

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE:
Monday, Dec. 9, 2019
2:00 p.m. EST

**Karen S. Wilcox, Ph.D., Honored for Excellence in Epilepsy Research
at the American Epilepsy Society's Annual Meeting**

BALTIMORE - Karen S. Wilcox, Ph.D., presented the Lombroso Lecture on the subject of *Glial Cells and Epilepsy: How New Tools are Revealing New Insights* at the annual meeting of the [American Epilepsy Society \(AES\)](http://www.aesnet.org), a medical and scientific society whose members are dedicated to advancing research and education for preventing, treating and curing epilepsy.

The Lombroso Lecture is given each year by a clinician or scientist who is an outstanding investigator in the field of epilepsy research. The Lombroso lecturer is selected by the AES president, annual meeting chair and scientific program committee chair. This marks the 52nd lecture in this series.

Dr. Wilcox is the Richard L. Stimson Presidential Professor and chair of the department of pharmacology and toxicology, as well as director of the contract site of the internationally recognized National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)-funded Epilepsy Therapy Screening Program at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Dr. Wilcox received her Ph.D. in physiology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in 1993 and remained there as a research associate until 1998. Her areas of research interest include basic mechanisms of pharmacoresistant epilepsy, the role of glial cells and inflammation in seizure generation and epileptogenesis, the development of novel animal models of epilepsy, and the mechanism of action of antiepileptic drugs. The main goal of her research is to improve the lives of patients with epilepsy through the development of innovative therapies.

Dr. Wilcox is a past member of the AES Board of Directors, has served on the Scientific Advisory Board for Citizen's United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE) and has served as an Epilepsy Benchmarks Steward for the NINDS Office of Science Policy and Planning. She is a member of several editorial review boards and has served as an ad-hoc reviewer for journals in a number of areas, including pharmacology, neuroscience and epilepsy, and continues to be an active member of AES, serving on numerous committees and task forces including currently the Basic Science Task Force and the Gender Diversity Task Force.

Dr. Wilcox has completed terms as a regular member of two study sections at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), continues to serve in an ad-hoc capacity as a reviewer for NINDS, and reviews grants for a number of foundations. She recently received a NINDS Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award to study the role of activated microglia in the development of epilepsy following CNS infection.

About the American Epilepsy Society

Founded in 1946, the American Epilepsy Society (AES) is a medical and

135 S. LaSalle Street
Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60603

www.aesnet.org

scientific society whose members are dedicated to advancing research and education for preventing, treating and curing epilepsy. AES is an inclusive global forum where professionals from academia, private practice, not-for-profit, government and industry can learn, share and grow to eradicate epilepsy and its consequences.

For more information, visit the American Epilepsy Society online at aesnet.org. Join the AES Annual Meeting social conversation today by following @AmEpilepsySoc on Twitter and use the hashtag #AES2019.

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CONTACT:

Caitlin Blum
Public Communications Inc.
312-558-1770 x 129
cblum@pci-pr.com