

SOCIETY NEWS

Scholarly Skywriting

Ed. Note: Professor STEVAN HARNAD will deliver the Society's Plenary Lecture at the spring meeting in Toronto (see Program Section of this issue, page PS-9). Harnad is currently a professor of cognitive science at Southampton University (UK), and has been a somewhat controversial figure in the area of scholarly publishing. In the spirit of this issue (looking into the future), we are publishing the following abstract of the talk he will deliver in Toronto. (See also Jerry Woodall in this issue's *Free Radicals*, p. 9, for a comment on pre-refereed preprints.) *Interface* will publish, in its next issue, a lengthy article on this subject and the future of scholarly publishing.

It is a foregone conclusion that all refereed journals will soon be available online; most of them already are. This means that one can access them from any networked desktop. The literature

will all be interconnected by citation, author, and keyword/subject links, allowing for unheard-of power and ease of access and navigability. Successive drafts of pre-refereeing preprints will be linked to the official refereed draft, as well as to any subsequent corrections, revisions, updates, comments, responses, and underlying empirical databases, all enhancing self-correctiveness and interactiveness of scientific research and communication in remarkable new ways.

But there is still one last frontier to cross before science reaches the optimal and the inevitable: just as there is no longer any need to be constrained by the access-blocking restrictions of paper distribution, there is no longer any need to be constrained by the access-blocking financial fire-walls of Subscription/Site-License/Pay-Per-View (S/L/P) tolls for this give-away literature that its authors have always donated for free (and its referees referee for free), with the sole goal of maximizing their impact on research (by accessing the eyes and minds of fellow-research).

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Welcome to New ECS Affiliates

Medtronic, Inc. has joined the ECS Affiliates program as a Contributing Member at the Sponsoring level. Medtronic is the world leader in medical technology, pioneering therapies that restore health, extend life and alleviate pain. Founded in 1949, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Medtronic provides products and services that treat more than 1.5 million people each year. The Medtronic Foundation was responsible for underwriting "Frontiers of Medicine," a national public television series exploring the latest in medical therapy and technology. Visit the company at www.medtronic.com.

The **Rayovac Corporation** has upgraded its participation in the ECS Affiliates program through its Contributing Membership. The company recently moved from the Sustaining level up to the Sponsoring level. Founded in 1906 as the French Battery Company in Madison, Wisconsin, the company was renamed the Rayovac

Company in the mid-1930s. Rayovac is currently the third largest U.S. manufacturer of batteries and battery-operated lighting products. The company also markets the number one rechargeable brand and is the world leader in hearing aid batteries. Visit the company at www.rayovac.com.

OnStream B.V. has joined the Affiliates program as a Contributing Member at the Sustaining level. The company was formed in February 1998 to deliver affordable, high-capacity removable storage solutions for PC servers, workstations, and power desktops. Visit the company at www.onstream.com.

The ECS Affiliates program allows Affiliates to take advantage of new opportunities of special advertising and exhibiting offers. Learn more about the program on the Web: www.electrochem.org/affiliates.html, or call Barbara Baggott, ECS Affiliates Coordinator at 609.737.1902, ext.103. ■

Division and Group News

New officers for the 1999-2001 term have been nominated for the following Divisions, to be voted upon during Divisional Business Meetings held at the spring Society Meeting in Toronto.



Dielectric Science and Technology

Chairman

Rick Ulrich

Vice-Chairman

Cindy Reidsema-Simpson

Secretary

Jamal Deen

Treasurer

Henry Hughes



Industrial Electrolysis & Electrochemical Engineering

Chairman

Clifford W. Walton

Vice-Chairman

Peter C. Foller

Secretary-Treasurer

Gautam Pillay

John Weidner



Fullerenes

Chairman

Prashant V. Kamat

Vice-Chairman

Francis D'Souza

Secretary

Luis L. Echegoyen

Treasurer

Karl Kadish

Members-at-Large

Shunuchi Fukuzumi

Dirk Guldi

Michele Maggini

Nazzario Martin

Steve R. Wilson

Bruce Weisman

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Authors can now self-archive their refereed papers publicly for free. This will usher in the optimal and the inevitable: journal publication will down-size to just implementing the service of Quality-Control and Certification (Q/C/C), through peer review and editing, which will be paid for up-front at the author-institution end out of only a small portion (about \$300 per paper) of the annual savings from the cancellation of all S/L/P tolls at the reader-institution end. Journal publishers are best advised to prepare for and accommodate the optimal/inevitable solution in the new era of "Scholarly Skywriting," rather than try to delay or block it via restrictive submissions and copyright policies that merely amplify the conflict of interest inherent in the revolutionary possibilities for scientific communication opened up by the Post-Gutenberg Galaxy.

Selected Papers by Stevan Harnad

"Scholarly Skywriting and the Prepublication Continuum of Scientific Inquiry," *Psychological Science* 1, p. 342 (1990), <http://www.cogsci.soton.ac.uk/~harnad/Papers/Harnad/harnad90.skywriting.html>

"Post-Gutenberg Galaxy: The Fourth Revolution in the Means of Production of Knowledge," *Public-Access Computer Systems Review* 2 (1), p. 39 (1991), <http://www.cogsci.soton.ac.uk/~harnad/Papers/Harnad/harnad91.postgutenberg.html>

"Free at Last: The Future of Peer-Reviewed Journals," *D-Lib Magazine*, 5 (12), <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/december99/12harnad.html>

"A Subversive Proposal," in *Scholarly Journals at the Crossroads: A Subversive Proposal for Electronic Publishing*, A. Okerson and J. O'Donnell, Editors, Washington, DC, Association of Research Libraries (1995), <http://www.arl.org/scomm/subversive/toc.html>

"For Whom the Gate Tolls? Free the Online-Only Refereed Literature," *American Scientist Forum* (1998), <http://www.cogsci.soton.ac.uk/~harnad/amlet.html>

"On-Line Journals and Financial Fire-Walls," *Nature* 395 (6698), p. 127 (1998), <http://www.cogsci.soton.ac.uk/~harnad/nature.html>

"The Invisible Hand of Peer Review," *Nature* [online], November 5, 1998, <http://helix.nature.com/webmatters/invisible/invisible.html>

"Advancing Science By Self-Archiving Refereed Research," *Science dEbate* [online], July 31, 1999, <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/eletters/285/5425/197#EL12>

"The Future of Scholarly Skywriting, i in ii in the Sky: Visions of the Information Future," A. Scammell, Editor, *Aslib*, November 1999, <http://www.cogsci.soton.ac.uk/~harnad/Papers/Harnad/harnad99.aslib.html> ■

Paul Cooper Promoted to Production Manager for ECS Journals

PAUL COOPER was recently promoted to Production Manager for the ECS journals. Paul was very involved in the successful 1998 launch of ECS's electronic journal, *Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters*. He is responsible for coordinating the paper and online production of *Letters* and also for the *Journal of The Electrochemical Society*. Paul joined the Society in 1991, having graduated from Saint Joseph's University with a BA in English and a minor in international relations. During his first year with the Society, Paul's primary responsibilities were styling manuscripts for the *Journal* and handling the production of the Proceedings Volume series.

From 1992 to mid-1997, Paul was asked to undertake the production and advertising work for the then-new members magazine, *Interface*, working closely with other ECS staff and an out-

side consulting firm on the design and implementation of the new publication. During that time, Paul also continued to work on the production of the proceedings volumes, redesigning the covers and helping the Society move toward casebound books, as well as producing a number of other items such as flyers and forms.

"Paul was invaluable in the launch of *Letters*, and continues to bring many efficiencies to the production of both *Letters* and the *Journal*," said Mary Yess, ECS Director of Publications. "The coming year will be a busy one for Paul, as we move into more online publishing initiatives, such as online submission of manuscripts, more functionality in the online editions of the journals, and in implementing an online peer review workflow. We're pleased to have Paul in this new role." ■