

# ecsttransactions

## The Society's Newest Publication

This fall, ECS will begin its newest publication, *ECS Transactions* (ECST), a new high-quality venue for authors and another excellent resource for researchers. This new title has been designed as an online database—with on-demand print editions and CD-ROMs—and will include full-text content that has been presented at ECS meetings and ECS sponsored meetings. The papers appearing in ECST will be reviewed to ensure that submissions meet generally-accepted scientific standards.

*ECS Transactions* will publish one volume each meeting; each volume will contain many issues; and each issue will include a collection of papers from a symposium. Users may view a table of contents for each issue, and a search engine will turn up desired papers from the entire database. The original abstracts, residing in the online *Meeting Abstracts* publication, will be linked to a full paper if it has been published in ECST. If an ECST paper goes on to be accepted in one of the ECS technical journals, ECST eventually will carry a “forward link” to that published article.

The papers will be available online—as individual articles or as part of an issue—to be downloaded by a user to a hard drive, CD-ROM, or other display device; or they can be placed by ECS on a CD-ROM at the customer's request. ECS will make “on-demand” book editions available as well.

ECS also offers conference and symposium organizers the ability to produce a first-run, case-bound edition of an issue. The first case-bound issues from ECST will be published in time for the ECS fall meeting in Los Angeles this October. Requests to publish these books will be reviewed by the ECST Editorial Board. After supplies of the first-run book have been exhausted, the material lives on in ECST online, where users may still purchase hard-media copies, on an “on-demand” basis.

The ECS Publication Committee and the ECST Steering Committee developed this new publication in response to the numerous problems related to publishing the meeting content in the ECS proceedings volume (PV) series. (The PV series will cease publication with the last books from the ECS spring 2005 meeting in Québec City.) “The PV model, a well-established one in the scholarly community, has been faced with a number of challenges over the past 5-10 years,” said Mary Yess, ECS Deputy Executive Director. “The PV program was only nominally meeting the needs of authors and readers. Some of the challenges included the lack of connectivity with other online content, the demand from authors for faster publication and wider distribution, and the problem of reduced acquisitions by libraries because money is spent on serials and electronic resources.” The Steering Committee is chaired by John Weidner and includes members Curt Holmes

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(also chair of the ECS Publication Committee), Paul Natishan, Bill O'Grady, and Mary Yess.

This new approach allows for much wider dissemination of the content at a much lower cost than the case-bound books alone. Papers that were not included in a PV and not submitted to the ECS journals had nowhere else to be published at ECS, resulting in lost content and a break in the cohesiveness of the content presented at ECS symposia.

*ECS Transactions* can also provide ECS Divisions with a source of revenue, which is used to fund awards, student memberships, travel grants, and honoraria for keynote speakers; and help to build the individual symposia.

Because an issue requires a minimum of one paper to be

published online, ECST can provide smaller conferences and symposia, or those just getting off the ground, the opportunity to publish and promote their topic. ECST also enables authors the ability to publish their meeting content, regardless of whether or not a first-run, case-bound book is being produced. Authors and editors will have the advantage of an easy-to-use online submission system, enabling quick submission for authors and easy reviewing by editors.

Papers submitted to ECST will be embargoed until they are reviewed and accepted by the organizers of their respective symposia, and they will be officially published no earlier than the first day of the meeting or conference. The ECST Editorial Board places continual emphasis on the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of this publication.

When the first issues of ECST are published this October, they will be available in case-bound format. By April 2006, the electronic database will open to the public, and users will be able to purchase individual articles from the database, or purchase whole issues in electronic format at a discounted price. ECS members will receive further discounts on article and issue prices. Later in 2006, users will have the ability to put together their own special collections of papers from across the spectrum of ECS publications—from the ECS journals, ECST, proceedings volumes, *Interface* articles, and *Meeting Abstracts*—all through the ECS Digital Library.

With *ECS Transactions*, The Electrochemical Society brings another high-quality resource to the electrochemical and solid-state community. ■