com

27 June - 1 July 2010
9th ECE
Rhodes, Greece
<http://epilepsyrhodes2010.org/>

21 - 24 October 2010
8th AOEC
Melbourne, Australia
www.epilepsymelbourne2010.org

Scholarship

With the objective to train young researchers in the Asian and Oceanian Region, the Japan Epilepsy Society will subsidize part of the research expenses during the scholar's study in Japan. Applicants should be medical doctors who are scheduled to engage in research for at least six months in a Japanese institution during 2010. In addition applicants must be less than 35 years of age at the time of application. The receiving research institution in Japan and the study period are decided at the time of application. A Japan Epilepsy Society member at the institution must submit a recommendation letter together with the applicant's curriculum vitae. For more information please visit the ILAE web site under education opportunities or the JES Web site (<http://square.umin.ac.jp/jes/en/>).

28th International Epilepsy Congress

EUREPA – Case Series

Open and free of charge to all registered congress participants

29 June	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Comorbidity in Epilepsy
30 June	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Epilepsy in Infants and Children
1 July	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Differential Diagnosis of Epileptic and Non-epileptic Events
2 July	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Surgical Treatment of Epilepsy

VIREPA – Introduction Session to VIREPA Programs

29 June	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy
30 June	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Genetics of Epilepsy
1 July	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Neuroimaging
2 July	7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	EEG in the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy

Editorial

As you will see and hear countless times at this Congress in Budapest, the Centenary of the League is a great moment for the epilepsy movement. Starting with a handful of physicians who recognized that the problems associated with epilepsy required a specialized approach, the League has survived war and political discord to evolve into a truly global organization that has growing membership on all of the inhabited continents. Far more importantly, the treatment of epilepsy has evolved from frequent institutionalized care with a single pharmacologic therapeutic agent in 1909 to increasingly full integration into society with multiple and increasing therapeutic options. Although the Congress in Budapest, as has been true for the past Congresses,

is designed to let the participants know of the current state of the art, this year we should view the program as a celebration of the great progress that has been made in our first century.

This Congress is also a look into our second century, during which we hope to achieve the goal of a world in which no one is burdened with uncontrolled epilepsy. To start our next hundred years properly, the League is developing a strategic plan to help focus its efforts on the areas of greatest urgency,

as well as develop the treatments of the future. An article by Dr. Gary Mathern, the chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, outlines the areas that the ILAE is targeting. Much of the effort will be in improving care or access to care in many different countries in partnership with the WHO and the IBE. Key to improving

treatment is basic laboratory research, which is providing us with greater insights into the mechanisms of epilepsy. Because of the plethora of animal models that mimic many of the human

epilepsies, we may be in a better position to make greater progress in "our" disease than our colleagues who specialize in other disorders of the nervous system. Our growing knowledge about the pathophysiology of epilepsy, and the intricacies of neuronal physiology and pharmacology of neurons as individuals and in circuits, will provide the underpinnings of improved therapies. It is up to us to take advantage of these opportunities, and the Congress on the threshold of our second century in which we celebrate the progress from our humble beginnings is the place to start.

Edward Bertram
Information Officer



Centenary Activities

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 28 June | Opening Ceremonies at 19:00 hrs in Hall 1.
Welcome Reception at 20:00 hrs in Hall 1.
Join us in congratulating this year's award winners. |
| 28 June – 1 July | A film festival will be shown all week in Hall 7. Each showing includes audience discussion. A session devoted to Epilepsy in Literature with audience debate will also be held. |
| June 28 – 2 July | Visit the Centenary Historical Exhibition with more than 60 posters in the Exhibition Hall, Pavilion F, celebrating 100 years of ILAE and advances in the treatment of epilepsy. Stop by the ILAE Booth and purchase your copy of the commemorative Centenary Book. |
| 29 June | Join the special presentation in honor of the 100 th Anniversary of <i>Epilepsia</i> at 10:30 hrs. |
| 30 June | Watch the Centenary Film Competition's winning film, <i>Ictal</i> , in Hal 4 at 18:00 hrs. |
| 1 July | The ILAE Centenary Dinner is at the Hungarian National Gallery at 20:00 hrs. Tickets are required. |

International League Against Epilepsy 1909 – 2009: A Centenary History

To mark the centenary in 2009, the League produced a presentation volume of its history which is now available for sale. Order your copy on the ILAE Web site www.ilae.org or stop by the ILAE booth in the Exhibition Hall.

