

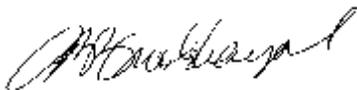
It is an honor to be nominated to stand for election as a member of the North American Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) for the 2017-21 term. During my term as President of the American Epilepsy Society (AES) in 2014-2015, I had the privilege to partner with the North American Commission on a number of initiatives, and I would welcome the opportunity to continue this collaboration as an elected member.

The newly elected President of the North American Commission (NAC), Nathalie Jetté, MD, has set out an ambitious agenda for the NAC that is aligned with the key ILAE priorities set forth by Dr. Samuel Wiebe, ILAE President-Elect, to improve access to care, knowledge translation and education, financial sustainability and growth, and expanding boundaries. The NAC activities that Dr. Jetté has proposed include further development of the Leadership Development Course at the IEC, collaborative educational activities with other chapters and commissions globally, development of innovative approaches to close the knowledge to action gap and to improve access to care and reduce the treatment gap in North America and in the Caribbean, harmonizing regulatory activities with other regions, and lessening stigma in epilepsy and related outcomes

I am fully supportive of all these initiatives, and believe that my prior experience will allow me to contribute effectively to their realization. I am particularly passionate about development of strategies to increase collaborative education, research and advocacy, particularly in support of early career development for epilepsy professionals. The Leadership Development course at the IEC is one important strategy toward achieving this. I was part of the faculty of the successful inaugural Leadership Development course at the 2015 IEC in Istanbul, Turkey, and would be pleased to utilize the knowledge gained from that experience to assist with further optimizing the course. In addition, as part of the AES Leadership, I have experience partnering with NAC to develop and enhance collaborative educational activities including the NAC symposium at the joint North American Congress and AES annual meeting held alternating years, and would be pleased to continue to focus efforts towards the NAC symposium as well as other collaborative educational programs regionally and internationally. Another primary focus of my efforts while on the AES Executive committee was to advocate for increased funding of research and training of early career epilepsy investigators, and I would welcome the challenge of expanding these efforts throughout North America and the Caribbean.

I would be honored to have the opportunity to work collaboratively with incoming NAC President Dr. Nathalie Jetté, incoming ILAE President Dr. Samuel Wiebe, and regional and international colleagues to realize the priorities and objectives they have set forth, working toward the goals of supporting current and future epilepsy professionals and improving the lives of persons living with epilepsy in the North American region and throughout the world.

With kind regards,



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