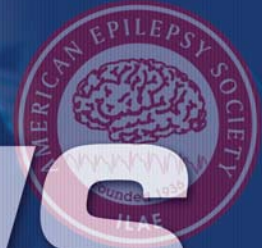


AES NEWS



What's New at the 2011 AES Annual Meeting?

Celebrating Our 75th Anniversary

A special event is planned for Saturday night to celebrate 75 years of promoting research and education for professionals dedicated to the prevention, treatment and cure of epilepsy. Tickets to this dinner event are available on the website. Don't miss the entertaining historical displays following AES and epilepsy treatment through the past 75 years. Your ticket price includes a buffet dinner, entertainment, and dancing.

CE Credit for Nurses

Nursing CE has been added for all symposia this year.

Supporting Epilepsy Fellows

Due to the dwindling commercial support for programs that brought Fellows to the AES Annual Meeting, the Board has voted to use AES funds to continue to support Fellows to come to the Annual Meeting this year. There has been an overwhelming response to the request for nominations and this year's program is full. These participants will be supported with \$750 for travel, complimentary registration, complimentary attendance at the 75th Anniversary Epilepsy Specialist Symposium and complimentary membership for a year. These Fellows will start with a breakfast on Friday, December 2.

Junior Investigator Programming

Programs of interest to our more junior members and investigators are highlighted in the Program Book with a ► symbol. Programs include major symposia, poster and platform sessions, Investigators' Workshops and Special Interest Groups.



Epilepsy Specialist Symposium

AES has created a special 75th Anniversary Epilepsy Specialist Symposium. The program will use the NINDS Benchmarks to create emphasis on translational research and provide an opportunity for clinical providers and researchers to collaboratively take a critical look at what is needed. This new program is scheduled for Friday, December 2 and has a separate registration fee.

Skills Workshops

Evaluations from recent Annual Meetings and the focus groups held during the 2010 Annual Meeting established a clear need to have smaller, more focused, intensive sessions. We are launching three Skills Workshops at the end of the 2011 Annual Meeting: Setting Up Clinical Trials, Epilepsy Surgery Update, and Setting Up

an EEG Monitoring Unit. There is a separate registration fee for these programs.

Maintenance of Certification

AES Education Leadership met with the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) in Chicago to discuss the roll out of new American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)/requirements, including Maintenance of Certification (MOC) and the advent of the Epilepsy Certification as a subspecialty under ABPN. AES will be working on supporting members as they approach the exam in Epilepsy that is coming, including self-assessment and Performance in Practice (PIP). In the meantime, AES 2011 Annual Meeting symposia have been reviewed and certified by ABPN as applicable for MOC.

(continued on page 6)

Honoring Research and Service at the 2011 Annual Meeting

The Research Recognition Awards Committee is charged with selecting the recipients of a number of awards that are presented at the AES Annual Meeting, including the Epilepsy Research Recognition Awards, The William G. Lennox Award, the AES Service Award and the J. Kiffin Penry Excellence in Epilepsy Care Award.

Each year, nominations are solicited for each of these award programs from members of the Society. The nominations are then reviewed by the Committee. The Research Recognition Award and Lennox Award nominations are assigned primary reviewers who present the nominees to the full committee at their September meeting. Preliminary scoring based on a list of criteria is used to limit discussion to the most likely candidates. This allows detailed discussion of the remaining applications. Subcommittees review and recommend awardees for the Service and Penry Awards. The full committee receives the subcommittee recommendations and selects the awardees.

The **Epilepsy Research Recognition Awards**, considered the most prestigious prize for research in epilepsy, are given annually to active scientists and clinicians working in all aspects of epilepsy research. The awards are designed to recognize professional excellence reflected in a distinguished history of research or important promise for the improved understanding, diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy. The award, in the amount of \$10,000, is granted annually to one Basic Science and one Clinical Investigator. The Committee is happy to announce the Awardees for 2011 are Ivan Soltesz, Ph.D. and Kimford J. Meador, M.D.

(continued on page 13)

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

AES News is published three times a year by the American Epilepsy Society, American Branch, International League Against Epilepsy.

Editor

Deepak K. Lachhwani, M.B.B.S., M.D.

Executive Director

M. Suzanne C. Berry, M.B.A., CAE
sberry@aesnet.org

Assistant Executive Director

Cheryl-Ann Tubby, IOM, CPP
ctubby@aesnet.org

Membership Services

Kathy Hucks
khucks@aesnet.org
Kate Flaherty
kflaherty@aesnet.org

Director of Education

Jeffrey D. Melin, M.Ed., CMP
jmelin@aesnet.org

Education Group

JoLynn Amsden
jamsden@aesnet.org

Cindy Johansson
cjohansson@aesnet.org

Sandy Pizzoferrato
spizzoferrato@aesnet.org

Paul Levisohn, M.D.
plevisohn@aesnet.org

Annual Meeting Group

Elizabeth W. Kunsey, CMP
ekunsey@aesnet.org

Elizabeth Pillsworth, CMP
epillsworth@aesnet.org

American Epilepsy Society

342 North Main Street
West Hartford, CT USA 06117-2507
Phone: 860.586.7505
Fax: 860.586.7550

Website: www.AESNET.org

Editorial Deadlines

Winter 2012 – January 12, 2012
Spring/Summer 2012 – May 7, 2012
Fall 2012 – August 13, 2012

Membership consists of clinicians, scientists investigating basic and clinical aspects of epilepsy, and other professionals interested in seizure disorders. Members represent both pediatric and adult aspects of epilepsy.

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The American Epilepsy Society promotes research and education for professionals dedicated to the prevention, treatment and cure of epilepsy.



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As my year as president winds down, I'd like to thank you again for giving me the honor of serving you. It has been busy, fun, exciting, exhausting and a real pleasure. Long story short, I'm still amazed at how much this organization does and want to apologize for not sharing with you more often. I had every intention of communicating regularly with members but ran out of time. I can't express the level of appreciation I have for the vice presidents and other board members for always coming through and volunteering more time to accomplish our tasks. I thank the staff for all their support, nagging, reminders and assistance to ensure that our organization meets its goals.

Speaking of goals, the Board has been reviewing and updating the Strategic Plan. We actually accomplished most of the action items that were identified three years ago, so it's time to identify new priorities. The discussions will be continuing at the December meeting with new initiatives going into effect with the new fiscal year next July. Any new projects or programs will need to be built into the new budget during the spring. Areas that are being considered as priorities include ensuring the future of clinical and basic research; attracting and embracing talented fellows (in all disciplines) through training; making sure our materials and education are adapting to the continuously evolving electronic universe; enhancing the ability of professionals to provide high quality clinical care through programs and services and building financial resources to achieve sustained growth and longevity. As the process continues, specific actions and expected outcomes will be defined. So, it looks like we will continue to have very full plates for the foreseeable future!

As we plan for the future, I hope you will continue to participate in our governance process by voting for board positions. Our philosophy is to conduct non-competitive elections and this concept is discussed every couple years to ensure that it still works for us. We depend on you to submit names of individuals to consider for leadership positions. The Nominating Committee looks at the experience of those individuals and at the needed competencies on the Board. For example, they try to balance basic and clinical science expertise as well as pediatric versus adult perspectives. The Committee narrows down the list to a handful of likely candidates who are asked to respond in writing to questions such as what they feel they can contribute and what is their vision for the Society. This information helps the Committee select the candidates that you are asked to ratify in the ballot process. The 2012 Board Ballot is now open. I hope you will continue to participate in this process.

Planning for the future includes developing leaders. In order to ensure that we have leaders prepared to chair committees and serve on the Board, we need to help people prepare. We are expanding our leadership development training this year to include a session for the younger, up and coming members. This "Professional Development in the AES" session is scheduled on Friday afternoon for the more junior folks who want to learn how AES works and what their opportunities may be. During the annual Fellows Recognition Reception we are asking committee chairs to come to talk to these younger folks about what the committees do and how to get involved. The Annual Committee and Leadership Breakfast on Sunday morning is an opportunity for those already in committees to learn more about how AES works. The Annual Business Meeting is an opportunity for all members to participate in the governance of the Society. Lastly, a more traditional Leadership Development session is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon for Committee Chairs, committee members and others interested in becoming leaders in the Society.

I've said quite a bit about planning for the future, but it's also important to celebrate our past. This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Society. Part of our celebration will be a party, of course. I hope you are planning to attend the "Fabulous, Fun Night of Memories" scheduled for Saturday, December 3. Your ticket gets you a full buffet dinner, wine or beer, dessert and dancing, but that's not all you get. There will be historical displays featuring highlights of advances in epilepsy care, decorated and staffed by costumed actors representing specific decades. It sounds like a lot of fun! In addition to the party, several Annual Meeting programs also have a historical theme. My Presidential Symposium on Saturday will look at AES over the past 75 years and look into the future for the Society. The Antiepileptic Therapies Symposium is titled "AET in the 21st Century: Origins and Future Directions."

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

John M. Pellock, M.D.

www.AESNET.org

One fabulous fun night of
MEMORIES

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3

Hilton Baltimore – Holiday Ballroom

7:00 pm - 10:30 pm

Includes a dinner buffet with wine and beer, a walk through the history of AES and epilepsy care, followed by dessert and dancing with music provided by your colleagues, the Dysrhythmics.

All attendees will be eligible to win an **iPad2**. Drawing to take place during the event. Winner must be present at time of drawing.

Ticket Price: \$135 per person
 (can purchase multiple tickets)

Special Pricing for residents & students
 Ticket Price: \$50 (one per person only)

It's not too late! Purchase your ticket(s) at the Registration Desk

*...Celebrate AES,
 Yesterday and Today*

*...Today is
 Tomorrow's Memories*



1920s



1930s



1940s



1950s



1960s



AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

NINDS UPDATE

The NINDS Special Interest Group: NINDS News To Know

By Brandy Fureman, Ph.D.



At the AES Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 3 from 7:00-8:30 a.m., the NINDS SIG will host a public information session titled "Learn to Use the Epilepsy Common Data Elements (CDEs) for Clinical Research." Investigators and other members of the research community involved in clinical study design are encouraged to attend. Speakers include Dan Lowenstein, M.D.,

Joanne Odenkirchen, M.P.H., Jacqueline A. French, M.D. and Tracy A. Glauser, M.D.

The CDEs are a set of data collection tools designed by the epilepsy research community that provide a uniform language for epilepsy clinical studies. Using the CDEs is expected to increase efficiency of clinical research, improve data quality, and ultimately facilitate data sharing. The NINDS hopes this effort will eliminate "reinventing the wheel," that often occurs with the funding of each new study and will ultimately enable clinical investigators to systematically collect, analyze, and share data across the research community.

The NINDS strongly encourages researchers who receive funding from the Institute to ensure their data collection is compatible with the CDEs. The CDE tools available through the website include customizable case report form (CRF) modules, standardized data element definitions, and instructions intended to expedite the development of data collection tools.

After a brief introduction the SIG session will focus on navigation of the CDE Project website and real life examples of how the CDEs can facilitate study start-up and data collection. In advance of the session, we invite you to browse the CDE website and submit questions or areas of interest you would like to see addressed at the meeting:

www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/; submit feedback through the feedback form:

<http://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/Feedback.aspx?page=contact>.

The NINDS recognizes that the Epilepsy CDEs are dynamic tools that will continue to evolve over time. The best way to ensure CDEs remain current is to revise and extend the project based on feedback from the neurological community and according to advances in the clinical research landscape. To that end, NINDS encourages your feedback and involvement in this undertaking. If you are interested in participating in the Epilepsy CDE oversight process or would like further information, please contact Brandy Fureman at furemanb@ninds.nih.gov.

The NINDS gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the Co-Chairs (Drs. Nick Barbaro and Dan Lowenstein) and other members of the Epilepsy CDE Working Group:

AEDs and other Antiepileptic Treatments subgroup: Jackie French, M.D. (Chair), Peggy Clark, RN, M.S.N., Jim Cloyd, Pharm.D., Tracy Glauser, M.D., Nina Graves, Pharm.D., Dan Lowenstein, M.D., Gerry Nesbitt, M.B.A.

Seizures and Symptoms subgroup: Dale Hesdorffer, Ph.D. (Chair), Anne Berg, Ph.D., Jackie French, M.D., W. Allen Hauser, M.D., Shlomo Shinnar, M.D., Ph.D., David Thurman, M.D.

Electrophysiology subgroup: Anne Van Cott, M.D. (Chair), Dennis Dlugos, M.D., William Gaillard, M.D., Gerry Nesbitt, M.B.A.

Imaging subgroup: William Gaillard, M.D. (Chair), Nick Barbaro, M.D., Greg Barkley, M.D., Robert Knowlton, M.D., MSPH, Ruben Kuzniecky, M.D.

Neuropsychology subgroup: David Loring, Ph.D. (Chair), Avital Cnaan, Ph.D., Marla Hamberger, Ph.D., Bruce Hermann, Ph.D., John Langfitt, Ph.D., Elisabeth Sherman, Ph.D., Mary Lou Smith, Ph.D., Michael Westerveld, Ph.D.

Neurological Exam subgroup: Dennis Dlugos, M.D., MSCE (Chair), Peggy Clark, RN, M.S.N., Dan Lowenstein, M.D., Christine O'Dell, RN, M.S.N., David Thurman, M.D., Mariann Ward, M.S., NP

Quality of Life subgroup: Joan Austin, DNS, RN, FAAN (Chair), David Cella, Ph.D., Avital Cnaan, Ph.D., Kristen Fowler, M.A., Marla Hamberger, Ph.D., John Langfitt, Ph.D., Christine O'Dell, RN, M.S.N.

Surgery and Pathology subgroup: Steve Roper, M.D. (Chair), Nick Barbaro, M.D., Robert Fisher, M.D., Ph.D., Sam Wiebe, M.D.

Comorbidities subgroup: Bruce Hermann, Ph.D. (Chair), Joan Austin, DNS, RN, FAAN, Anne Berg, Ph.D., Kristen Fowler, M.A., Tracy Glauser, M.D., W. Allen Hauser, M.D., Dale Hesdorffer, Ph.D., Curt LaFrance, M.D., Ruth Ottman, Ph.D., Shlomo Shinnar, M.D.

References:

Loring, D. W., Lowenstein, D. H., Barbaro, N. M., Fureman, B. E., Odenkirchen, J., Jacobs, M. P., Austin, J. K., Dlugos, D. J., French, J. A., Gaillard, W. D., Hermann, B. P., Hesdorffer, D.C., Roper, S.N., Van Cott, A.C., Grinnon, S., Stout, A. Common Data Elements in Epilepsy Research: Development and Implementation of the NINDS Epilepsy CDE Project. *Epilepsia*, 52(6):1186-1191.

Loring, D. W. & Hermann, B. P. (2011). Neuropsychology and the Epilepsy Common Data Element Project. In Helmstaedter, C., Lassonde, M., Hermann, B., Kahane, P., and Arzimanoglou, A. *Neuropsychology in the Care of People with Epilepsy*. Paris: John Libbey Eurotext.

Annals of Neurology article about CDEs - NerveCenter: NINDS common data element project: A long-awaited breakthrough in streamlining trials. *Annals of Neurology*. Vol. 68 No. 1 (June 2010), pp. A11-A13.

EPILEPSY FOUNDATION UPDATE

November Is National Epilepsy Awareness Month: It's Time to Get Seizure Smart!

By Lisa Boylan, Senior Editor and Director, Epilepsy Foundation

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month and the Epilepsy Foundation's national campaign — *Get Seizure Smart* — is a grassroots public awareness campaign aimed at getting information about seizure first aid and recognition into the hands of as many people as possible so people will know how to respond if they see someone having a seizure. Even though epilepsy is the most common neurological disorder affecting all age groups, it is still largely misunderstood by the general public. That needs to change.

This year another 200,000 people will be diagnosed with epilepsy and an estimated 25,000 to 50,000 will die of seizures and related causes. Some people live well with controlled seizures, while others — approximately one-third of Americans with epilepsy — have seizures that are resistant to medical treatment. No age group or demographic is exempt.

We are fortunate that our government is taking a proactive stance in learning more about epilepsy and its implications on society by funding an Institute of Medicine study to examine the public health implications surrounding epilepsy and seizures. The results of this study, which the Epilepsy Foundation and AES are supporting with information and resources, will recommend priorities so we



can better meet the needs of people living with epilepsy, including caregivers. The study will look at a broader picture of epilepsy, focusing on the whole spectrum of related disorders, as well as many of its co-existing conditions, such as depression, anxiety, migraine and autism.

The government is doing its part to shine a much-needed light on epilepsy by funding the IOM study. The Epilepsy Foundation is also working with many partner organizations, including AES, to raise awareness about the condition so the public will be able to recognize it and respond to seizures.

Last year, more than one million people got seizure smart during November and this year our goal is five million people. By raising awareness about this condition, we are

helping people with epilepsy to live better lives. Epilepsy is a complex disorder, but it should not be an unknown quantity — it should not be overlooked. National Epilepsy Awareness Month and the *Get Seizure Smart* campaign will bring long overdue attention to a disorder that has been misunderstood for too long.

Visit www.GetSeizureSmart.org and take the interactive quiz, then send the link (www.EpilepsyFoundation.org/neam/quiz/SeizureSmartQuizForm.cfm) to everyone you know so they can *Get Seizure Smart*, too!

FDA TOWN HALL MEETING

The FDA will be holding a “town hall” meeting during the AES Annual Meeting to discuss issues related to generic antiepileptic drug equivalence. The FDA will review the current methodology, the recommendations from FDA advisory board meetings and the three ongoing protocols for AED generic equivalence. Most of the time will be devoted to an open session where staff from the FDA will listen and respond to questions and suggestions about AED equivalence. The FDA has held similar meetings with professional organizations in other therapeutic areas on generic equivalence and is eager to get feedback from the epilepsy community. Plan to join this meeting on Friday, December 2 from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The location will be announced closer to the meeting.

ILAE and IBE Announce Awards Presented at the 29th International Epilepsy Congress



The **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. We are happy to announce the honoree for 2011 is AES member, Jerome Engel, Jr., USA.

Ambassador 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, including several AES members, were presented with this honor during the Opening Ceremony of the 29th International Epilepsy Congress in Rome. 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. We congratulate the following Ambassadors:

- Susan Axelrod – USA
- Hasan Aziz – Pakistan
- Lionel Carmant – Canada
- Jaime Fandino – Colombia
- Andres Kanner – USA
- Wei-Ping Liao – China
- Wolfgang Löscher – Germany
- Eli M. Mizrahi – USA
- Rosemary Panelli – Australia
- Asla Pitkänen – Finland
- Steven Schachter – USA
- Walter Van Emde Boas – Netherlands

The **Michael Prize**, presented every two years by Stiftung Michael from Germany, is an award for outstanding epilepsy research performed by young investigators (under the age of 45). The 2011 Michael Prize recipient is Eleonora Aronica of the Netherlands.

The **Social Accomplishment Award** is given every two years by the International Bureau for Epilepsy and the International League Against Epilepsy to one person who has accomplished outstanding activities aimed at the social benefit of people with epilepsy. The candidate must have a record of activities promoting improvement in the social circumstances of people with epilepsy. Pravina U. Shah of India was awarded this honor during the Opening Ceremony of the 29th International Epilepsy Congress in Rome.

The **Morris-Cooles Prize** 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 2011 Morris-Cooles Prize is awarded to AES member, Laura Jansen of Seattle Children's Hospital, for her paper entitled 'Impaired maturation of cortical GABA(A) receptor expression in pediatric epilepsy' *Epilepsia* 2010, 1456:67.

What's New at the 2011 AES Annual Meeting?

Continued from page 1

Abstracts and Online Availability

The 2011 Abstracts were available (and citeable) on the AES website in October. Abstracts are also scheduled to be published in *Epilepsy Currents* in the first quarter of 2012.

Poster Tours

The popular Poster Tours, introduced in 2010, return this year. They will occur during the three author's present times in the Poster Hall. Lunch will be available in the Exhibit Hall all three days to enable all attendees to view the posters.

ILAE Symposium

What used to be Plenary III on Tuesday at the Annual Meeting has now been renamed to the ILAE Symposium. This year's symposium is a joint venture between the ILAE North American Commission and the ILAE Commission for European Affairs. Simultaneous Spanish translation will be provided for this symposium.

Keynote Sessions

The two Research Recognition Award winners will present keynote addresses on Monday immediately prior to the Merritt-Putnam Symposium. More information on these individuals appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about their award-winning research efforts.

FDA Town Hall Meeting

The FDA will be holding a "town hall" meeting on Friday, December 2 at 8:00 p.m. to discuss issues related to generic antiepileptic drug equivalence. More information on this new program can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Social Networking Groups

Topic tables include: Hypothalamic Hamartomas; Lennox Gastaut; The EpiNet Project; and Neurocysticercosis & Epilepsy. More topics will be available as well.

Are You Connected?

The screenshot shows the homepage of the American Epilepsy Society's Professional Connection. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, MY PROFILE, DIRECTORY, LIBRARIES, DISCUSSIONS, and BLOGS. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation bar, there are two main columns. The left column, titled 'What's Hot', features a 'RECENT BLOGS' section with three news items: 'European Written Declaration on Epilepsy is Approved', 'Epilepsy Stigma and the Media', and 'NIH Issues New COI Rules'. Below this is a 'LATEST AES NEWS' section with one item: 'AED Cognitive Risk Related to Late Term Exposure'. The right column, titled 'Our Community', features an 'ANNOUNCEMENTS' section with one item: 'Save the Date! AES 65th Annual Meeting'. Below this is a 'GETTING STARTED' section with four numbered steps: 1. Customize your profile and privacy preferences, 2. Adjust your subscription settings, 3. Start a conversation - post a message in one of the Discussion groups, and 4. Start networking - go to the Directory and Find a Member to connect with. At the bottom of the right column is a 'MEMBERSHIP' section with links for Join, Renew, and Learn About More Benefits.

Get Started:

- Go to <http://connect.aesnet.org>
- Click Login
- Enter your Member login ID# and Password
- Click Go

You can use AES Professional Connection to:

- Connect with Colleagues
- Build your network
- Discuss current issues
- Volunteer for Committees
- Participate in Committee and SIG discussion groups
- Share documents
- And more!

Governments in the Americas Will Create Epilepsy Care Programs

Washington, D.C., 29 September 2011 (PAHO / WHO) –

The countries of the Americas, with support from the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO / WHO), will work together to create national programs for the care and treatment of epilepsy, a neurological disorder that affects some five million people in the Americas.

Only ten countries in the hemisphere currently have a national epilepsy care program in place. At a meeting of the 51st PAHO Directing Council this week, representatives of PAHO / WHO Member States approved a strategy and plan of action that calls for the creation of similar programs in the rest of the Region's countries, setting a target of 20 countries with such plans by 2015 and 30 by 2020.

Epilepsy is a chronic disorder of the brain characterized by recurrent seizures, which are physical reactions to sudden, usually brief, excessive electrical discharges in a group of brain cells. Globally the disorder affects some 50 million people.

Health authorities from the countries of the Americas agreed to make epilepsy a priority issue and to strengthen the health sector response to the disorder, with a focus on primary healthcare.

The strategy also addresses gaps in treatment: currently more than 50 percent of people with epilepsy in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to appropriate treatment and care.

The strategy and action plan was developed by PAHO / WHO based on a consultative process with partners including the International League against Epilepsy (ILAE), the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE), ministries of health and other national organizations, WHO's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and other experts.

Under the new strategy, countries will work to:

- Make epilepsy a national health policy priority, implementing national programs that are adapted to conditions in each country
- Strengthen legal frameworks to protect the human rights of people with epilepsy and to ensure effective enforcement of relevant laws
- Promote universal and equitable access to medical care for all people with epilepsy by strengthening primary care systems and integrated service networks
- Ensure the availability of the four antiepileptic drugs considered essential for treatment of the disorder
- Strengthen neurological services to support case detection and management at the primary care level, ensuring adequate distribution of the necessary auxiliary diagnostic media

- Support effective participation by the community, patient associations and family members in activities designed to improve care for people with epilepsy
- Consider the strengthening of human resources as key to improving national epilepsy programs
- Promote intersectoral and educational initiatives to combat stigma and discrimination against people with epilepsy
- Close the information gap in the field of epilepsy by improving the production, analysis, and use of information, including research
- Strengthen partnerships between the health sector, other sectors, and nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, and key social actors.

Epilepsy may be caused by genetic, structural, metabolic, or unknown factors. Among structural factors, the most common causes in Latin America and the Caribbean are infectious and parasitic diseases (particularly neurocysticercosis), perinatal brain damage, vascular diseases, and head trauma. All of these conditions are preventable.

The prognosis in cases of epilepsy depends on the illness's etiology, as well as early and sustained treatment. An estimated 70% of people with epilepsy can lead normal lives if they receive proper care.

The majority of Latin American and Caribbean countries have the four basic drugs (phenobarbital, phenytoin, carbamazepine, and valproic acid) needed for treatment, but only at the secondary and tertiary levels of care. Ensuring the supply of these antiepileptics is essential, given that seizures can be controlled with monotherapy regimens in up to 70 percent of cases.

Links:

Strategy and Plan of Action on Epilepsy:
http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=14463&Itemid=
<http://www.paho.org/dc51>
<http://www.paho.org>
<http://www.facebook.com/PAHOWHO>
<http://www.youtube.com/pahopin>
<http://twitter.com/pahoeoc>
<http://twitter.com/pahowho>
<http://twitter.com/opsoms>
<http://www.livestream.com/paho>
www.picasaweb.google.com/pahopin

SIGnals

For more on what's happening with your favorite SIG, log on to Professional Connections and join the discussion. You will find SIGs under the Directory Tab.

Botanicals cancelled for 2011

We regret to inform you that the Botanicals Special Interest Group has been cancelled.

Neuropharmacology

Gail Anderson, Ph.D., Scott Mintzer M.D., and Jacquelyn Bainbridge, Pharm.D.

Please join the Neuropharmacology Special Interest Group (SIG) on Sunday, December 4, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our topic is Cytochrome P450, Endogenous Metabolic Pathways and Antiepileptic Drugs (AEDs). The role of the cytochrome P450 (CYP) family of enzymes in the metabolism of drugs is widely known. However, the CYPs also play an important role in the synthesis and the breakdown of endogenous steroids and Vitamin D, as well as the metabolism of a wide variety of substrates such as arachidonic acid, eicosanoids, cholesterol, and many others. Patients with epilepsy experience a variety of metabolic effects. The use of AEDs with CYP enzyme inducing or inhibiting properties may cause long-term endocrine effects, including lipid, thyroid and sex hormone abnormalities in addition to bone loss. We will consider the possible role of AED interactions involving endogenous pathways in producing these adverse metabolic effects, and their potential clinical consequences. The session speakers and topics will include Gail Anderson, Ph.D., "Cytochrome P450: Beyond Drug Metabolism," Alison Pack, M.D., "Metabolic Effects of AEDs, Part 1: Bone Metabolism and Female Reproductive Function," and Scott Mintzer, M.D., "Metabolic Effects of AEDs, Part II: Lipids, Other Vascular Risk Markers, and Male Reproductive Function."

Neonatal Seizure

Adam L. Hartman, M.D. and Renee A. Shellhaas, M.D.

Neonatal seizures are one of the most controversial topics in pediatric epilepsy — whom to monitor, whom to treat, what medicine to use — and despite significant research efforts, a number of very important basic science and clinical questions remain. There has been a significant increase in availability and utilization of neuromonitoring technologies, especially with the advent of cooling protocols for infants with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. Neonates with seizures are being managed by clinicians with diverse backgrounds, including clinical neurophysiologists, neurologists, neonatologists, nurse practitioners, and nurses. The purpose of this SIG is to crystallize these questions to help focus the efforts of basic science and clinical investigators, as well as provide practical advice for clinicians. This year's topic is, "To Treat or Not To Treat." There will be a debate on whether electrographic seizures should be treated as aggressively as clinically-apparent seizures, a discussion of current acute seizure treatment protocols, and an update on active clinical trials. We have dynamic speakers who are experts in the field discussing these controversial topics. Plenty of time for discussion has been built into the schedule, so audience participation is strongly encouraged.

NINDS – Common Data Elements

Brandy Fureman, Ph.D.

Learn how to utilize the Epilepsy Common Data Elements (CDEs)! The CDEs, a set of tools designed by the community for epilepsy researchers, will be presented by The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) at

this year's Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 3, 7:00-8:30 a.m. After a brief introduction the session will focus on navigation of the CDE Project website and real life examples of how the CDEs can facilitate study start-up and data collection. In advance of the session, we invite you to browse the CDE website and submit questions or areas of interest you would like to see addressed at the meeting. You can do this by visiting the NINDS CDE website (www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/) and submitting any feedback through the feedback form (<http://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/Feedback.aspx?page=contact>).

Neuroendocrinology Progesterone Therapy for Women with Epilepsy – Findings of NIH-Sponsored Clinical Trial

Coordinators: Doodipala Samba Reddy, Ph.D., RPh and Jana Veliskova, M.D., Ph.D.

This year the Neuroendocrinology SIG will focus on the principal findings of the NIH-sponsored clinical trial on progesterone therapy in women with epilepsy. This randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, multicenter clinical trial assessed the efficacy of adjunctive cyclic progesterone therapy in lessening the frequency of intractable seizures in women with localization-related epilepsy. Dr. Andrew Herzog is the lead principal investigator of this clinical study. It is well known that ovarian hormones play an important role in neuronal excitability and seizures. Previous open-label studies suggest that the cyclic administration of adjunctive natural progesterone supplement may lessen seizure frequency by over 50 percent in the majority of women with catamenially exacerbated intractable seizures. Oral synthetic progestins, in contrast, have not shown significant efficacy. Progesterone is not widely prescribed because its benefits have yet to be conclusively demonstrated. The investigators of the progesterone trial will present the key findings of the trial including the periodicity of seizures in women with epilepsy, frequency of catamenial epilepsy, variation of seizure frequency with the ovulatory status of cycles, efficacy and safety of progesterone therapy and parameters for the selection of candidates for optimal outcome with progesterone therapy.

Dr. Herzog and his team will present the data from the trial and lead the discussions on the clinical potentials of progesterone therapy in epilepsy. This clinical study has considerable potential significance for women with epilepsy because an estimated 30 percent have persistent seizures despite antiepileptic drug use. It is estimated that 35 percent of these women have catamenial seizure exacerbation and it is interesting to learn from the study whether such seizures can be effectively controlled by progesterone therapy.

The program consists of three major talks followed by open-forum discussion. Dr. Andrew G. Herzog will speak on "Clinical potential of progesterone therapy for women with epilepsy." Dr. Mark Quigg will talk on "Seizure periodicities and relationships to epilepsy laterality and focality." Dr. Kristen Fowler will talk on "The nomographic analysis of seizure distributions across the menstrual cycle." Dr. Reddy and Veliskova will moderate the discussions.

Neuropsychology – Computerized Assessment in Epilepsy: Pros and Cons

Marla J. Hamberger, Ph.D.

Business promotions for computerized cognitive assessment are increasingly common. Automated assessment devoid of human contact is highly controversial. Does computerized assessment improve or diminish clinical care? The potential advantages, disadvantages and cautions regarding computerized

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cognitive assessment in epilepsy will be discussed. Our speakers will be Marilyn Jones-Gotman, Ph.D., Christoph Helmstaedter, Ph.D. and Michael Schoenberg, Ph.D.

MEG/MSI – Controversies in MEG: A Pugilistic Approach

Jerry J. Shih, M.D.

This year's MEG SIG will adopt a debate format to address two controversial topics that encompass basic science, effective practice patterns, and potentially the future of MEG vis-à-vis other neuroimaging modalities. Michael Weisend of the University of New Mexico and John Mosher of Cleveland Clinic will discuss whether the equivalent current dipole in a spherical volume conductor model is adequate for clinical epilepsy studies. William Gaillard of the NIH / Children's National Medical Center and John Ebersole of the University of Chicago will discuss if fMRI can do everything that simultaneous EEG / MEG can, but better and cheaper. Each speaker will present their viewpoint and then will be allowed a short rebuttal. Ten minutes are allotted at the end of each topic for the audience to engage the speakers or present their own opinions. Please join us for what is expected to be an educational, entertaining and spirited (all weapons and food projectiles checked at the door) discussion.

Private Practice Epilepsy

Marcelo Lancman, M.D. and Pavel Klein, M.D.

Epilepsy is a complex subspecialty and the delivery of expert care to epilepsy patients requires a multidisciplinary approach and access to the most advanced diagnostic tools. Until recently, care of epilepsy patients has been restricted to academic institutions. Over the past decade, however, a number of private practice epilepsy centers has started and developed mechanisms to deliver the same level of care to the epilepsy patient as academic facilities. In addition to standard care, which includes advanced epilepsy surgical procedures, private practice epilepsy groups are developing research and advocacy components as well, offering patients opportunities to enter clinical trials, and care well beyond the hospital.

The methods of care for the epilepsy patient are evolving. The primary aim of this program is to focus on how to build and develop a multidisciplinary epilepsy private practice. This SIG is also designed to establish and foster a network of private practice groups and their caregivers an interest in the development of such dimensions as clinical research and patient advocacy.

Topics and speakers:

- Map of all private practitioners dedicated to epilepsy in the U.S. Marcelo Lancman, M.D. (Northeast regional Epilepsy Group, New York and New Jersey)
- Private practice research: a model Pavel Klein, M.D. (Mid-Atlantic Epilepsy / Sleep Center, Bethesda, Maryland)
- Round table discussion: David Anshel, M.D. (Saint Charles Hospital, Port Jefferson, New York); Patricia Penovich, M.D., (Minnesota Epilepsy Group, St. Paul, Minnesota); Jay Harvey, D.O. (Neurological Clinic of Texas, Dallas, Texas) and Jose Ferreira, M.D. (Pediatric Epilepsy / Neurology Specialists, Tampa, Florida)

Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Projects

Madona D. Plueger, M.S.N., RN, CNRN, ACNS-BC and Georgette Smith, M.S.N., APRN, CPNP

This year's Nursing SIG provides the opportunity for nurses to meet one another, share their practice, research and evidence based projects. The overall goal of this group is to foster the development of ongoing nursing participation, professional networking and collaboration among nurses

practicing in epilepsy throughout the world. We invite all inpatient and outpatient nurses, clinical nurse specialists, and nurse practitioners to join us as we strive to promote patient and family centered epilepsy care throughout the lifespan. This year, the Nursing SIG will highlight the recipients of the 2011 Nursing Awards. Our program will provide the opportunity for these award-winning nurses to share their research and evidence based projects with interested colleagues. This forum will foster the development of ongoing nursing participation, professional networking and collaboration among nurses practicing in epilepsy. Speakers / Awardees include: Victoria Driscoll, RN, B.S.N.; Angie Elia, CPNP; Kristen Fowler, RN, M.A.; Laura Jurasek, PNP, M.N.; Diane Teagarden, M.S.N., APRN; Jane R. Von Gaudecker, RN, B.S.N.

Neurostimulation – Emerging New Devices for Epilepsy: Focus on Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation and Devices for SUDEP

Christopher DeGiorgio, M.D.

The field of Neurostimulation and Neuromodulation is experiencing exponential growth, with a number of new devices and interventions undergoing pre-clinical and clinical development. Two unique treatment platforms, DBS and RNS, are awaiting FDA review, and Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation is emerging as a new therapy for both epilepsy and mood disorders. Implantable seizure detection and alarm systems are moving forward, and may offer the ability to predict times of high and low risk for seizures, allowing patients to plan their activities with greater confidence. Wearable seizure alarms offer the hope of increasing safety and hypothetically reducing the risk of SUDEP. In addition, a number of alternative devices are emerging, which go beyond neurostimulation, and include brain cooling, drug infusion, etc. Finally, we evaluate the current and future landscape of devices for epilepsy, and compare and contrast their mechanisms, safety, and efficacy.

Topics to be covered are: Emerging Novel Devices for Epilepsy: Beyond Neurostimulation; Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation: PET data and late-breaking results from clinical trials in epilepsy and depression; Seizure Detection and Alarm Systems (Seizure advisory system, wearable seizure alarms); Neuromodulation in 2012 and beyond: VNS, DBS, RNS, and TNS, Relative mechanism, safety and efficacy.

Basic Neuroscience – Unconventional (Non-Rodent) Animal Models of Epilepsy

Celine M. Dubé, Ph.D. and Michael Wong, M.D., Ph.D.

Rodent models have been the mainstay of basic neuroscience research in epilepsy, but other animal models also provide valuable tools and insights for studying epilepsy. This Basic Neuroscience SIG will discuss the advantages and limitations of animal models of epilepsy in general and feature talks from several investigators on unconventional, non-rodent models of epilepsy, including *Drosophila* (Mark Tanouye), zebrafish (Scott Baraban), and baboons (Charles Szabo).

Controversies in SUDEP

Elizabeth J. Donner, M.D., Lawrence J. Hirsch, M.D., George B. Richerson, M.D., Ph.D.

There are few topics in the field of epilepsy that garner more attention and spark more controversy than SUDEP. The issues of debate range broadly, from what is the cause of death, to how to discuss it with patients and families. This year at the SUDEP SIG, we will explore three contentious topics with lively debates:

- 1) Disclosure: To tell or not to tell? Dr. Jeffrey Buchhalter vs. Dr. Susan Duncan

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2) Brain, Heart, Lungs: What is the primary mechanism?
Dr. Samden Lhatoo vs. Dr. Lisa Bateman vs.
Dr. Stephan Schuele

3) Nocturnal Supervision: Is there a role in SUDEP prevention? Dr. Lina Nashef vs. Dr. Elson So

Come out and join the debate!

Pregnancy Registry

Cynthia L. Harden, M.D. and Georgia D. Montouris, M.D.

The pregnancy registry SIG has always been a forum for breaking news on the findings from antiepileptic drug pregnancy registries from around the world. We have emphasized dose effects, fertility, and cognitive outcomes. This year we will provide updates from all the registries, and the latest information on cognitive outcomes from the NEADS Study, and will also feature a discussion by Dr. Karen Gale. Her work has long focused on basic mechanisms of adverse cognitive effects of early natal exposure to AEDs. By presenting her work to the largely, clinically-oriented audience of the SIG, we hope to provide thoughtful discussion on how this data could be adapted "from the lab to the clinic" in terms of clinical research and patient management. Further, there have been major publications this year in the field, including from the EURAP study and the NEADS study and this forum will provide AES attendees an opportunity to discuss the provocative findings with authors of the study. The presenters will also present new information about risks of the newer AEDs, including a discussion of the recent change in FDA categorization of topiramate-associated malformations. We will again have a timely and lively program after an amazingly productive year and will feature a basic science twist on cognitive teratogenesis to further inform the discussion.

Presenters this year will be: Kim Meador (NEADS), John Craig (UK Register), Karen Gale (Georgetown), Torbjorn Tomson (EURAP), Lewis Holmes (NAAEP), and Terrence O'Brien (Australian Pregnancy Registry).

Women's Issues in Epilepsy – Women in the Reproductive Age

Lisa M. Bateman, M.D. and Mary L. Zupanc, M.D.

In this year's Women's Issues in Epilepsy SIG, we will revisit management issues for women in the reproductive age. Speakers will update topics of interest for both adult and pediatric epilepsy specialists, including management issues in pregnancy, breast feeding, birth control and sexual dysfunction. Speakers include: Dr. Cynthia Harden (Contraceptive Management); Dr. Martha Morrell (Sexual Dysfunction) with an additional speaker on Pregnancy who will be named later.

Epidemiology – Classification Strikes Again

Anne Berg, Ph.D.

Are you keeping track of the changes in classification and terminology? At this year's Epidemiology SIG, we will discuss the concepts and terms for underlying causes that are replacing the old idiopathic-symptomatic-cryptogenic triad. We will hear from investigators representing several different perspectives including new ICD, genetics, neurosurgery, randomized trials, population-based epidemiology, and concerns for developing countries. Drs. Ingrid Scheffer, Donna Bergen, Gary Mathern, Tracy Glauser, Jakob Christensen, Peter Camfield, and Gretchen Birbeck will be there to present their thoughts. We anticipate ample time for discussion from the audience.

In addition, if you are interested in keeping up with the latest efforts from the Commission on Classification and Terminology and the Task Force on the Diagnostic Manual,

please visit these websites. We are very eager to hear your thoughts and receive your input!

For the Diagnostic Manual:

<https://sites.google.com/site/diagnosticmanualilae/>

Comments and questions may be sent to atberg@childrensmemorial.org.

For the Commission: <http://community.ilae-epilepsy.org/home/> log in is required to leave comments. Once you are logged in, please go to the following area under discussions on the Home Page. If you do not log in, you can still view others' comments.

Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC)

Martina Bebin M.D., M.P.A.

Because of the ever expanding basic science understanding of the mTOR pathway in TSC and the recent completion of several mTOR inhibitor clinical trials, the TSC SIG will focus the potential role of mTOR in epileptogenesis.

Dr. Michael Wong will discuss the basic science aspects of the antiepileptogenic effects of rapamycin in preventing epilepsy in TSC animal models. Dr. Serguiz Jozwiak will discuss his experience with prophylactic vigabatrin treatment in infants with TSC. Dr. David Franz will discuss the role of mTOR drugs as a potential therapeutic option for epilepsy in TSC patients. There will be time for discussion and questions.

Status Epilepticus

Tobias Loddenkemper, M.D. and Sue Herman, M.D.

Status Epilepticus (SE) is a life-threatening condition necessitating immediate medical attention and treatment. Despite its frequent occurrence and high morbidity and mortality, there are few randomized trials addressing the optimal treatment of SE. Two trials provide guidance on initial treatment of generalized convulsive SE, but treatment of other types of SE and refractory Status Epilepticus is based on expert consensus opinion rather than experimental data. This year's SIG will focus on treatment of Status Epilepticus. Dr. Goodkin will review specific therapies based on timing and pathophysiology of Status Epilepticus, Dr. Loddenkemper will subsequently discuss clinical treatment paradigms and outline gaps in current treatment options, and Dr. Rosenow will address the role of novel therapies in status epilepticus. We are looking forward to another exciting discussion with ample opportunities for audience participation and interaction.

Junior Investigator's Workshop

Andre Lagrange, M.D., Ph.D.

So your fellowship is wrapping up, and you'd like to start making a name for yourself in research. How do you go about positioning yourself for success? Join us for an exciting Junior Investigator workshop on getting your research career off the ground. This will be an interactive session in which our renowned panelists of both clinical and basic science researchers will share their pearls of wisdom. Sometimes simply defining the direction and scope of your research can be a difficult first step. Topics can include deciding when to start looking for faculty positions, and then negotiating a good package. Other topics include finding a mentor and team of collaborators that suit your needs, but also defining your own identity within that group. This year's panelists will include – Hal Blumenfeld, Steve Danzer, Susan Herman, and Robert Knowlton. We will open the floor for discussion, so bring your questions and topics of discussion. This is sure to be a lively and informative interchange!

**Special Thanks to our 75th Anniversary Hosts
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The AES Development Committee is pleased to acknowledge the twelve charitable industry affiliates who have contributed a total of \$440,000 in support of the AES Research Education & Endowment Funds

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Many thanks to the 75th Anniversary Celebration attendees who honor our rich history by supporting AES through the purchase of an event ticket.

Honoring Research and Service at the 2011 Annual Meeting
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Ivan Soltesz, Ph.D., recipient of the 2011 Basic Science Investigator Award, is Professor and Chair of Anatomy and Neurobiology in the School of Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. He received his doctorate from the L. Eotvos University in Budapest and then conducted postdoctoral research at Oxford, London, Laval, Stanford and Dallas. Dr. Soltesz established his independent laboratory at UC Irvine in 1995. He is a recipient of an NINDS Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award and the Michael Prize for basic epilepsy research, and was the co-founder of the Gordon Research Conference on Epilepsy.

Dr. Soltesz has made a number of novel contributions to understanding the organization, function and plasticity of neuronal microcircuits in epilepsy. His research, employing closely integrated experimental and computational modeling techniques, has focused on the relative roles of cell loss and reactive axon sprouting after injury, the functional impact of ion channel and receptor plasticity, and the roles of aberrant hub-like neurons in epilepsy. In addition, Dr. Soltesz wrote an acclaimed monograph on GABAergic microcircuits, co-edited a groundbreaking book on computational neuroscience in epilepsy, and his open source, freely available computational models of limbic circuits have been employed by labs all over the world to address complex questions in epilepsy as well as other disorders.

Dr. Soltesz has been an active participant in AES, including service as Chair of the Basic Science Committee. He has served on the editorial board for several journals including the *Journal of Neuroscience* and *Epilepsy Research*. He is the Chair of the CNNT NIH study section, Co-Chair of the Epilepsy Foundation Research Grants and Fellowship review panel, and a member of the CURE scientific advisory board. He has trained a number of pre- and postdoctoral fellows, including M.D. / Ph.D. students, in various epilepsy-related projects.



Kimford J. Meador, M.D., recipient of the 2011 Clinical Investigator Award, is Professor of Neurology at Emory University, and Director of Epilepsy and Director of Clinical Neuroscience Research. Dr. Meador graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Applied Biology (with high honor) and received his M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia. After an internship at the University of Virginia and service as an officer in the Public Health Corps, he completed a residency in Neurology at the Medical College of Georgia and a fellowship in Behavioral Neurology at the University of Florida. Dr. Meador joined the faculty at the Medical College of Georgia (1984-2002) where he became the Charbonnier Professor of Neurology. He was the Chair of Neurology at Georgetown University (2002-2004) and the Melvin Greer Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience at the University of Florida (2004-2008), where he served as Director of Epilepsy Program and Director of the Clinical Alzheimer Program. He joined the faculty of Emory University in 2008. Dr. Meador has authored over 300 peer-reviewed publications. His research interests include: cognitive mechanisms (e.g., memory and attention); cerebral lateralization; dementia; pharmacology and physiology of cognition; mechanisms of perception, consciousness and memory; EEG; epilepsy; preoperative evaluation for epilepsy surgery; intracarotid amobarbital procedure (i.e., WADA test); functional imaging; therapeutic drug trials; neurodevelopmental effects of antiepileptic drugs; psychoimmunology; behavioral syndromes (e.g., aphasia and neglect); and neuropsychiatric disorders. Dr. Meador is on the editorial boards for *Clinical Neurophysiology*, *Epilepsy and Behavior*, *Epilepsy Currents*, *Journal of Clinical Neurophysiology*, *Neurology*, *Cognitive and Behavioral Neurology*, and *Epilepsy.com*. His honors include research and teaching awards, Fellow of the American Neurological Association, Past Chair of the Section of Behavioral Neurology of the American Academy of Neurology, Past President of the Society for Behavioral & Cognitive Neurology, and Past President of the Southern EEG & Epilepsy Society.

You can hear Drs. Soltesz and Meador speak about their research on Monday, December 5 at 8:30 a.m. during their 30-minute Keynote Addresses. Be sure to honor them at the award presentation on Saturday, December 3 at 1:00 p.m., immediately prior to the Presidential Symposium.

The **William G. Lennox Award** is the Society's most prestigious professional award and is funded by the William G. Lennox Trust Fund. The Fund was established in 1962 to advance and disseminate knowledge concerning epilepsy in all of its aspects — biological, clinical and social — and to promote better care and treatment for persons with epilepsy. This award, in the amount of \$10,000, was established to recognize members of the Society, usually at a senior level, who have a record of lifetime contributions and accomplishments related to epilepsy.



AES is proud to present the 2011 Lennox Award to **Martin J. Brodie, MBCHB, MRCP, M.D., FRCP**. Prof. Brodie has directed the Epilepsy Unit in the Western Infirmary, in Glasgow, Scotland since 1981. He and his team provide a range of services for people with seizure disorders across the west of Scotland. He qualified in Medicine at Glasgow University in 1971 and undertook his postgraduate training in London before taking up his present post. His research interests include antiepileptic drug neuropharmacology, randomised clinical trials, prognostic outcome studies, management of epilepsy and factors affecting drug response. Professor Brodie has published more than 400 books, editorials, chapters, reviews, proceedings and articles in peer-reviewed journals. He was Secretary and then Chair of the Commission on European Affairs of the International League Against Epilepsy from 1993 until 2001. He was Treasurer of the organization from 2005 until 2009, having previously been a Vice President from 2001. He set up and Chairs the Board of Trustees of the charity, Scottish Epilepsy Initiative. Martin Brodie has been appointed "Ambassador for Epilepsy" on behalf of the International League Against Epilepsy and the International Bureau for Epilepsy. He was recently given the European Epileptology Award by the Commission on European Affairs of the International League against Epilepsy and The Epilepsy Lifetime Service Award by its UK Chapter.

You can honor Prof. Brodie by attending the award presentation on Monday, December 5 at 9:00 a.m., immediately prior to the Merritt-Putnam Symposium.

The **J. Kiffin Penry Excellence in Epilepsy Care Award** honors a clinician's lifelong focus on and genuine concern for the patient with epilepsy. This award recognizes those whose work has had a major impact on patient care and improved the quality of life for persons with epilepsy as well as recognizing excellence in the care of persons with epilepsy.



Patricia Dean, M.S.N., ARNP is the recipient of the 2011 J. Kiffin Penry Excellence in Epilepsy Care Award. She received her BSN from Downstate Medical Center and her MSN from the University of Miami. She has been taking care of children with epilepsy and their families for over 20 years at the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center of Miami Children's Hospital. Ms. Dean has been involved in every aspect of nursing care of the pediatric epilepsy patient. She presently co-ordinates care at one of the largest pediatric epilepsy programs in the Southeast. She has helped many families through their hospitalizations, seizures, surgeries and various other trials.

She has been an avid volunteer in the epilepsy movement. She has worked extensively with the Foundation at both the national and local level. She served on the Professional Advisory Board and the Board of Directors of the National Epilepsy Foundation. She is currently the President of the Board of Directors of the Epilepsy Foundation of Florida. She has received awards for her service from both the local chapter and national office. She was appointed in 1990 to the Governor's Task Force on Epilepsy and continues to act as an advocate for people with epilepsy at the State Legislature. She is well known in the Florida Epilepsy community for her work with the camp program. Pat was instrumental in establishing a camp program for children with epilepsy in 1986 that continues to flourish today. Because of her efforts and dedication, many children were able to have an experience that they would not have otherwise known.

Pat is also an active member of AES. She served as chair of the Professionals in Epilepsy Care Committee. She served on the Education Council and the Annual Meeting Committee and

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 17 – 18, 2012

3rd North American Regional Caribbean Congress on Epilepsy
Antigua

February 18 – 19, 2012

15th Annual Meeting of the International Symposium on Surgery for Catastrophic Epilepsy in Infants
Tokyo, Japan
Abstract Submission Deadline: October 31, 2011
<http://www.iss-jpn.info>

February 24 – March 2, 2012

6th Latin American Summer School on Epilepsy
Sao Paulo, Brazil
<http://www.lasse.med.br>

April 21 – April 28

American Academy of Neurology 64th Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana
<http://www.aan.com/go/am12>

May 18 – 20 2012

3rd Annual Congress of NeuroTalk
Beijing, China
<http://www.bitlifesciences.com/neurotalk2012/default.asp>

March 21 – 25, 2012

9th Asian and Oceanian Epilepsy Congress
Manila, Philippines
<http://www.epilepsymanila2012.org>

May 6 – 10, 2012

Eleventh Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs (Eilat XI)
Eilat, Israel
<http://www.eilat-aeds.com>

May 27 – June 2, 2012

12th International Child Neurology Congress & 11th Asian and Oceanian Congress of Child Neurology
South Brisbane, Australia
<http://www.icnc2012.com>

June 9 – 12, 2012

22nd Meeting of the European Neurological Society
Prague, Czech Republic
<http://www.congrex.ch/ens2012>

September 30 – October 4, 2012

10th European Congress on Epileptology
London, UK
<http://www.epilepsylondon2012.org>

Honoring Research and Service at the 2011 Annual Meeting Continued from page 13

served as a Co-Chair on the Safety in the EMU committee. She has authored and co-authored numerous publications on various topics in pediatric epilepsy.

Ms. Dean will receive her award on Saturday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m., immediately prior to the AET Symposium.

The AES Service Award recognizes outstanding service in the field of epilepsy (including non-educational and non-scientific) and exemplary contributions to the welfare of the AES and its members.



Michael A. Rogawski, M.D., Ph.D., recipient of the 2011 Service Award, is professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology at the University of California, Davis. Until 2006, he was senior investigator and chief of the Epilepsy Research Section at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Dr. Rogawski received his B.A. from Amherst College, and M.D. and Ph.D. (pharmacology) from Yale University. After serving as a postdoctoral fellow in the Laboratory of Neurophysiology, NINDS, he completed residency training in neurology at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Rogawski's research encompasses cellular neurophysiological studies of ion channels (with a focus on the mechanisms of action of antiepileptic drugs); animal models of epilepsy; and clinical studies on new treatments for seizures and epilepsy. His laboratory studies on AMPA receptors and neurosteroids have led to new epilepsy treatment approaches. Dr. Rogawski has received the NIH

Director's Award and the Epilepsy Research Award from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. Dr. Rogawski has served on the editorial boards of *Epilepsia* and *Epilepsy Research* as well as several other journals. He has been a member of advisory panels to the National Institutes of Health; he has been a member of the scientific advisory board of Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE); and he serves in an advisory capacity as a special government employee to the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Rogawski played a major role in creating the concept for *Epilepsy Currents*, which published its inaugural issue in November 2001, and in the transition of the journal to the self-publishing model that occurred in 2011. He has served as an associate editor or chief editor of *Epilepsy Currents* during the ten years of its existence. He also has served in a number of other capacities for AES, including as a member (1995–1997) and Chair (1996–1997) of the Scientific Program Committee; as Chair of the Technology Committee (1999–2003); as a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee (1992–1994); and as member and Chair of the Publications Committee (2005–2006). Dr. Rogawski presented the William G. Lennox Lecture on "The Future of Epilepsy Therapy" at the 2009 AES Annual Meeting in Boston.

You can congratulate Dr. Rogawski at the award presentation on Saturday, December 3 at 8:45 a.m. immediately prior to the Hoyer Lecture.