

## **ILAE Executive Committee Nominees**

**Samuel Wiebe, MD, MSc (Epidemiol), FRCPC**

### **Personal Statement**

March 2009

Dear Colleagues

I am honored to have been selected as a candidate to the Executive Committee of the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE). My qualifications to serve in the ILAE Executive encompass clinical, academic and administrative aspects.

As an epileptologist, I have extensive clinical experience in the medical and surgical management of patients with epilepsy, including the complex epilepsies. Academically, I have made contributions pertaining to epilepsy in the areas of randomized surgical trials, quality of life, outcome assessment, epidemiology, research methodology, and evidence based medicine. I have mentored numerous clinical and research trainees in epilepsy and neurology. My administrative experience includes the leadership of the Calgary Epilepsy Program, the Headship of the Division of Neurology at the University of Calgary, and the directorship of the Clinical Research Centre for the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary. I also launched and currently lead the Canadian Epilepsy Surgery Study Group, a research-based consortium which is affiliated to the Canadian League Against Epilepsy.

Of more immediate relevance to the position of officer of the ILAE is my experience in this organization. During the last 10 years I have been actively involved in a variety of national and international activities of the ILAE. In Canada, I have served as president elect of the CLAE from 2001 to 2003, and then as president from 2003 to 2006. Internationally, I currently serve as secretary of the ILAE Commission on Epilepsy Care, which is in charge of the activities of the Global Campaign Against Epilepsy, and I Chair the ILAE Regional Commission for North America. I have also served as member of several ILAE Task Forces, including the Commission on Health Care Policy – Economics Subcommittee –, and Task Forces on Quality of Life Measurement, and Definition of Intractable epilepsy.

During the last three years, through my role as Chair of the Regional North American Commission, I have had the opportunity to lead the implementation of highly successful

collaborative initiatives in education and in epilepsy care involving partnerships among Canada, the USA, Central America, Latin America and the Caribbean.

I firmly believe that through inclusiveness and broad representation, the ILAE can accomplish its goal of improving the limitations currently faced by patients with epilepsy worldwide. I fully support the vision for the ILAE of the President Elect, Dr. Nico Moshe. This vision emphasizes fostering input from and serving the needs of the broad constituency of the ILAE, representing all health care professionals in epilepsy, developing and strengthening solid international collaborations in education, mentorship and research, and developing the next generation of ILAE leaders.

I believe that I can contribute meaningfully to the ILAE team that will lead these efforts in the next four years. Therefore, I ask for your support in voting for me as an officer of the ILAE executive.

Respectfully,

Samuel Wiebe, MD, MSc (Epidemiol), FRCPC

Calgary, Alberta, CANADA