

ILAE Executive Committee Nominees

Michel Baulac Personal Statement

March 2009

Dear Colleague, Dear Friend

It is an honor to be nominated as a candidate to the ILAE Executive Committee.

In terms of administrative background, I serve currently as Chair of the ILAE Commission on European Affairs, which, thanks to all its members, is very active in several domains:

- Education, through an agenda of international courses, each supported by a bursary program: it was important to diversify the themes, from general epileptology, surgery, genetics, to pharmacology, whilst covering at best the vast geographical Region, from the Baltic, through the Red, up to the Black sea.

But, as a wish to dedicate parts of the European budget to extra-European activities, we provided a constant financial support to EUREPA activities, especially the distance education (VIREPA), “train the trainers”, or Portuguese and French-speaking courses. The next Executive Committee and CEA will have together the important role of redefining the mission, statute and financial system of EUREPA, while continuing to capitalize on its unique experience as educational agency.

- European Congresses, which have reached an outstanding scientific level, and are a major source of income to the ILAE, despite the current trend for lesser sponsorship. Similar success should be contemplated for all ILAE Regional Congresses, on the basis of strong scientific, geographic, but also economic preoccupations.

- Communication and partnership with more than 40 Chapters, through yearly Chapter Conventions (European Council), the motivation of sub-regional initiatives and synchronies, and through substantial financial supports, targeting primarily the less-advantaged countries.

- New domains, like establishing contact with the European Drug Agency on all aspects of AEDs introduction to the clinic, (revised EMEA guideline, <http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/human/ewp/056698endraft.pdf>), investing in consensus actions on Status Epilepticus (Epilepsia2008;49:1277-285), opening the concept of “rare” epileptic diseases, or like lobbying officially the EU authorities to promote funding for Epilepsy Research (Epilepsia2009;50:571–583).

I hope that all this experience would be useful for serving at the global ILAE level, including collaborating with the WHO, with an efficient team-work around the new President Nico Moshe, aiming at the best generation and use of financial resources.

Basically, I remain committed to my patients, my Neurology department at La Salpetriere hospital, as well as to the different research fields that I coordinate in this center, on AEDs development, epilepsy genetics, correlates of seizure emergence, or neurophysiology of post-operative tissues.

I also believe that local experiences can be useful at larger scale; in Paris, we are working to enhance collaboration, beyond administrative separations, between pediatric and adult teams. An important international objective could be to reinforce the continuity of high quality care from childhood to adulthood, as patients and families strongly wish.

Translated into research opportunities, this unique situation across development and ages is a key asset in order to defend the place of Epileptology within the highly competitive environments of Neurology, Neuropediatrics and Neurosciences.

I am therefore asking for your support in voting for me as an officer of the ILAE executive.

Yours sincerely,

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