



## With Appreciation

**A**s I write this editorial, I begin my second month as Editor of *Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters* (ESL). I am pleased and honored to serve as the second editor of this well-respected, high value journal. It is difficult to believe that at the end of June 2004, we will complete six years of ESL publication. Reflection on this accomplishment causes me to recognize many individuals whose efforts have brought us to this point.

The Electrochemical Society Publication Committee, chaired from 1996-2001 by Eric Brooman, was instrumental in the launching of ESL. In 1997, the ECS Board of Directors, under the leadership of Barry Miller, recognized the relevance of the vision and authorized the funds to begin. The driving force behind establishing ESL as a stand-alone publication was founding editor Paul Kohl. His dedication, energy, and resolve to maintain high technical quality while establishing a rapid publication journal, have been the cornerstone of ESL's success. Sincere appreciation is due Paul for his efforts on behalf of the Society, and especially its readers and authors. Clearly, my job has been made easier by Paul's hard work, enthusiasm, and advice. In addition, the members of the Editorial Board have been tireless in their contributions to and their implementation of the vision for ESL. I am most grateful for the strong foundation that they have established.

Perhaps less obvious to some of the beneficiaries of ESL are the individuals "behind the scene" at Society headquarters in Pennington. In particular, considerable credit goes to Mary Yess, Deputy Executive Director, whose creative and resourceful style of operation has contributed immensely to the advancement of ESL. Those authors, reviewers, and editors (yours truly) who have had questions on procedures or experienced electronic hiccups have received rapid and knowledgeable assistance from Paul Cooper, Assistant Director of Publications, and Andrea Guenzel, Journals Production Assistant; their patience and perseverance has been invaluable. The Society is one of the few scholarly societies that still employs its own copy editors to help maintain the style of its journals and to help novice (and veteran) authors in preparing their manuscripts. Anne Clementson, Thérèse Cooper, Cynthia Freeman, and Torrey Adams serve most capably in those roles.

Before moving ahead, it is always beneficial to see where we are at present and what our direction has been. The number of published papers/technical pages in ESL has gone from 98/284 in 1998 (6 issues) to 224/802 in 2003. My goal is the continued progress of ESL with respect to technical quality, short time to publication, and number of papers published. This can only be accomplished with the assistance of the Editorial Board, the Society journal publications group at Pennington, but most of all with the continued support of our authors, reviewers, and readers. *Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters* has the highest impact factor\* of any journal in electrochemistry, but there is room for growth. I would greatly appreciate input from you regarding how the value and impact of *Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters* can be improved.

*Dennis W. Hess*

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Editor

