

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am honored to present myself as a candidate for the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) Executive Committee. It is with a deep sense of commitment and passion for advancing the field of epilepsy that I seek this opportunity. I believe I have the leadership experience to significantly contribute to ILAE's mission to ensure that everybody "has the educational resources that are essential in understanding diagnosing and treating persons with epilepsy" and implement *ILAE strategy 2030*.

My journey in the field of epilepsy has been driven by a profound dedication to understanding and improving the lives of those affected by epilepsy. Over the years, I have been privileged to engage in clinical practice, research, and educational initiatives that have enriched my perspective on the multifaceted challenges of epilepsy care. Serving on the ILAE Executive Committee represents a unique opportunity to further the ILAE's goals by leveraging my background in clinical epileptology, research, education, leadership and advocacy. As a physician I trained on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. I am familiar about differences in health systems that are barriers to care. My diverse experience makes me well suited to bring communicate differences and bring people together around a common goal.

As elected member of the executive committee I will contribute to the ILAE 2030 strategic goals in the following way:

*Goal 1: Standards and Best Practice:* It is my goal to support ILAE to implement goals set out by IGAP and the WHO to assure care to everybody with epilepsy. In addition, I have experience with guideline development within the American Epilepsy Society to assure best practice and translate research into clinical recommendations. I have led the Managing Epilepsy Well network that developed and disseminated self-management programs and set standards for self-management world-wide.

*Goal 2: Professional Education and Development:* I will work on strengthening the educational programs of the ILAE and make the accessible worldwide. As Chair of the Education Program of the AES, I was able to strengthen the educational offerings and significantly grow the annual meeting by introducing equity and diversity, assure quality standards, and increase membership engagement. It is my goal to strengthen and expand the educational offerings of the ILAE meeting in a similar way and expand online education that can be accessible to everybody.

*Goal 3: Advocacy:* Epilepsy is a public health problem and has to be addressed as such. I have extensive experience working with the Center for Disease Control to make epilepsy a public health imperative. I have collaborated with advocacy groups to implement systems change. I have worked on stigma in epilepsy and its implications and will help the ILAE to advocate for public health initiatives around the globe.

*Goal 4: Research and Innovation:* We are still a long way from curing epilepsy and therefore it is our responsibility to further innovation and research. I have a long career of epilepsy innovation and research. On the executive committee I will support, foster ad promote innovation that will advance our field and increase the relevance of the ILAE in epilepsy research.

*Goal 5: Organizational and Financial Viability:* Good financial stewardship is the foundation of any organization. With my leadership and budgetary experience, I can contribute to the ILAE by ensuring financial effectiveness, explore alternative revenue streams and be a good steward of resources.

The ILAE's global reach and its dedication to improving epilepsy care resonate deeply with me. I am inspired by the organization's vision and its collaborative spirit, and I am eager to contribute to its ongoing success. If elected, I will bring a collaborative mindset, a strategic approach, and an unwavering dedication to advancing the ILAE's mission. Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the opportunity to work together to make meaningful strides in epilepsy care and research.

Sincerely,



Barbara Jobst, MD, Dr. med.

