Spotlight on the IE&EE Division

The Industrial Electrochemistry and Electrochemical Engineering (IE&EE) Division conducted its fourth Outreach Program during the recent Phoenix Spring ECS meeting. Gerardine Botte, Ohio University; Venkat Subramanian and Vijay Boovaragavan (the latter is also the Oronde de Nora Industrial Electrochemistry Postdoctoral Fellow), both from Tennessee Tech University; Vijay Ramani, Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), Vijay Sethuraman, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL); and Dennie Mah, DuPont Company—all IE&EE Division members—along with graduate students Ramasamy Palaniappan and Bryan Boggs of Ohio University; and Greg Tucker and Jeff Thomson of Arizona State University, participated in the program.

The event took place at the Bioscience High School, a new, state-of-the-art math and science education facility in the Phoenix Union High School District. Deedee Falls, newly appointed principal, along with teachers Po-pé Enrique, Renu Singh, and the entire school staff helped to bring this Outreach Program to the entire student body consisting of 50 freshmen and 50 sophomore students. Three parallel, active learning sessions introduced hydrogen fuel cell technology to the students. A fuel cell car competition, designed to introduce the youth to new electrochemical technology, and its potential future impact on our everyday life, was held and the overall winning student team was recognized at the ECS Annual Society Luncheon and Business meeting. We all had fun and we encourage other Divisions and Sections to consider reaching out, whether at an ECS meeting or other venues.

The IE&EE Division was pleased to present Sunil Roy (University of Florida) with its 2008 H. H. Dow Memorial Student Achievement Award, and Vinten Dewikar (Tennessee Tech University) with its 2008 Student Achievement Award.

The IE&EE Division will lead two symposia at the PRiME Industrial Electrochemistry and Electrochemical engineering (IE&EE) Division successfully completed its fourth volunteer Outreach Program during the Phoenix meeting. The event took place at the Bioscience High School (BHS), just a few blocks from the meeting venue.

In the top photo, seated from left to right are: Standing from left to right are: Renu Singh (BHS student), Po-pé Enrique (BHS teacher), Deedee Falls (BHS Principal), and Ashley Martin (BHS student). Seated from left to right are: BHS students, and Victoria Nichols. Missing from the photo is student Sarah Ramirez.

In the bottom photo, seated from left to right are: Gerri Botte (Ohio University), Bryan Boggs (Ohio University), Deedee Falls (BHS Principal), and Renu Singh (BHS teacher). Standing from left to right are: Ramasamy Palaniappan (Ohio University), Vijay Sethuraman (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory), Dennie Mah (IE&EE Chair), Po-pé Enrique (BHS teacher), and Vijay Boovaragavan (Tennessee Tech University).

Contributed by: Dennie T. Mah, a/k/a Doctor Electro, IE&EE Division immediate past chair.

Hot dogs, baseballs ... and electrochemistry? These things may not sound like they go together, but on May 18, ECS combined all three into a unique networking opportunity during its first Student Mixer at the spring 2008 meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Over 90 students, corporate sponsors, active members, and ECS staff came together at Chase Field in Phoenix to watch Randy Johnson on his march to 300 career wins and to discuss electrochemistry and solid-state sciences over a catered lunch.

Students from from as far away as Germany, Sweden, Japan, and Korea met with active members including Doug Hansen, Krishnan Rajeshwar, Timothy Armstrong, and Oana Leonte. Representatives from sponsors DigiKey, Rayovac, LAM Research, Brinkman Instruments, and Ballard Power Systems were also in attendance. It was agreed by all that the event was a success, and all are looking forward to the next Student Mixer during the PRiME at Hawaii in October.
John Lewis was recently promoted to the position of Associate Director of Conference Publications. John joined the ECS staff in September 2005 as the Manager of ECS Transactions (ECST), the online database of full-text papers presented at ECS meetings and ECS-sponsored meetings. He is responsible for all facets of ECST; from guiding authors and editors through the online process, to producing and marketing the finished issues.

This online publication has grown from the publication of 3 issues in 2005 when it was launched, to 82 issues for 2007. The grand total of issues to date is 175, with over 3,500 papers. Because of the popularity of this publication, a number of ECS-sponsored conferences have begun to publish in ECST, including SBMICRO (Brazil, 2006 and 2007), ALTECH (Germany, 2007), ULSIC/TFT (Italy, 2007), SOFC (Japan, 2007), and the Fuel Cell Seminar (Hawaii, 2006 and Texas, 2007). Future conferences include EUROCVI 17 & CVD17 (Vienna, 2009), the 23rd Meeting of the Mexican Electrochemical Society; and the return of SOFC, SBMICRO, and the Fuel Cell Seminar. John has also recently become responsible for the production of the Meeting Abstracts CD-ROM publication. One of his recent projects was to oversee the digitization of all the past content from the Electronics and Photonics Division's Cleaning Technology Symposium, which, before ECST, had been published in the Proceedings Volume series. John is currently working with Google to upload all bibliographic data from ECST into the popular Google Book program. Another major project under John's care is the implementation of a “print-on-demand” program, which will enable people to purchase a single copy of out-of-print proceedings volumes.

Prior to joining ECS, John worked for over 7 years as a Digital Archive Manager for Random House, Inc. During that time, John helped to develop a database of digital production and marketing files from a handful of assets to over 1 million files. Ultimately, this project helped Random House produce smaller press runs much faster, reducing the time and costs in the production cycle. He was also a member of the Random House Standing Production Committee, dedicated to standardizing and improving corporate production practices.

Before joining Random House, John worked for many years in the music business. He was the Associate Producer of the 1996 and 1997 New York Jazz Festivals, and the Talent Buyer and Production Manager for the Knitting Factory. He also worked as an artist manager for several musical groups.

“Thanks to John's hard work and dedication, ECST has grown from guiding its first steps to become the rapidly growing success it is today,” said Annie Goedkoop, ECS Director of Publications. She added that the “Google project and print-on-demand program are two more ways John is helping to make ECS conference publications robust and valuable assets that will serve the electrochemical and solid-state community for years to come.”

Beth Anne Stuebe joined ECS last June as the new production assistant for ECS Transactions. She is responsible for assisting in the development, organization, and planning of ECS Transactions and other texts for the Society. Beth Anne spends a great deal of her time working very closely with meeting authors and symposium organizers, aiding them with manuscript submission and acceptance, through to final online and/or print publication.

Beth Anne is a 2005 graduate of Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania and the University of Gloucestershire in Cheltenham, England, where she earned degrees in English and Professional Writing.

Beth Anne began her career in academic publishing at Associated University Presses in Cranbury, New Jersey. There, she worked hand-in-hand with leading university, library, and museum presses, such as the University of Delaware Press, the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC, and the Moravian Music Foundation in Winston-Salem, NC to create monographs and collections of original scholarly works from leaders in many interdisciplinary fields.

Prior to joining ECS, Beth Anne worked in East Windsor, NJ, at Infragistics, a software technology company. There, she continued to use her editing skills, paring them with technical writing to create technical manuals and programs for some of the industry’s leading software component tools. While there, her technical documentation was used in conjunction with the nation’s best selling Presentation Layer software for both the ASP.net and .NET frameworks, and her documentation went in to many products associated with Presentation Layer technology.

“We are very pleased to have Beth Anne join the ECS staff,” said Annie Goedkoop. “She brings to this new position a good background and a welcome enthusiasm for academic publishing. We expect the Society will be well served by the addition of Beth Anne to the staff.”
ECS Constitution and Bylaws

by Petr Vanýsek

For many years, ECS has been operating by the rules of two documents, the Constitution and the Bylaws. Whereas the Constitution is more general and the Bylaws provide more specific rules, the two documents in many instances overlap one another. It had been noted by our legal counsel that one fundamental document, rather than two, is the norm in many organizations, and it was suggested that ECS should consider merging the Constitution and the Bylaws into a single document.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors saw the benefits in having a modern document and initiated the process to create a single document, the “New” Bylaws, which is based on the contents of the existing Constitution and Bylaws. This has been a lengthy process. It started in October 2007 by a petition of ten members, who brought a recommendation to the membership for a vote. The petition was approved by the Board in October 2007. At the May 20, 2008 Annual Business Meeting in Phoenix, ECS members voted to approve the proposal. By the time this issue of Interface goes to press, all members will receive an e-mail directing them to an online ballot for a final approval. The members will be asked to eliminate the Constitution and thereby allow a new document, the “New” Bylaws, to govern ECS.

The “New” Bylaws (which will be called just “Bylaws,” once approved) were prepared by careful combination of the Constitution and existing Bylaws, in such a way that nothing would be omitted, but nothing would be duplicated. To allow the voters to focus on the merging process, rather than having them consider the desirability of specific material changes, any changes other than the merge were kept to the minimum. One change is the elimination of gender bias in the language. Numerous references to “he” in reference to an officer were eliminated. Rather than using the cumbersome “he/she,” the sentences were rewritten. Other changes eliminate the requirement of the Divisions and Groups to provide audited financial statements to the Society by the end of each June, this is not necessary because all the accounts are held by the Society and are already audited by an external auditor. Another change involved deletion of an unintended word (fiscal) being used to define a membership year, which is no longer connected to the fiscal year. Additional language changes involved the deletion of any reference to the “Constitution,” as that document will not exist after the adoption of the “New” Bylaws.

The method of making amendments could not be accomplished by merging the documents, because the Constitution and the Bylaws procedures were so different. The procedure of the present Bylaws was adopted, with additional opportunities for input. The proposed procedure for any change will require first the approval of the Ways and Means Committee, before it can go for approval to the Board of Directors. Additionally, the proposed changes will have to be communicated to the members of the Board 60 days before the meeting of the Board at which the vote will be taken, to provide enough time for consideration and discussion.

To prevent the Constitution from being eliminated prior to the establishment of the new combined document (the “New” Bylaws), the vote on the Constitution change specifically states that “the change takes effect after a suitable combined document is approved.”

Results of the 2008 Election of Officers and Slate for 2009

by Petr Vanýsek

The ECS Tellers of Election have announced the results of the 2008 election of Society officers, with the following persons elected: President—D. Noel Buckley, University of Limerick; Vice-President—Esther Takeuchi, University of Buffalo; and Secretary—Johna Leddy, University of Iowa. The terms of Paul Natishan (Vice-President), William D. Brown (Vice-President), and John Susko (Treasurer) were unaffected by this election.

At the Board of Directors meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on May 22, 2008, members of the Board of Directors voted to approve the slate of candidates recommended by the ECS nominating Committee. The slate of candidates for the next ECS election of officers, to be held in January 2009, include: for President—Paul Natishan; for Vice-President (one to be elected)—Fernando Garzon and Jerzy Ruzyllo. Full biographies and candidate statements will appear in the winter 2008 issue of Interface.

To read the text of the old Constitutions and Bylaws, go to http://www.electrochem.org/ecs/bylaws/constitution_bylaws.htm. To read the text of the proposed “New” Bylaws, go to http://www.electrochem.org/ecs/bylaws/ecs/bylaws_021908.doc.

All members are strongly encouraged to vote on this important issue.

Congressional Visit Days

by Petr Vanýsek

Each year the Federation of Materials Societies (FMS) organizes visits with members of the U.S. Congress in Washington DC. FMS is an umbrella society that unites professional societies, universities, and National Research Council organizations involved in materials science, engineering, and technology. ECS is a member of FMS.

The visits on the Capitol Hill, known as Congressional Visit Days (CVD) are an important way of public participation in the policymaking of the U.S. government. The senators and congressmen listen to their constituents, (continued on next page)
who can arrange visits in their offices in Washington. The most effective to get a message across are organized visits by well-prepared teams, which is why various interest groups organize CVDs on different topics.

This year the FMS message brought to the offices on Capitol Hill was summarized in the “leave behind” single page document as “Materials Science, Engineering and Manufacturing: Vital to a Secure and Prosperous Nation in the 21st Century.” It is the page with this slogan that is left in the offices, but it stays there with the notes taken by the aides created from the discussions with the visitors. It is up to the visitor to add more meaning to it. I was representing ECS in the delegation and because I live in Illinois, I was able to visit with Illinois Congressmen and Senators or their staff members. The most interesting was my meeting with Bill Foster, who is the newly elected Representative for the 14th Congressional District and one of only three physicists in Congress. He has worked for years at the Fermilab, so our conversation was not about the importance of science and engineering, but about ways how to bring them into public eye and into the minds of politicians. He repeated what was heard on the Capitol Hill during that visit often—that it is important that people with science and engineering background are more directly involved in the legislative process, working as aides in the congressional offices, and even running for offices. I was unable to meet with the junior senator from Illinois, Barack Obama, however, our delegation had opportunity to speak with his legislative assistant, Steve Robinson. Other offices

that I visited were those of Sen. Dick Durbin, and Representatives Judy Biggert, Daniel Lipinski, and Rush Holt; the last represents Pennington, New Jersey, where the main ECS office is located.

FMS organized the Material Ad-vantage CVD for April 9-10, 2008. The delegation had 63 participants, 48 of which were undergraduate and graduate students, from Drexel University, Iowa State University, Johns Hopkins University, Missouri University of S&T, University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University, and Drexel University, Iowa State University, and the University of Tennessee, Virginia Tech, and Washington State University. The night before the visits, the students enjoyed a dinner connected with a career panel and networking with local employers. The visits started with an orientation meeting in which Kei Koizumi, from AAAS, gave overview of the federal budget. Arden Bement, Director of NSF; James Turner, Acting Director of NIST; and Raymond Orbach, Under Secretary for Science, DOE, gave short presentations as members of the Administration Panel.

The ECS membership outside the U.S. surpassed 50% this year and it stands reason to consider if participation in CVD is relevant to all members. One item that came up was the U.S. visa policy for visiting scientists and students. In April, Microsoft Chair Bill Gates gave testimony to Congress about the economic dangers of restricting visits of foreign scientists. But even domestic policies of one nation of restricting visits of foreign scientists.

Microsoft Chair Bill Gates gave testimony to Congress about the economic dangers of restricting visits of foreign scientists. But even domestic policies of one nation of restricting visits of foreign scientists. The most effective to get a message across are organized visits by well-prepared teams, which is why various interest groups organize CVDs on different topics.

About the Author

PETR VANYSEK recently completed a four-year term as Secretary of ECS. He is a former chair of the Council of Sections, former chair of the Sensor Division, and former secretary/treasurer of the Physical and Analytical Electrochemistry Division. He may be reached at pvanysek@niu.edu.

Corporate Membership News

BALLARD

Spotlight on Ballard Power Systems
Sustaining Level Member since 1984

This quarter we focus on a company that received an ECS Leadership Circle Award at the ECS spring meeting in Phoenix, Arizona—BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS. As a 25 year corporate member of ECS, Ballard received the Gold level Leadership Circle. This award was established in 2002 to recognize ECS’s corporate partners for their continued support of the Society.

Developing hydrogen fuel cells for more than 20 years, Ballard Power Systems Inc., is a world leader in the development, manufacture, sale, and servicing of hydrogen fuel cells, with demonstrated advanced capabilities that are evident across its entire product line. Through the sale of its automotive fuel cell assets to Daimler AG and Ford Motor Company, as well as an investment in the newly formed Automotive Fuel Cell Cooperation (AFCC), Ballard will continue to leverage the latest in automotive fuel cell development for the commercialization of fuel cells in specific growth markets: materials handling, residential cogeneration, and telecom backup power. Ballard’s fuel cell stack technology offers a wide range of benefits within each of these markets, including lower costs of energy use, longer operating lifetimes and positive environmental impacts. Headquartered in Burnaby, British Columbia, Ballard is working to make fuel cells a commercial reality.

New Corporate Members

The number of companies supporting ECS and enjoying the benefits of corporate membership continues to grow with three new sponsors. Our new members include Bio-Logic at the Patron level; and CC Technologies, NexTech Materials, and SRI International at the Sponsoring level. In addition to our new partners, two
existing members, C. Uyemura & Co. and Sandia National Laboratories, upgraded their membership to the Sponsoring level. Bio-logic USA is the exclusive provider of EC-Lab Instruments, the fastest growing line of electrochemistry products on the market. These products include modular single- and multi-channel potentiostats/galvanostats, powerful yet easy to use software packages, and a complete line of electrochemical accessories. There is also a line of PEM fuel cell test stations, fuel cell kits, and membrane assemblies. Bio-logic USA has four major instrument product lines: electrochemistry, rapid kinetics, electrophysiology, and photosynthesis. Electrophysiology products allow electron transfer to be studied in brain, nerve, and muscle tissue, while the photosynthesis instruments allow the photosynthetic electron transfer in plants and bacteria to be studied. Rapid kinetics mixers and spectroscopy units are used to study fast reactions for biology and bio-molecular chemistry.

CC Technologies, a DNV company, is a leading provider of technology in managing corrosion and materials risks. As one of the few firms to combine practical engineering solutions with state-of-the-art research and testing, the company can offer clients innovative, cost effective solutions. It specializes in engineering, research, and testing for corrosion control and monitoring, fitness-for-service, pipeline/plant integrity analysis, materials evaluation and selection, failure analysis, litigation support, regulatory compliance, management systems approaches and instrumentation, and software design and development.

Nextech Materials, Ltd. is a leading developer and manufacturer of products for advanced energy and environmental applications. The company often develops products in cooperation with external partners and provides services to help its customers develop products. It applies its core competencies of advanced ceramics materials fabrication and processing to finding solutions, with technologies and early-stage products for fuel cells, hydrogen production, and pollution control. Its commercially available products are offered through its fuelcellmaterials.com division, which distributes high quality stack and BOP materials, components and testing items for fuel cell researchers and manufacturers, with convenient ordering, rapid delivery and excellent customer service.

Silicon Valley-based SRI International is one of the world’s leading independent research and technology development organizations. Founded as Stanford Research Institute, SRI has been meeting the strategic needs of clients for more than 60 years. The nonprofit organization performs R&D for government, commercial, and foundation clients in physical sciences, information technology, engineering, pharmaceuticals, and public policy. SRI also licenses its technologies and spins off companies. SRI scientists and engineers are experts in areas such as catalysis, polymers, analytical chemistry, combinatorial chemistry, biosensors, carbon materials, biofuels, fuel cells, MEMS, microfabrication, microelectronics, nanotechnology, advanced materials, mechanical engineering, fracture mechanics, applied coating technologies, and more.

Corporate membership is a relationship of great mutual benefit to both member organizations and ECS. As a corporate member, your organization can receive: password-free online access to current and archived content in both of ECS’ serial publications, the Journal of The Electrochemical Society and Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters, for company facilities; complimentary individual memberships; free meeting registrations to our biannual events, which attract upwards of 3,500 scientists each year; subscriptions to ECS’s two highly rated journals and the quarterly, Interface; recognition throughout the ECS website; and, many more.

If your organization is interested in supporting ECS and receiving the benefits of corporate membership, please contact Amir Zaman, Director of Membership and Development, at amir.zaman@electrochem.org or 609.737.1902, ext. 103.

New Division Officers

New officers for the 2008-2010 term have been elected for the following Divisions.

**Dielectric Science & Technology Division**

**Chair**
Durga Misra, New Jersey Institute of Technology

**Vice-Chair**
Kalapathy Sundaram, University of Central Florida

**Secretary**
Oana Leontes, Lam Research

**Treasurer**
Dolf Landheer, National Research Council-Canada

**Awards Chair**
Hazara Rathore, IBM Microelectronics

**Membership Chair**
Ana Londergan, Qualcomm MEMS Technologies

**Symposium Chair**
Katalin Voros, University of California-Berkeley

**Members-at-Large**
Gautam Banerjee
Albert Bergendahl
Shunichi Fukuzumi
Vimal Banerjee
Ravi M. Todi
Jerry Woodall
Kerstin Worhoff
Jian Zhang

**Fullerenes, Nanotubes, and Carbon Nanostructures Division**

**Chair**
Dirk Guldi, University of Erlangen-Nurnberg

**Vice-Chair**
R. Bruce Weisman, Rice University

**Secretary**
Jean-Francois Nierengarten, ECPM

**Treasurer**
Francis D’Souza, Wichita State University

**Members-at-Large**
Luis Echegoyen
Yury Gogotsi
Prashant Kamat
Shunichi Fukuzumi
Karl Kadish
Nazario Martin
Maurizio Prato
Maurizio Prato
Tomas Torres
Lon Wilson

**Industrial Electrochemistry & Electrochemical Engineering Division**

**Chair**
John Weidner, University of South Carolina

**Vice-Chair**
Vijay Ramani, Illinois Institute of Technology

**Secretary/Treasurer**
Gerdine Botte, Ohio University
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ECS Cosponsored Conferences for 2008/09

In addition to the regular ECS biannual meetings, ECS, its Divisions, and Sections cosponsor meetings and symposia of interest to the technical audience ECS serves. The following is a list of the cosponsored meetings for 2008/09.

- **XXIII Congreso de la Sociedad Mexicana de Electroquimica**, June 1-6, 2008, Ensenada, Mexico, centecbc.uabc.mx (Sponsored by ECS and ECS Mexican Section)
- **12th International Meeting on Chemical Sensors**, July 13-16, 2008, Columbus, Ohio, USA, mse.osu.edu/imcs12 (Sponsored by ECS & Sensor Division)
- **5th International Conference on Hot Wire Chemical Vapor Deposition**, August 20-24, 2008, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, web.mit.edu/hwcvd5
- **58th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry**, September 7-12, 2008, Seville, Spain, event08.ise-online.org
- **7th Spring Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry**, March 25-29, 2009, Szczyrk, Poland, spring09.ise-online.org
- **American Chemical Society Central Regional Meeting**, May 20-24, 2009, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, www.acs.org
- **69th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry**, August 16-21, 2009, Beijing, China, event09.ise-online.org

To learn more about what an ECS cosponsorship could do for your conference, including information on publishing proceedings from co-sponsored meetings, or to request an ECS cosponsorship of your technical event, please contact Amir Zaman, Director of Membership and Development, at amir.zaman@electrochem.org or 609.737.1902, ext. 103.