

## Highlights of the 6<sup>th</sup> ECS Mexico Section Meeting and the XXVIII SMEQ Meeting

In the city of Santiago de Queretaro, Mexico, on May 31, 2013, the XXVIII Meeting of the Mexican Electrochemical Society (SMEQ), and the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECS Mexico Section took place. Both meetings were organized by the SMEQ board, led by the President of the SMEQ, Norberto Casillas (UdeG), in collaboration with Facundo Almeraya-Calderon (CIIA-UANL, Vice-President), Bernardo Frontana-Urbe (UNAM, Secretary), Juan Manuel Peralta-Hernandez (CIATEC, Treasurer), and Marina E. Rincon, (IIE, Officer) who invited all national electrochemistry leaders in Mexico to attend.

The aim of these meetings was to discuss new trends in electrochemistry in Mexico and to update policies and bylaws for SMEQ. Several relevant agreements for SMEQ were achieved, including the appointment of a new Advisory Council constituted by former SMEQ Presidents and the approval of the Technical Divisions for SMEQ. SMEQ President Casillas delivered his final-period speech, listing 27 actions performed in his two-year period, underlying advances in

administration, legal aspects, finance, and academic events organized by SMEQ. He also presented a new SMEQ website: <http://www.smeq.org.mx/>.

Further activities included a brief updating of the upcoming events to be celebrated in Mexico, such as the 64<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Electrochemistry Society (ISE) in Santiago de Queretaro, Mexico, September 8-13, 2013. This brief was delivered by Ignacio Gonzalez (UAM-I) and Yunny Meas Vong (CIDETEQ), chairs of the local organizing committee.

An overview of the advances in the organization of the ECS-sponsored meeting "New Processes and Materials Based on Electrochemical Concepts at the Microscopic Level" (MicroEchem2013), to be celebrated in Santiago de Queretaro, Mexico, September 16-19, 2013 (<https://sites.google.com/site/microechem2013/>) was presented by Margarita Miranda-Hernandez (IEE), Carlos Frontana-Vazquez (CIDETEQ), and Linda Victoria Gonzalez-Gutierrez (CIDETEQ), who are members of the organizing committee.

The XXVIII Meeting of the Mexican Electrochemical Society (SMEQ), and the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECS Mexico Section also framed the renewal of the SMEQ National Board and the election of a new Vice-President for the 2013-2015 period. The new President of SMEQ is now Facundo Almeraya-Calderon, from the Faculty of Mechanical & Electrical Engineering (FIME) at the Center for Research and Innovation in Aeronautical Engineering (CIIA), Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon (UANL); and his co-officers are Ricardo Orozco-Cruz (UV, Secretary) and Linda Victoria Gonzalez-Gutierrez (CIDETEQ, Treasurer). Other officers include Citlalli Gaona-Tiburcio (CIIA-UANL), Alberto Martinez-Villafañe (CIMAV), Homero Castañeda Lopez (University of Akron), and Joan Genesca Llongueras (Punta-UNAM).

Another academic activity at the meetings was a plenary lecture delivered by Sixto Malato-Rodriguez, Director of the Solar Platform of Almeria in Spain, which was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

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*Participants of the XXVIII MEETING OF THE MEXICAN ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY (SMEQ) and the 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE ECS MEXICO SECTION in Santiago de Queretaro, Mexico.*

## SECTION NEWS

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In his inaugural speech, the new SMEQ President, Facundo Almeraya-Calderon, encouraged Mexican colleges to keep working hard and to increase and strengthen the number of electrochemistry research groups all over Mexico. The newly elected Vice-President for the 2013-2015 period (who will become the new SMEQ President for the 2015-2017 period) is now Francisco Javier Rodriguez-Gomez (UNAM).

Dr. Almeraya-Calderon acknowledged the previous SMEQ Board for all its dedicated work, achievements, and outstanding contributions in service to SMEQ. In addition, he thanked them for the organization of both meetings in Santiago de Queretaro. Finally, he encouraged all participants to attend the joint meeting of ECS, SMEQ, and the ECS Mexico Section (the 226<sup>th</sup> ECS Meeting, the XXIX Congress of SMEQ, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECS Mexico Section), to be celebrated the first week of October 2014 in Cancun, Mexico. The Chair for these events from the Mexico side is Norberto Casillas (UdeG), who spoke about the relevance of the active participation of Mexican colleagues in the technical symposia. ■



NORBERTO CASILLAS (UdeG), SMEQ President, delivered his final speech to the participants of the XXVIII SMEQ Meeting and the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECS Mexico Section.



Former members of the SMEQ Board received certificates of appreciation. From left to right are: President FACUNDO ALMERAYA-CALDERÓN (CIIA UANL), Past President NORBERTO CASILLAS (UdeG), Former Secretary BERNARDO FRONTANA-URIBE (UNAM), Former Treasurer JUAN MANUEL PERALTA-HERNANDEZ (CIANTEC), and Former Officer MARINA E. RINCON (IIE).



New members of the SMEQ Board (2013-2015); from left to right are: Vice-President FRANCISCO J. RODRIGUEZ-GOMEZ (UNAM), Secretary RICARDO OROZCO-CRUZ (UV), Treasurer LINDA V. GONZALEZ-GUTIERREZ, President FACUNDO ALMERAYA-CALDERON (CIIA-UANL), and Officer ALBERTO MARTINEZ-VILLAFANE.