

## Career Development Commission

Annual Report 2023

### MEMBERS

Marian Galovic (Switzerland), chair  
Christos Lisgaras (USA)  
Ángel Aledo-Serrano (Spain)  
Yamile Calle Lopez (Colombia)  
Pablo Casillas (Australia)  
Luca de Palma (Italy)  
Sherly Haut (USA)  
Alina Ivaniuk (USA)  
Premysl Jiruska (Czech Republic)  
Katja Kobow (Germany)

Reeta Kälviäinen (Finland)  
Sebastian Ortiz (Colombia)  
Cristina Reschke (Ireland)  
Eugenia Roza (Romania)  
Foksouna Sakadi, Jr. (Chad)  
Mirja Steinbrenn (UK)  
Ana Suller Marti (Canada)  
Chong Tin Tan (Malaysia)  
J. Helen Cross (UK), MC liaison

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Sheryl Haut (USA), co-chair  
Reeta Kälviäinen (Finland), co-chair  
Julie Hall (UK)

J. Helen Cross (UK)  
Jaideep Kapur (USA)

### MENTORING TASK FORCE

Katja Kobow (Germany), chair  
J. Helen Cross (UK)  
Jennifer Hopp (USA)  
Naoto Kuroda (USA)  
Premysl Jiruska (Czech Republic)

Caroline Neuray (Austria)  
Ludivine Rohrer (France)  
Christos Lisgaras (USA)  
Cristina Reschke (Ireland)

### FELLOWSHIPS TASK FORCE

Mirja Steinbrenn (UK), chair  
Marian Galovic (Switzerland)  
J. Helen Cross (UK)  
Paula Rocktäschel (UK)  
Jennifer Hopp (USA)  
Premysl Jiruska (Czech Republic)

Foksouna Sakadi, Jr. (Chad)  
Matthew Walker (UK)  
Eugene Trinko (Austria)  
Patricia Braga (Uruguay)  
Nirmeen Kishk (Egypt)

### NETWORKING TASK FORCE

Sebastian Ortiz (Colombia), chair  
Marian Galovic (Switzerland)  
Laura Abaira (Spain)  
Michael McKinney (Northern Ireland)

Genevieve Rayner (Australia)  
Carolina Ferreira (USA)  
Ingmar Blümcke (Germany)  
Jo Wilmhurst (South Africa)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Young Epilepsy Section Neuroimaging Course offered hands-on lectures that will enable participants to perform their first neuroimaging research. The lectures ranged from basic to advanced and were given by an international group of experts. Recordings are available on YouTube.
- The 2023 Visiting Scholarship programme in Europe had 24 applicants and awarded funding to five fellows in 2023. They successfully underwent their respective visits to a host institution to learn a new skill or master a research method.
- Future ILAE leaders gathered at the Leadership Course and the Mentoring Programme at the 35<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress in Dublin, Ireland. An updated programme and an improved long-term mentoring experience were offered to the participants.

## MEETINGS

The Commission members met once in person and four times online. There were countless meetings of the four Task Forces and of the Young Epilepsy Section.

## ACTIVITIES

The Career Development Commission, its four Task Forces and the Young Epilepsy Section organized a wealth of activities aimed to improve the careers of epilepsy professionals. Some of the activities were at conferences, particularly the 35<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress in Dublin, Ireland. These involved career development sessions, networking meetups for special interest groups, poster tours, and a networking event. There was another edition of the Leadership Course for future ILAE leaders with an updated program. The Mentoring Programme enhanced and expanded the interaction between mentors and mentees in-between congresses to foster a more long-term relationship.

The Fellowship Task Force organized the 2023 edition of the Visiting Scholarship programme in Europe. The programme offered five participants the chance to learn a new clinical skill or research method at a centre of their choice. This is another step to close the epilepsy knowledge gap.

The Young Epilepsy Section continued to expand their online webinars focused on young epilepsy professionals. A full online course on neuroimaging provided hands-on lectures on all aspects of advanced neuroimaging.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Career Development Commission has solidified the programme focused on career development at ILAE conferences. The long-term aim is to offer an efficient stream of career development activities in addition to the scientific programme. There were elections of a new Young Epilepsy Section board. Many new members were welcomed to the thriving Young Epilepsy Section community.

*Report submitted by Marian Galovic*