

August 2012

Dear Chapter Presidents

I am writing to indicate my commitment to standing for election to the Executive Committee of the ILAE. The mission of the ILAE, to ensure that all individuals worldwide have the necessary educational and research resources needed to understand, diagnose and treat persons with epilepsy is a goal that I share with all of you.

During the past 4 years as Co-chair of the Global Outreach Task Force, I have seen the positive impact that the ILAE and IBE together with the WHO have had on improving the standards of epilepsy care across all corners of the world. It is important to continue and expand these key partnerships as well as develop new ones with other international organisations such as the World Federation of Neurology (WFN), the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO) and the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA), to enhance epilepsy care and translational research throughout the world. Partnerships have resulted in the development of the strategy for epilepsy care outlined by the Pan American Health Organisation, as well as the signing of the Epilepsy Declaration by the European Parliament. It will be important to capitalise on these actions in the coming new ILAE term so that resources are directed toward improving epilepsy care.

My commitment to the ILAE is long standing. I have chaired the Subcommittee for Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery since 2001 (Co-Chair 2005-9), and have worked toward improving standards in the care of children with epilepsy. Our international group have developed recommendations for assessment of children with complex epilepsy, collected epidemiological data, and are updating guidelines for presurgical evaluation applicable to any health care setting. As the past Chair of the Commission for Paediatrics (2005-9) I have been involved at many levels in developing guidelines for various aspects in the care of children with epilepsy, including the management of neonates, imaging and more recently management of infants.

As a practicing paediatric epileptologist I have a major research interest as well as service commitment, to accelerate the translational of research findings rapidly into clinical practice. However, poor recognition and inequality of care is apparent in many areas around the world, both in resource rich as well as resource poor countries. As part of the ILAE Executive, I will work toward finding ways to improve recognition of epilepsy as a health care priority in every part of the world.

Teaching and communication is vital to ensure delivery of optimal care, and as demonstrated to date, through work internationally I have the skills to develop teaching at all levels on a global scale. For example, having been integral to developing a teaching programme for paediatric epilepsy within the UK, I am now involved in transferring these skills outside the UK. I was also part of the recent ICNA workshop on paediatric epilepsy held in Uganda, with participation of paediatric neurologists from 19 African Countries.

I have been privileged to witness the enormous strides forward the ILAE has made over the past years and am passionate about being part of the team to take this forward so that the ILAE has major continued impact on epilepsy care, with the aim to reach its mission: “to ensure that health professionals, patients and their care providers, governments, and the public world-wide have the educational and research resources that are essential in understanding, diagnosing and treating persons with epilepsy”.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J Helen Cross".

J Helen Cross

CURRICULUM VITAE: J Helen Cross MB ChB PhD FRCP FRCPCH



Present appointment: 01.06.08-present

The Prince of Wales's Chair of Childhood Epilepsy, UCL-Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children t, London & Young Epilepsy, Lingfield, UK

September 2007- present Head of Unit, Neurosciences Unit, UCL-Institute of Child Health,

Biography

I am an academic paediatric epileptologist working at a large Children's Hospital in London. I have a significant research commitment, but have been integral to the development of the complex epilepsy service, particularly the epilepsy surgery programme. I have had both National and International roles including (in addition to ILAE commitments) President of the British Paediatric Neurology Association (2008-2010), and Board of the European Paediatric Neurology Society 2001-2010 (assistant secretary 2006-2010) I am on the Editorial Board of Epileptic Disorders, Developmental Medicine Child Neurology, Epilepsy Research and European Journal of Paediatric Neurology. I was awarded ILAE/IBE Ambassador for Epilepsy in 2007. My research interests include aetiology of the epilepsies, as well as the role of early surgical intervention and other new treatments in childhood epilepsy..

International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE)

Co-Chair Task Force for the Global Campaign Commission for European Affairs	2009-present
<i>Chair CEA Subcommittee for Education</i>	2009-present
Chair Task Force for Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery	2009-present
Task Forces for cortical dysplasia & hippocampal sclerosis	2008-present
Subcommission for Paediatric Neuroimaging	2003-2009
Council UK Chapter	2003- 2007
Commission on Paediatrics	2002-present
<i>Chair</i>	2005-2009
<i>Liaison for Commission on Classification</i>	2005-2009
Commission for Neurosurgery	1999-2005
- Subcommission on Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery (Chair/Co-Chair)	1999 – 2009

Key achievements for ILAE

As Co-Chair Task Force for the Global Campaign developed strategic plan, ensured coordination & delivery.2009-date
Involved in ILAE strategy development term 2009-2013
Participated in regular international workshops, and teaching courses 2009-present
Within the framework of the Global Campaign contributed to the WHO/ILAE guidelines for the management of neonatal seizures
Course director San Servolo Course on paediatrics 2007 (subsequent faculty 2010, 2012)
Led international survey to demonstrate spectrum of paediatric epilepsy surgery (2004-2008) and subsequent study of outcome from procedures performed in 2004
Organised consensus meeting (2003) and led document on consensus recommendations for paediatric epilepsy surgery (2006)

Five relevant publications

1. **Cross JH**, Jayakar P, Nordli D, Delalande O, Duchowny M, Wieser HG, Guerrini R, Mathern GM, Proposed criteria for referral and evaluation of children with epilepsy for surgery *Epilepsia* 2006;47:952-959
2. Harvey AS, **Cross JH**, Shinnar S, Mathern G W and the Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery Survey Taskforce. Defining the spectrum of international practice in paediatric epilepsy surgery patients. *Epilepsia* 2008;49:146-155
3. Berg AT, Berkovic SF, Buchhalter J, Engel J Jr, Glauser TA, Nordli D, Plouin P, Ryvlin P, Scheffer IE, von Emde Boas W, French J, **Cross JH**, Mathern GW, Ottman R, Wolf P, Moshe SL, Brodie M.. Report of the Commission on Classification and Terminology: Update and recommendations. *Epilepsia* 2010;51:676-685
4. Gaillard WD, Chiron C, **Cross J H**, Harvey A S, Kuzniecky R, Hertz-Pannier L, Gilbert Vezina L.*Epilepsia*. 2009 2009;50(9):2147-53
5. Blümcke I, Thom M, Aronica E, Armstrong DD, Vinters HV, Palmini A, Jacques TS, Avanzini G, Barkovich AJ, Battaglia G, Becker A, Cepeda C, Cendes F, Colombo N, Crino P, **Cross JH**, Delalande O, Dubeau F, Duncan J, Guerrini R, Kahane P, Mathern G, Najm I, Ozkara C, Raybaud C, Represa A, Roper SN, Salamon N, Schulze-Bonhage A, Tassi L, Vezzani A, Spreafico R The clinicopathologic spectrum of focal cortical dysplasias: A consensus classification proposed by an ad hoc Task Force of the ILAE Diagnostic Methods Commission *Epilepsia* 2011;52(1):158-174