

Writing New Chapters

Beginning with this issue, *Interface* embarks on writing some new chapters with not one, but two Editors leading the way. (See the winter 2013 issue for the story). Just a few short months on the job, and **Petr Vanýsek** and **Vijay Ramani** already have introduced some great ideas, which you'll see in this, their first issue as Editors. Each Editor has a few words to say here (see below). In future issues they will alternate writing this column.

Another new member of the *Interface* team is Annie Goedkoop, the Society's Director of Publications. Annie will be *Interface's* new Managing Editor, enabling me to leave that role and take up the job of Publisher in a more dedicated way: to develop content for all our publications, build support for ECS as one of the few remaining nonprofit publishers in our technical arena, and enable Open Access here at the Society, among other initiatives.

Before joining the staff of ECS, I was brought in as a consultant to help turn the prototype into a full-fledged and robust members' magazine; so I have been with *Interface* since "day one." Over the years, I have worked with a series of remarkable Editors—**Karrie Hanson** (prototype, 1992), **Paul Kohl** (1992-94), **Lee Hunt** (interim, 1995), **Jan Talbot** (1995-99), and **Krishnan Rajeshwar** (1999-2013), or "Raj" as we all know him. To them, my thanks for bringing great things to the magazine—working with them has been one of the best parts of my job. To members of the ECS staff, thank you for playing a significant role in bringing off the enterprise—from contributing a great deal of news for and about our readers, to producing the magazine within short timeframes and selling advertisements to pay for its upkeep, to managing numerous tasks to ensure that *Interface* reaches its audience. To Raj, who has given nearly 15 years to *Interface*, and dealt with everything from recalcitrant authors to hurricanes with great humor and aplomb, go my deep and heartfelt thanks... I plan to "stay tuned" to your next episode with ECS.



Mary Yess, ECS Deputy Executive Director & Publisher



VIJAY RAMANI

About 15 odd years ago (Summer 1999 to be exact), the editorial in *Interface* was entitled "Transitions and Interfaces." Now it is once again a time for transition. *Interface* has grown to new strengths

under the guidance of Krishnan Rajeshwar. I am sure I speak for all of us as I express my gratitude to Raj for his outstanding stewardship, along with congratulations and very best wishes in his role as the Society's newest Vice-President.

Research progress in a given area often follows a trajectory akin to an autocatalytic reaction: a long induction time followed by exponential increase in rate and/or efficacy (hopefully the same is not true of new *Interface* editors!). A case in point is the field of ionic liquids, a truly versatile class of materials. Since the first "low melting point salt" was reported in 1914, there has been steady progress over the past century

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PETR VANÝSEK

Summing up research work for a professional journal and having it eventually published is one of the most satisfying events in a professional career. But sitting down and writing the sentences de-

scribing the work does not come easily and even skilled and prolific authors will admit that writing is not always fun. The manuscript template is rigid and the customary style is restraining, with its use of passive voice, avoidance of synonyms, and guarded choice of words. And you should never use an exclamation mark in scientific writing!

What a treat to have *Interface* to come alongside with the four ECS journals. The framework of *Interface* is defined and some of the items are standard and prescribed. But there is lot of flexibility in the way authors contribute and the style can be often quite lighthearted. An author celebrating the life-long accomplishments of a former advisor

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FROM THE EDITORS

Ramani

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that has now culminated in a period of exponential growth. Given their potential applicability in multiple electrochemical technologies (electrodeposition and energy conversion/storage, to name two), processes occurring at ionic liquid/electrode interfaces have piqued a lot of interest. This issue has four articles that present an excellent overview of the interfacial electrochemistry of ionic liquids from both a theoretical and experimental viewpoint.

In closing, I must say that I am excited at this opportunity to work with Petr Vanýsek and the ECS staff in steering *Interface* through its third decade. I welcome your feedback and look forward to your contributions!



Vijay Ramani,
Interface Co-Editor

Vanýsek

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can recall the fun times the research group had on an outing. Writing about science and including words such as “I,” “superlative,” or “cocktail” (though preferably not in the same sentence) can be rather liberating. And overseeing such writings being published is equally invigorating.

I am truly honored to be chosen a co-editor of *Interface* and to be given the opportunity (a mandate, as I view it), to have fun while writing about science. I am looking forward to working with many of the members, who volunteer their time to contribute to our magazine. And I am looking forward to working with the staff, who through their dedication often volunteer their personal time to meet the deadlines and to accommodate the quirks of the authors and the editors. And thank you Raj, for passing on the magazine in such superlative shape!



Petr Vanýsek,
Interface Co-Editor

INTERFACE

Never in ECS history have we experienced this level of interest and importance in electrochemical and solid state science and technology programs. It's a great time to be in



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