Brandon Bartling is currently a post-doctoral researcher working with Chung-Chiu Liu on the development of sensors for the detection of biological and non-biological species. He received his BS degree from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in 2001 in chemical engineering. Following that he worked for Eveready Battery Company as a quality manufacturing and senior technology engineer in the areas of Zn-MnO2, Zn-Air, and Zn-Ag2O cells. During this time his research resulted in three U.S. granted patents in oxygen control materials and battery cathodes. During his time at Eveready, Brandon completed his MS degree in chemical engineering at Case Western Reserve University. His thesis work dealt with the development of screen-printed oxygen electrodes for low form factor zinc-air batteries. In 2008, Brandon returned to school full time to pursue his doctorate in chemical engineering at Case Western Reserve University working with Chung-Chiu Liu. In early 2010, Bartling completed his doctoral dissertation focused on the development of biosensors for the detection of biomarkers related to liver disease.

Sathesh Sambandam received his bachelor’s degree in chemical and electrochemical engineering from Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI), India in May 2005 where he graduated with first class and distinction. In the fall of 2005, Sambandam began his graduate studies in chemical engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago. Currently, Sambandam is a doctoral student in the department of Chemical & Biological engineering at IIT and expects to graduate in May 2010.

His doctoral research under Vijay Ramani focuses on the study of influence of intrinsic polymer properties like oxygen permeability and ion exchange capacity on the species and ion transport in polymer electrolyte fuel cell electrodes. Sambandam’s goal is to obtain a quantitative correlation between these electrode binder properties and corresponding voltage losses estimated from fuel cell operation. He has authored/co-authored five peer-reviewed publications and was one of the winners of the student poster competition at the Gordon Research Conference on Fuel cells in 2008. Sambandam has participated in the IE&EE Division’s outreach program held during the past four ECS meetings at Chicago, Washington (DC), Hawaii, and Vienna.
The award consists of a scroll and a prize of $1,000 for educational purposes. The next award will be presented at the ECS spring meeting in Montréal, Canada, May 1-6, 2011.

Nominations and supporting documents should be sent to Venkat Subramanian, Dept. of Energy, Environmental, and Chemical Engineering, Washington University in St. Louis, One Brookings Dr., Box 1180, Office Location: Cupples II, Room 222, St. Louis, MO 63130, USA; e-mail: vsubramanian@seas.wustl.edu. Materials are due by September 15, 2010.

Travel Grants

Several of the Society’s Divisions offer travel assistance to students and young faculty members presenting papers at ECS meetings. For details about travel grants for 219th ECS Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, (October 10-15, 2010), please see the Las Vegas, Nevada, Call for Papers; or visit the ECS website: www.electrochem.org/student/travelgrants.htm. Please be sure to e-mail the student travel grant contact as each Division requires different materials for approval. The deadline for submission for the fall 2010 travel grants is May 7, 2010.

Awarded Student Memberships Available

ECS Divisions are offering Awarded Student Memberships to qualified full-time students. To be eligible, students must be in their final two years of an undergraduate program or enrolled in a graduate program in science, engineering, or education (with a science or engineering degree). Postdoctoral students are not eligible. Awarded memberships are renewable for up to four years; applicants must reapply each year. Memberships include article pack access to the Journal of The Electrochemical Society online, Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters online, ECS Transactions online, and a subscription to Interface. To apply for an Awarded Student Membership, use the application form below or refer to the ECS website at: www.electrochem.org/awards/student/student_awards.htm#a.