



ECS Electrochemistry Letters: A New Rapid Publication

It is my great privilege to take part in the unveiling of the first issue of *ECS Electrochemistry Letters* (EEL), a rapid-publication journal dedicated to publishing material related to electrochemical science and technology. The published manuscripts will be what “letters” traditionally are, shorter contributions – up to four printed pages – which, because of their relevance to the scientific community, warrant an accelerated peer review and publication.

Fifteen articles appear in this inaugural issue and it is perhaps not surprising that twelve of them deal with energy issues – batteries and fuel cells. This reflects the current main focus of researchers as well as the general public on the needs the electrochemical sciences can answer.

EEL does not launch as an entirely new publication. ECS had until recently two publications, the *Journal of The Electrochemical Society* and *Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters*. While the latter publication provided a quick turnaround for short communications in the technical areas covered by ECS, it did not always attract papers across all of the technical domains and there were obvious disparities in the content presented at Society meetings and in our publications. To address this, a Technical Interest Areas Task Force was established, and through its recommendations, a definition of technical interest areas (TIAs) was put in place, dividing the content into two parts, Electrochemical Science and Technology, for which the short communications are covered in EEL, and Solid State Science and Technology. This will allow us to better focus the journals and, we hope, to attract the best papers across all of the areas we cover.

The TIAs for EEL are as follows:

- Batteries and Energy Storage
- Chemical and Biological Sensors
- Corrosion Science and Technology
- Electrochemical/Electroless Deposition
- Electrochemical Engineering
- Fuel Cells, Electrolyzers, and Energy Conversion
- Organic and Bioelectrochemistry
- Physical and Analytical Electrochemistry, Electrocatalysis and Photoelectrochemistry

Research that may not fit into these topics will likely fit into one of the solid state technical areas covered in either the *ESC Journal of Solid State Science and Technology* or its rapid-publication companion, *ECS Solid State Letters*.

Authors who are seeking to publish in high impact factor journals have an opportunity to make their own contribution to the future of a high impact factor journal. EEL, like any new journal, will not have a rating for some time, but it will be in the process of building it. Thus, publishing high-quality, highly sought-after manuscripts in our *Letters* journals now will help us build a high impact factor publication for the future.

One must not forget that any publication exists based on the support of the authors, the publications staff, and the readers. The Society has excellent resources in the second of those supports. The professional staff has many years of experience in handling publications and we will get the same excellent support for EEL. The roster of technical and associate editors, and reviewers available to them, is tried and proven. The members of the Publications Subcommittee and the Technical Affairs Committee, who oversee the publications and the technical interest areas, are knowledgeable people, with long standing interest in well being of ECS.

So, it is now up to the author to choose EEL as the ideal venue for publishing short communications in electrochemical science and technology. We are here for you.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Petr Vanýsek'.

Petr Vanýsek
Editor