

American Epilepsy Society 2021-2022 Report

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Eileen Murray, MM, CAE, Executive Director



Officer Election Date: 4 December 2022

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2021:

- ACCME reaccreditation with commendation
- Maintained normal level of research grants awarded despite pandemic-related financial challenges (\$1.07M awarded)
- Launched new website and association management system
- Record number of CME credits offered at Annual Meeting
- First Annual Meeting with both in-person and virtual activities/educational content
- Introduction of new learning format: eModules
- Published Super Refractory Status Epilepticus review
- Launched Sergievsky Award for Epilepsy Health Equity and Diversity
- Record number of members: 4261
- New committee: Early Career Membership
- Awarded \$1.5M grant (over five years) from CDC to support Disrupting Disparities project
- Society journal had a 39% increase in full text downloads and a 7.50 Impact Factor

2022:

- Launch of Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship Match
- *Epilepsy Currents* Impact Factor: 7.872
- Launched Epilepsy Currents Podcast
- Updated and expanded fellowship curriculum
- Eight new sessions at Annual Meeting
- Record number of abstracts at Annual Meeting: 1,434
- Published guidance on oral COVID-19 medication interactions with antiseizure medications
- Leading development of guidelines and updates on epilepsy surgery and ECOG

- Partnering in development of guidelines on: status epilepticus, photosensitive epilepsy, antiseizure medications in critical care seizure prophylaxis, women and epilepsy
- Publication of infantile epilepsy systematic review by PCORI/AHRQ ECRI
- Launched Clinical Corner video series
- \$1.3M in research grants awarded
- First scholars selected for Sergievsky Award for Epilepsy Health Equity and Diversity
- Record number of total members: 4636
- Creation of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Partnered with CMSS-ACGME Equity Matters
- Piloted American Epilepsy Society Summer Research Internship Program with six participating labs
- Evolved diversity poster session to Broadening Representation and Inclusion by Growing Diversity poster session and young investigator breakfast
- Record number of industry supporters reached a recognition level based on 2022 spend
- Brought exhibit booth sales in-house

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022

- The global pandemic continued to impact operations and results, though not as significantly as American Epilepsy Society experienced in 2020.
- The American Epilepsy Society continues to work on new ways to provide both in-person and virtual education activities, member services, and networking experiences. While virtual access is now a permanent part of our planning, finding the most effective ways to deliver these experiences remains a challenge.
- Accelerating efforts to address diversity, equity and inclusion in the specialty and effectively impact health disparities for people with epilepsy in the US.

FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023

The American Epilepsy Society strategic plan drives the work of the Society. During 2023, American Epilepsy Society volunteers and staff will continue to focus on advancing the four strategic goals outlined below, which are supported by efforts to continually improve member engagement; diversity, equity, and inclusion; cross-disciplinary collaboration and organizational effectiveness as foundational to our long-term success. In addition, the Board has identified Key Results Metrics aimed at assuring all activities are advancing these goals in meaningful ways.

- **Talented Professionals:** Attract, develop, retain, and enhance the careers of diverse and talented professionals in epilepsy
- **Inclusive Community:** Nurture inclusive engagement across the American Epilepsy Society multi-disciplinary community
- **Latest Information:** Enable all engaged in epilepsy to effectively understand and apply the latest information to improve best practices
- **Financial Capacity:** Cultivate sustainable resources to expand financial capacity for a vibrant society

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHED ARTICLES

2021:

- FDA Safety Warning on the Cardiac Effects of Lamotrigine: An Advisory from the Ad Hoc ILAE/AES Task Force
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as a Core AES Value: Commitment and Action
- Underscoring American Epilepsy Society Commitments in Challenging Times
- An Important Message from the American Epilepsy Society on Healthcare Equity and Troubled Times
- Joint Statement in Support of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates for All Workers in Health and Long-term Care
- CMS Proposed Rule on Medicare Coverage Policy
- American Epilepsy Society / North American Epilepsy Congress Letter of Opposition to CMS Proposed Change

2022:

- American Epilepsy Society Position Statement on Cannabis as a Treatment for Patients with Epileptic Seizures
- Message of Concern About Epilepsy Patients and Colleagues in Ukraine
- American Epilepsy Society Statement on Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization Decision by the Supreme Court
- Letter Opposing NY S67A A3298
- More than 75 Healthcare Organizations Release Joint Statement in Opposition to Legislative Interference
- Understanding the Implications of Long COVID-19
- Physicians Sound Alarm on Lawsuit Threatening Preventative Care

2021 AES Annual Meeting, 3-7 December 2021 in Chicago, Illinois





2022 AES Annual Meeting, 2-6 December 2022 in Nashville, Tennessee



AES 2022 Symposia



2022 Early Career Reception



2022 summer interns

Report submitted by Eileen M. Murray, MM, CAE