

## LOCAL SECTION NEWS

### New England

On September 12, the Section held its first dinner meeting of the 2000-01 season in association with the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society at Northeastern University, Boston, MA. The featured speaker of the evening was Dr. Daniel Nocera of the chemistry department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) who spoke on "Photosynthesis in a Beaker." Dr. Nocera's group has focused on the use of two electron mixed valence transition metal (diridium) bipy's (various structures) as catalysts in the photochemical splitting of HX into H<sub>2</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> in homogeneous solution.

On October 10, the Section held its annual general meeting at the Egan Research Center, Northeastern University, in Boston, MA. Dr. Lawrence Kaufman of Pinnacle Associates, an investment banking consulting firm, spoke on "Options, Stock Options, and Compensation for Employees in New Businesses." Dr.

Kaufman has advised a number of start-ups and small businesses on compensation plans and packages and he explained how stock options are a com-

plex topic and foreknowledge of characteristics and conditions of redemption are numerous and constantly  
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### The Gwendolyn B. Wood Award



*A. P. Johnson (right), treasurer of the New England Local Section, accepted the Gwendolyn B. Wood Local Section Excellence Award from ECS president Carl Osburn.*

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changing. Dr. Kaufman led his audience through the maze of compensation plans through options and warned of the pitfalls of lack of prior knowledge.

### San Francisco ES&T

The Section held their September meeting in Hayward, CA. The presentation "Carbon and Electrochemistry" was given by Dr. Kim Kinoshita of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Dr. Kinoshita discussed the preparation, structure, properties, and applications of different types of carbon, such as active carbon, carbon black, glassy carbon and graphite. The emphasis was on the application of carbon as negative electrode material for lithium ion cells. For this purpose, the carbon must allow a solid-electrolyte interface (SEI) layer to form on the surface upon lithium intercalation into carbon. The morphology of the SEI is affected by the type of carbon and conditions of the intercalation. The amount of gas generated concomitant with the formation of SEI is affected by the type of carbon and its impur-

ity content. A popular type of carbon "MCMB" for lithium cells was described in detail. Dr. Kinoshita finished his talk by giving some economic analysis of the world-wide market of carbon for electrochemistry. ■

## LOCAL SECTION SERVICES

The Society headquarters offers a number of different services to Local Sections upon request. These include: blank award certificates for use at Local Section fairs and contests, and past chairman pins for retiring Local Section chairmen. Also available are copies of the Council of Local Sections Handbook, which includes the Section Reporting Guidelines and a Directory of Officers for other Local Sections. For more information, contact Elizabeth Brennfleck at Society headquarters, tel: 609.737.1902, ext. 102.

## ECS DIVISION AND GROUP CHAIRMEN

Battery  
Esther S. Takeuchi  
Wilson Greatbatch Ltd.  
716.759.5358  
etakeuchi@greatbatch.com

Corrosion  
Clive R. Clayton  
State University of New York  
631.632.9272  
cclayton@ccmail.sunysb.edu

Dielectric Science and Technology  
Richard Ulrich  
University of Kansas  
501.575.5645  
rku@engr.uark.edu

Electrodeposition  
Sudipta Roy  
University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne  
44.191.222.7274  
s.roy@ncl.ac.uk

Electronics  
Janet L. Benton  
Bell Labs - Lucent Technologies  
908.582.3643  
jlb@bell-labs.com

Energy Technology  
Margaret A. Ryan  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
818.354.8028  
mryan@jpl.nasa.gov

Fullerenes  
Prashant V. Kamat  
University of Notre Dame  
219.631.5411  
pkamat@nd.edu

High Temperature Materials  
Steven J. Visco  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
510.486.5821  
visco@lbl.gov

Industrial Electrolysis &  
Electrochemical Engineering  
Clifford W. Walton  
FMC Corp  
609.951.3189  
clifford\_walton@fmc.com

Luminescence & Display Materials  
Cornelis R. Ronda  
Phillips Research Labs  
49.241.6003.397  
ronda@pfa.research.phillips.com

Organic & Biological Electrochemistry  
Jean Lessard  
University of Sherbrooke  
819.821.7091  
jlessard@courrier.usherb.ca

Physical Electrochemistry  
Andrzej Wiekowski  
University of Illinois  
217.333.7943  
andrzej@scs.uiuc.edu

Sensor  
Joseph R. Stetter  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
312.567.3443  
stetter@iit.edu

For information on a Division or Group's activities, contact the chairman listed above.

