



New Milestones for ECS

The fall 2011 biannual meeting of ECS was held in Boston and achieved several new milestones. With over 3,100 attendees, the meeting set an attendance record for the largest attendance for an ECS meeting held on continental North America. The interest and participation in the meeting confirm the relevance of the topic areas discussed at ECS meetings to the scientific community. In addition, the first Electrochemical Energy Summit was held at the meeting with several events taking place during the first part of the week. The Summit started with a plenary lecture on Sunday. On Monday, an international panel of experts in energy participated in a panel discussion providing their individual as well as national perspectives on energy. A poster session focused on energy was held for three days and meeting participants were able to view the demonstration of a fuel cell powered vehicle. The Electrochemical Energy Summit was so successful that similar events will be planned at future meetings.

An exciting announcement at the Boston meeting was the debut of Redcat.™ Redcat is an online tool for scientists working in the technical fields core to the ECS mission. The site allows establishment of networks where people can connect based on their areas of interest. This networking capability enables a variety of communications including posing questions, seeking experts, and providing answers. Additionally, Redcat is more powerful and has broader features than just a networking site. Redcat will also provide technical search ability where scientific topics can be searched and relevant publications can be identified. Redcat can act as a single portal for the technical community providing networking, technical searching, and a place for online technical discussions.

Another area of significant change underway is related to the publications of ECS. The *Journal of The Electrochemical Society* has a long history of serving the technical community with excellent articles in electrochemistry and solid state

science. Current and past participants involved in the editing and publication of the journal are to be commended for maintaining a high quality publication, one of the few remaining nonprofit publications in the field. Globally, the approach to publication of scientific literature is evolving rapidly with fewer paper journals printed, online access expanding, significant proliferation of scientific information, and increased attention by for-profit organizations. These changes demand that publishers be agile, respond to the needs of the scientific community, and maintain quality. In order to meet all these goals and remain competitive, the journals published by ECS are being reconfigured. The *Journal of The Electrochemical Society* (JES) will continue as a title with a focus on electrochemistry topics. A new journal: *ECS Journal of Solid State Science and Technology* (JSS) will be launched next year with a focus on solid state science. Additionally, *ECS Electrochemistry Letters* (EEL) and *ECS Solid State Letters* (SSL) will provide rapid publication of shorter articles in electrochemistry and solid state science, respectively. These changes are needed, significant, and are expected to strengthen the ECS publications and enable them to move into the future.

Many new milestones were achieved at the fall 2011 meeting. These changes demonstrate that ECS continues to be a highly relevant organization. The Society is dynamic as it not only responds to external change, but generates and pursues new ideas to make the biannual meetings, journals, and other communication tools even more effective. I encourage our members to participate in the new initiatives being launched by the Society and continue to provide insights and feedback regarding continuous improvement.

See you in Seattle.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Esther".

Esther S. Takeuchi
President