



Editorial

The eastern Association of EEG: A Legacy with Contemporary lessons



The article by Michael H, Goodman et al. (Goodman et al., 2025) traces the history of the Eastern Association of EEG (EAEEG), founded in 1946 by electroencephalographers, clinicians, and scientists from Canada and the eastern United States — the first scientific society devoted entirely to EEG. In 2026 it will celebrate its 80th anniversary.

Reading this historical piece was truly a pleasure. For many reasons, we warmly recommend it to all young EEG enthusiasts.

Beyond reconstructing the history of the Society — born in a remarkable era for the development of EEG as both a medical tool and a research technology — the article evokes the pioneering work of giants in neurology, epilepsy, and neuropsychology who shaped the field in the 1950s from hubs such as Montreal, New York, and Boston. It is also strikingly relevant today for at least two reasons worth highlighting.

First, as the authors note, it underscores the role that “smaller” regional scientific societies can play in advancing science and knowledge in medicine. In a landscape dominated by large organizations hosting massive congresses, smaller societies offer a valuable and complementary approach — fostering meaningful exchanges, closer collaborations, and sustained engagement, in line with the philosophy the EAEEG has championed successfully for more than 70 years.

Second, it reminds us of the power of science to foster and sustain transnational relationships, especially in times when politics too often favors division over unity among people, institutions, and nations. This is not to say that doctors are politically blind, but that close, creative and fair cooperation can promote medical progress significantly.

In short, the history of the EAEEG is beautifully told in this article — and carries lessons that remain as relevant now as they were at its founding.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

References

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