

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY RESOURCE CENTRE

Just over a year ago the International Epilepsy Resource Centre was set up as a joint venture of the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE), in conjunction with the Swiss Epilepsy Centre in Zurich.

The aim of this initiative is to provide a central reference point for a vast range of resources about epilepsy, including videos, information literature, training programmes, professional guidelines, material dealing with good practice models, standards, etc. The Centre aims to hold one hard copy of all available materials produced by chapters and commissions of the Bureau and the League and by specialist epilepsy centres and units throughout the world, and to have this information on a database which can be accessed via phone, fax, email or the Internet. The intention is not that Zurich becomes a distribution or mailing centre, but rather a central archive of master copies. It will be possible for people to contact the Centre and find out whether the information material they are seeking is available and the contact address from which it can be obtained. In this way we hope to be able to provide a service to all members of the Bureau and the League, and in particular enable new and developing chapters to have fast-track access to existing materials, which, with the permission of the original creators they can use or adapt to their own national or local contexts. We also hope that it will both harness valuable resources by eliminating unnecessary reinventions of the wheel, and promote the development of high-quality productions by establishing standards and identifying models of good practice.

The holdings at the Centre now include IBE's video collection (built up over the years by Arthur Sonnen and IBE's Audio-Visual Commission) and most of the literature produced by IBE's 55 chapters and 29 friends. League members have been advised of this new venture through 'Epigraph', and have been asked to send relevant materials to Zurich, or to take them to any major epilepsy conference where they can be left at the IBE/ILAE exhibition stands.

An information technology assistant has been appointed to undertake the collection of materials, creation of the database, organization of all video and literature holdings and to respond to all information requests. Her name is Gabriela Haenggi.

The project has been coordinated by a joint IBE and ILAE team comprising Simon Shorvon, Ian Mothersill, Judy Cochrane, and until her untimely death, Sibylle Ried, whose enthusiasm and drive has been a major factor in the development of this initiative.

The project is funded jointly by the Bureau and the League and the whole initiative is underpinned by a contract, the signatories to which are office bearers from the Bureau and the League and staff from the Swiss Epilepsy Centre.

It would not have been possible to get this project off the ground without the support of the Swiss Epilepsy Centre who have not only provided a custom-built room to hold all the archive material, but have provided office space and equipment for Gabriela, and are magnanimous hosts to both the International Epilepsy Resource Centre Committee and to the Public Education Commission. We are greatly indebted to them for their support and cooperation.

To ensure the global success of this project we need the cooperation of all members of the Bureau and the League, so please send one hard copy of any material you or your organization have produced about epilepsy, whether it be a video, leaflet, pamphlet, poster, training programme, professional guideline, book, etc. to:

Gabriela Haenggi  
IBE/ILAE's International Epilepsy Resource Centre  
Swiss Epilepsy Centre  
Bleulerstrasse 60  
Zurich 8008  
Switzerland  
Tel: +411 387 61 11; Fax: +411 387 63 97; *E-mail*: [mothersill@swissepi.ch](mailto:mothersill@swissepi.ch)

## GOWERS' PRIZES 2000

Prizes were awarded to the following:

### YOUNG PHYSICIANS

#### Winner

Dr Andrew Williams

#### Runners Up

Dr Rod Scott

Dr G Kalamangalam

Dr Bridget MacDonald

Dr Jorg Klepper

### MEDICAL STUDENTS

#### Winners

Tafadzwa Makarawo (Birmingham University Medical School)

Nicola Dutton (Birmingham University Medical School)

#### Runners Up

Gareth Payne (Birmingham University Medical School)

Caroline Kowalski (Birmingham University Medical School)

No YOUNG HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PRIZE was awarded this year.

## 'Western Approaches' Annual Scientific Meeting British Branch of the International League Against Epilepsy Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool April 19th–21st 2001

Topics include:

'What we all need to know about children's epilepsy'

Latest information on teratogenesis and sexual function in epilepsy

Investigation and management of difficult to diagnose epileptic and non-epileptic seizures

Research in progress

Symposium on critical evaluation of the nurse's role in epilepsy management

Teaching on current management strategies in new onset and refractory adult epilepsy

Further details can be obtained from:

Conference 2000, 81–83 Willow Street, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1AJ, UK.

Tel: 01691 650290; Fax: 01691 670302; *E-mail*: denise@conference2000.co.uk

10–11 February, 2001

### International Symposium on the West Syndrome and Related Infantile Epileptic Encephalopathies (ISWS)

Tokyo, Japan

For further information please contact:

Yukio Fukuyama MD, Secretariat ISWS, c/o Child Neurology Institute, Samban-cho TY Plaza, 24 Samban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-0075, Japan.

Tel: +8 13 3238 1580; Fax: +8 13 3238 1502; *E-mail*: yfukuyam@sc4.so-net.ne.jp

12–15 March, 2001

### Fifth International Congress on Minimally Invasive Surgery

Cairo, Egypt

For further information please contact:  
The Egyptian Society of Neurological Surgeons.  
Fax: +20 2 235 1035; *E-mail*: azohdi@hotmail.com

12–17 May, 2001

**24<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress**

Buenos Aires, Argentina

For further information please contact:  
Ana Juan Congreso, Sarmiento 1562 (1042) Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
Tel: +54 11 4384 6411/4381 1777; Fax: +54 11 3482 6703; *E-mail*: anajuan@anajuan.com;  
*Website*: www.anajuan.com/epne

13–16 June, 2001

**Sixth International Conference of Baltic Child Neurology Association**

Kaunas, Lithuania

For further information please contact:  
Dr Milda Endziniene, Department of Neurology, Kaunas University of Medicine, Eiveniu 2, LT-3007 Kaunas,  
Lithuania.  
Tel: +370 7 799 752/330 423/799 453; Fax: +370 7 330 423/792 627; *E-mail*: nerv@kma.lt

7–11 April, 2002

**Sixth Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs**

Eilat, Israel

For further information please contact:  
Sixth Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs, PO Box 29041, Tel Aviv 61290, Israel.  
Tel: +972 3 5175150; Fax: +972 3 5175155; *E-mail*: eilatvi@targetconf.com