



# Letter from the President

International Bureau for Epilepsy

October 2006

## IBE Volunteer Award

Dear Friends

I am pleased to write to you again.

IBE is aware of the tremendous efforts of lay volunteers working with IBE member associations to improve the quality of life of people with epilepsy at national and local level. To recognize the spirit of these steadfast volunteers the International Executive Committee is delighted to launch the IBE Volunteer Award!

The purpose of the Award is to highlight the dedication and selflessness of volunteers who work without financial reward to help improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy and their families. – And we all know that there are many committed people involved in that struggle. The award will be presented every two years to an individual who has carried out outstanding activities, on a voluntary basis, which have made a difference at national level.

## IBE Volunteer Award



I invite everyone to read the attached guidelines for the Volunteer Award and I hope that we will receive many nominations. The Nomination Form and Guidelines are also available on the IBE website. Please note that the closing date for the receipt of nominations is **Friday 22nd December 2006**. No nominations received after that date will be considered. If you have any queries don't hesitate to contact the IBE office, [ibedublin@eircom.net](mailto:ibedublin@eircom.net).



**IBE Annual report 2005**  
for download at  
[www.ibe.epilepsy.org](http://www.ibe.epilepsy.org)

## IBE office is expanding!

As the membership of IBE grows and the activities in which we are involved increase, so too does the workload for the IBE office. I am therefore very pleased to announce that the IBE office has expanded. We welcome Elizabeth Elkinson (Liz) as IBE Administrative Assistant, working three days a week to assist with different administrative issues. Accordingly the title of Ann Little has been revised to Executive Director. Liz has spent a short time at the IDM office and worked on the 10th Epilepsy & Society Conference that took place in Copenhagen in August. She worked for several years in education for special needs children and before that she was employed in the financial services sector. As we look forward to some very busy years in the IBE I am confident this is an important and necessary step to release and share the increasing work load at the IBE Office.

## Enlargement Commission

When speaking on expansion. If you have any contacts in neighbouring countries active in the area of epilepsy who are not members of the IBE, we would be pleased if you could let us know so that we might provide them with information about the Bureau.

Please contact the IBE Enlargement Commission, chaired by Philip Lee, [plee@epilepsy.org.uk](mailto:plee@epilepsy.org.uk) and with Eric Hargis, Solomon Moshé and Tomas Mesa as members. You will find the contact details in the



IBE Annual Report for 2005 and on the IBE Website.

Finally, please always feel free to give ideas and to comment on anything you have on your mind regarding the development of the IBE. Everyone is important in the work to improve the social condition for people with epilepsy, as I have mentioned many times. We should never underestimate the importance of even the smallest action taken at national level in the fight against epilepsy.

My warmest regards to all of you!  
Susanne Lund  
President