

December 2012, México city

Dear Presidents of Latin American chapters

By this, I am accepting my candidature in the election to CLAA Comission.

I resolutely embrace the global mission of the ILAE to ensure that all epilepsy patients around the world have access to the highest quality of medical resources: well educated health personal; pharmaceutical and lab services and hospital facilities to improve diagnosis and treatment. Latin America is not well suited in these resources, so our patients do not receive the appropriate diagnoses and treatment impacting over their quality of life.

Trying to achieve this goals -as a first step- during the last 4 years as General Secretary of the Commission, several ILAE members in the region and me, have directly sensed the field in an effort to determine quantitatively which is our real situation, so we may develop practical means to incorporate primary care doctors and promote easy access to medical products all over the region. As practical instruments, we may use the internet and establish direct access to local governments through our members in each country, a work that will make them feel directly participating in the superior ILAE goals, mainly because they will be very well assisted by the World Health Organization and the document for Epilepsies signed in the last Latin American Congress, and the strategic plans for care of epilepsy of the Pan American Health Organization.

During this period I had a very good sense of the extraordinary efforts ILAE members in their countries, day by day, had done with limited resources. Their natural disposition to achieve ILAE goals amidst great challenges, gave me the assurance that our greatest resource is our people.

Because of this, it is important to promote these kind of agreements and strategic unions with other associations such as the World Federation of Neurology, the International Brain Research Organization and the International Association of Pediatric Neurology, as with all other in LA, in order to improve epilepsy care and research.

Since several years ago, my personal engagement has been on improving the conditions not only for diagnosis and treatment, but educational and research in our region. Beyond personal interests in my country, I've worked so that all of the countries feel same capacity to achieve these goals. Besides I helped to integrate two new chapters: El Salvador and Bolivia.

As a pediatric neurologist in the clinical practice of epilepsy, I have great interests not only in translating research findings into clinical practice; but in improving conditions in education, material and human resources, with own indicators generated by our countries.

I have had the privilege of witnessing the enormous progress that the ILAE has achieved in recent years and I am highly excited to be part of this team, promoting the achievements of its contribution routed to attain its great goals of health. It is important to capitalize these actions in the new LA Commission of the ILAE, directing resources in suitable manners. Feel sure I will put all my effort and capacities to work for our Latin American region and its integration as a whole unit.

Por una unidad académica latinoamericana

Wishing you, your families and your patients, health and good:



Dr. Eduardo Barragán Pérez