



**AGENDA**  
**Annual Society Business Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 2, 2021 / 2:00 PM EDT**

- A.**    Welcome – **Stefan De Gendt, President**
  
- B.**    Results of Society Elections and Introduction of Incoming Officers –**Marca Doeff, Secretary**
  
- C.**    Reflections on the Impact of COVID-19 and a Look Back at 2020 – **Stefan De Gendt, President**
  
- D.**    Approval of 2020 ASBM Minutes – **Marca Doeff, Secretary**
  
- E.**    Report of the Secretary – **Marca Doeff, Secretary**
  - 1.    Meetings
  - 2.    Membership
  - 3.    Publications
  
- F.**    ECS 2020 Finance Report – **Gessie Brisard, Treasurer**
  - 1.    Revenue
  - 2.    Expenses
  - 3.    Net Assets
  
- G.**    A Look Ahead – **Eric Wachsman, President-Elect**



## **Minutes of the 2020 ECS Annual Society Business Meeting**

The 2020 ECS Annual Society Business Meeting convened promptly at 2:00 pm EDT on June 20, 2020 via Zoom.

### **Opening Remarks**

The meeting began with a welcome and opening remarks from ECS Executive Director, Chris Jannuzzi.

### **President's Welcome**

The immediate Past President Christina Bock called the meeting to order.

### **Quorum and Minutes from Previous Meeting**

ECS Past Secretary Jim Fenton counted and confirmed that more than 50 members were in attendance and, therefore, quorum had been established.

### **2020 Election Results**

Secretary Fenton then reported that the Society's elections were held earlier in the year for the offices of President, Secretary and 3rd Vice President for the ECS Board of Directors.

The 2020-2021 President is Stefan de Gendt from imec, Marca Doeffer, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is our new Secretary, and Gerardine Botte of Texas Tech is the new 3rd Vice President.

### **Report of the President**

President De Gendt first thanked the past secretary, Jim Fenton and past President Christina Bock for their service.

### **Report of the Secretary**

ECS Secretary, Marca Doeffer asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous ASBM, which was held in Dallas, TX on May 28, 2019. The motion was Moved, Seconded, and Passed.

Secretary Doeffer provided an update on ECS's major program areas for the previous 12 months. She reported that ECS welcomed more than 4,700 meeting attendees to our two biannual meetings in 2019. Among the 100 symposia, the Society received 4,806 abstracts from 66 countries. The symposia funding program that supports speakers to attend ECS meetings awarded \$153,705 in support; and, the biannual meeting travel grant program, which supports students and early career researchers awarded \$72,705. These programs, along with the continued engagement of our volunteer leaders and corporate partners, helped contribute to the success of our biannual meetings.

She then reviewed the list of the meetings ECS sponsored in 2019, including the ECS satellite meeting, the Electrochemical Conference on Energy and the Environment (ECEE): Bioelectrochemistry and Energy Storage. She also mentioned the upcoming sponsored meetings: IMCS 18, focusing on chemical sensors (originally scheduled to take place in Montreal, but rescheduled to 2021); and SOFC 17, one of the longest running conferences on solid oxide fuel cells. She also mentioned the upcoming biannual meetings and noted that we will be in Gothenburg, Sweden in 2023, this being our first biannual meeting in Europe since we went to Vienna in 2009.

Reporting next on membership, Doeffer stated that our members continue to serve an integral role in the Society.



In 2019, ECS facilitated a successful membership drive, which contributed to a 6% increase in members reaching a total membership of 8,771.

One-third of those members are students and early career researchers. It is the continued engagement of students in ECS that can be attributed to the growth of student chapters over the last year as we added 12 new chapters bringing the total to 93.

She also reported that the Society also awarded more than \$20,300 in student chapter memberships for those actively involved in the chapter program. Other awards provided were:

- 5 ECS Toyota Young Investigator Fellowships, totaling \$250,000.
- 2 ECS Summer Fellowships, totaling \$10,000.
- And divisions awarded over \$75,000.

She mentioned that our institutional members are truly partners in advancing the science and the mission of ECS. This elite group of almost 50, supports scientific education, sustainability, and innovation through their continued partnership with us.

Next, Secretary Doeffer reported on ECS publications activities, noting that, in 2019, ECS saw significant growth in both content acquisition and dissemination of its scholarly content.

For the first time in the Society's history, journal submissions surpassed 4,000:

- 2019 saw a 9% increase in submissions over 2018.
- Content access increased over 2018 with 3.5 million articles and abstracts downloaded in 2019. Much of this was driven by the Journal of The Electrochemical Society reaching a new milestone with over 2.5 million downloads for the first time.
- ECS's reach grew to 2,000 institutional subscribers with over 1,200 of these institutions subscribing to ECS's read and publish package, ECS Plus. The ECS Plus program advances the Free the Science initiative by enabling affiliated authors to publish open access in ECS journals without paying Article Processing Charges (APCs).

Doeffer mentioned that open access continues to be an important initiative of ECS. Over 41% of journal articles published in 2019 were open access. She reported that one open access article published in JES in September, garnered 37,416 downloads in 2019 alone, which demonstrates not only the high quality of the content ECS publishes but also the importance of providing open access to ensure the broadest dissemination of our publications.

She also reported that ECS announced a new publishing partnership with Institute of Physics Publishing (IOPP) in 2019, and prepared to make key transitions of our publishing infrastructure, including the launch of a new submission platform for ECS journals. IOPP is more than a vendor supporting our publishing operations. An outstanding technical publisher in their own right, they share our commitment to ensuring the technical quality of the works published, and the integrity and validity of the peer review conducted by the ECS community. The entire ECS Digital Library, including The Journal of the Electrochemical Society and the ECS Journal of Solid State Science and Technology, now resides on IOPscience, their industry-leading platform for publishing and disseminating world-class scientific content.

### **Report of the Treasurer**

ECS Treasurer Gessie Brisard delivered the next presentation. Treasurer Brisard provided high-level financial statistics for ECS in 2019. She reported that ECS enjoyed strong revenues of roughly \$10M in 2019. The



majority of these (84%) came from three sources: meetings, publications, and investment income.

With respect to expenses, similar to our revenues, it was mentioned that publications and meetings activities were the prime drivers, constituting roughly 70% of our \$6.7M operating budget.

In terms of overall impact, for the year ending December 31, 2019, it was reported that ECS's net assets increased by \$2.47M.

The increase in net assets was partially due to surpluses from the meetings of \$589K, Publications of \$333K, and Membership of \$253K. These surpluses were partially offset by deficits in Constituent Programs of \$96K and Awards of \$174K, as well as Support Services costs.

Interest, dividends, and realized gains on investments yielded a \$2.8M return. After subtracting unrealized losses (caused by investment securities in our portfolio at year-end, which had a lower value than at the beginning of the year) of \$770K, the net investment gain for the year was \$2.1M.

Brisard closed her report by stating that 2019 was an outstanding year for the Society. The significant gains in our investment portfolio were bolstered by over \$300k in positive margin from ECS's operations, making it the first year in many that the Society's programs and services contributed to the net assets of ECS.

### **Report of the Executive Director**

ECS Executive Director and CEO, Chris Jannuzzi, gave a brief report on the impact of COVID on the staff, ECS finances and upcoming meetings.

### **Closing Remarks**

President De Gendt gave closing remarks regarding several key initiatives that we are working on in 2020, despite the challenges COVID-19 presents. These initiatives are designed to not only enhance the service and support we provide our communities, but also help drive critical, margin-yielding revenue for the Society. These are:

**Membership and Education:** we will look to expand the successful short course programming beyond our in-person meetings, hosting special training events both in person (when possible) and online.

**New Ways of Convening:** COVID-19 has had a tremendous impact on our ability to safely, successfully convene large groups of attendees for the foreseeable future. Therefore, we will look to enhance our in-person meetings with remote participation, as well as find ways to host effective, engaging virtual meetings.

**New Journals:** How do we capture new audiences of authors and readers? How do we better engage our existing author and readers? And how to do this without damaging submission and readership of JES and JSS, our flagship publications?

### **Q&A**

The meeting was then opened up for questions from the attendees.

The meeting concluded.