



Dear All

Summer has finally arrived to Sweden after a very long winter and that's wonderful. The Swedes are enjoying every moment of sunshine and warm temperatures. I hope you are keeping well and busy with all your important duties.



Freedom in Mind

By now, most members will have received details and application forms for our exciting new initiative – Freedom in Mind – which invites all those with epilepsy to describe using their choice of art form, how they might describe living without

seizures. A wide choice of media is possible, from painting and sketching to video and poetry. From entries submitted, a selection will be made to be exhibited at international congresses over the coming 12 months. Entry forms and details will be available on the IBE website shortly or you get request hard copy forms from the office ibedublin@eircom.net.

Art is a terrific way of expressing experiences and I hope that as many people as possible will get involved.

Vice President North America steps down

It is with regret that Denise Crépin retires from her role as Vice President North America. Denise has recently resigned from Epilepsy Canada, where she had been Chief Executive for many years. We wish her well for the future. An election to fill the Vice Presidency vacancy will be undertaken in the near future.

Website survey

The Website Task Force is looking for your points of view on the development of the IBE website and I would like to remind you to bring your experiences and suggestions to the Chair Shung-Lon Lai; shunglon@mail.nsysu.edu.tw.



Robert Cole

IBE Editors Network revival

The face of IBE is important at all levels and national magazines play a vital role in informing, educating and encouraging people with epilepsy to speak of their experiences and to get the latest news on epilepsy.

I am therefore very happy to announce the revival of the IBE Editors Network that was established in Lisbon in 2003 by the Public Education Commission.

Robert Cole at Epilepsy Association of South Australia and Northern Territory has been appointed to chair this network and I am confident that it will have a fruitful and constructive development involving all the Editors of National Magazines.

Please encourage your Editors to join this network and to send their email addresses to: ibedublin@eircom.net

Please don't hesitate to contact the Chair if you have any queries: rcole@epilepsycentre.org.au

Sharm El Sheik

Unfortunately celebrations to mark the official launch of the new Eastern Mediterranean Region in Sharm El Sheikh in May have had to be put on hold due to the postponement of the Eastern Mediterranean congress following the bombings in the Sinai Peninsula.

Promising Strategies

I will soon come back to you on a very exciting matter. IBE Executive has decided to support the developing countries by a special "Promising Strategy Program", initiated by IBE Secretary General Eric Hargis.

Until then, my very best wishes to you all!

Susanne Lund
President



Dr LEE Jong-wook

IBE has been working closely with the WHO since 1997 when the Global Campaign against Epilepsy "Out of the Shadows" was launched. It is with great sadness therefore that I have to report the sudden death on May 22nd of Dr LEE Jong-wook, Director-General of the World Health Organization. Dr Lee led WHO to continue its mission to help people attain the highest possible level of health. IBE has sent our most sincere condolences to Dr Lee's family and to the WHO.