



# ECS Transactions— Back to the Future

**Back to the Future**—The new ECS Transactions logo appears here, in front of the title page from the old Transactions of The American Electrochemical Society, which appeared in July 1902.

Over 103 years after we published the first issue of *Transactions of The American Electrochemical Society*, we are going to go back into ECS history to create a future publication. With all the dramatic changes in scientific publishing, it is ironic that we will revisit the type of publication established by our founding fathers, as we introduce the new publication, *ECS Transactions* (ECST), over the next six months. While there is irony in our decision to go back in order to move forward, there is good sense in it. For we are following the path set by our early luminaries such as Herbert Dow, Edward Acheson, and Thomas Edison, who were responsible for publishing the original *Transactions*, which was the “first” publication dedicated to the field of electrochemistry. With the power of modern electronic publishing and distribution tools, and a direct source of high-quality scientific content, we expect that the new *ECS Transactions* will become a significant body of knowledge for scientists engaged in solid-state and electrochemical science and technology.

Similar to the Society’s original *Transactions*, ECST will contain the full-text papers from ECS meetings, which we have been publishing in our proceedings volumes series. Many features have been added to *ECS Transactions* that our predecessors could not even have imagined, including fast searches through many volumes of content, instantaneous delivery of articles and issues, and linking to related articles in the literature. Similar to the search features, readers will find it fast and convenient to retrieve the papers from ECST, because the information will be available as single articles, bundles or packages of articles, single issues (representing an individual symposium), or as an annual subscription to the entire database. (See the article about ECST on page 9 for more details.)

*ECS Transactions* will be particularly useful to our meeting attendees. In many cases, the full length papers will be available on the first day of the meeting at which the papers are being presented. Other articles will become available to readers approximately 12 weeks after the meeting, a significant advance in publication time for this content. We will continue to publish the meeting abstracts three months in advance of the meeting; but starting this fall, after they are published, they will remain open to all readers. This represents a positive change from the old *Meeting Abstracts* online database. With an easy submission system for authors, we expect that there will be an even larger number of full length papers disseminated than we were able to publish in our old proceedings volume series.

I suspect that our founding fathers would not ever be pleased to see ECS going “backwards.” By all historical accounts, they were a very forward-thinking and even revolutionary group; but I am certain they would be pleased to see ECS advancing the science and disseminating the most current knowledge available from our meetings—faster and cheaper than ever. The first issues (hardcover books available at the meeting) of *ECS Transactions* will be published with papers from the Los Angeles meeting, so I encourage you all to take a look back to the future this October.

Roque J. Calvo  
Executive Director