DEPARTMENTS

Section News Fall 2024

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ECS Canada Section

The Canadian electrochemical community is thriving, fueled by the robust contributions of its established and emerging researchers. This vibrant spirit was on full display on June 7, when the ECS Canada Section gathered at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, to celebrate the contributions of Professor Emeritus **Daniel Bélanger**, Université du Québec à Montréal. In his keynote address, Professor Bélanger highlighted his groundbreaking work on modifying electrodes with diazonium chemistry and advancing the understanding of manganese dioxide-based supercapacitors. The event also showcased the Jacobson Award presentation by **Venkataraman Thangadurai**, University of Calgary, who discussed the latest advancements in solid state batteries. These leading researchers, along with the other eight invited speakers, exemplify the strength and richness of Canada's electrochemical research landscape.

While exchanging current research progress, the meeting also underscored the community's commitment to nurturing new talent. The ECS Canada Section proudly announced the 2024 Student Award winners: **Anu Adamson**, who presented on the impact of jelly roll tape on battery longevity, and **Shipeng Jia**, who will present at an upcoming meeting. The excellence of our emerging researchers was also highlighted by the 20 poster presentations, with **Luma Lopes**, **Muna Abdulaziz**, and **Ameer Nizami** recognized as the best presenters. Their presentations point to a bright future for Canadian electrochemistry, thanks to the dynamic and diverse young researchers poised to carry the torch forward.



ECS Canada Section meeting participants at the University of Manitoba on June 7.
Photo: Sabine Kuss



Meeting organizer and host **Christian Kuss** *(third from left) with poster presentation award winners (from left to right)* **Luma Lopes**, **Ameer Nizami**, *and* **Muna Abdulaziz**.
Photo: Mariam Odetallah



ECS Canada Section Student award winner, **Anu Adamson**, *with ECS Canada Section Chair* **Steen Schougaard**.
Photo by Christian Kuss

ECS Israel Section

The national meeting of the Israel Electrochemical Society (ISEL) was held on July 8 at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The ECS Israel Section sponsored the meeting, and many section members participated. At the meeting, members suggested renewing the Israeli Student Chapter, which will be initiated soon.

The meeting was organized by Prof. **Daniel Mandler** and Dr. **Daniel Sharon** (both from the Institute of Chemistry at Hebrew University). An unprecedented number of 240 participants from all Israeli universities, colleges, industry, and research centers took part and enjoyed lectures given by the best electrochemists in Israel. Hebrew University President Prof. **Asher Cohen** opened the meeting, followed by greetings from Prof. **Lital Alfonta** who recently replaced Prof. **Diana Golodnitzky** as ISEL president. Prof. **Doron Aurbach** updated participants on the newly opened Israel National Institute for Energy Storage supported by the Ministry of Energy.

Prof. **Yair Ein-Eli** (Technion) delivered the plenary lecture, "Plus 1, 2, 3 & 4 Oxidation States in Anode Fuels…and More." Two parallel sessions followed. Half of the lectures were invited talks given primarily by the younger generation of recently recruited faculty. Students and postdocs presented the other half. Vendors who supported the meeting also gave 10-minute scientific talks. Students delivered an incredibly high number of posters—exactly 100—during the lunch break.

The meeting ended with a special and exciting award ceremony, where ten prizes for the best posters and four awards for the best student lectures were distributed. The awards were contributed by the families of three Israeli electrochemists who had passed away: Dr. **Baruch Zinger** (Soreq Nuclear Center) who was killed by terrorists in 2001, Prof. **Judith Rishpon** (Tel Aviv University), and Prof. **Israel Rubinstein** (Weizmann Institute of Science). The "crowd favorite" lecture prize was awarded to Mr. **Pavel Savchenko** for his talk on "The Effect of the Capping Agents of Nanoparticles on Their Redox Potential." Last, but certainly not least, the meeting was dedicated to Prof. **Allen J. Bard** who mentored numerous Israeli professors and scientists.



Prof. **Yair Ein-Eli** *(Technion) presents the Israel Electrochemical Society national meeting plenary lecture, "Plus 1, 2, 3 & 4 Oxidation States in Anode Fuels… and More."*



One hundred students presented posters at the ECS Israel Section meeting.



Elad Zinger *and* **Daniel Mandler** *(left and right) present the "crowd favorite" lecture prize to Mr.* **Pavel Savchenko** *(center) for his talk on "The Effect of the Capping Agents of Nanoparticles on Their Redox Potential."*

ECS Pacific Northwest Section

The ECS Pacific Northwest (PNW) Section hosted its first Industry and Careers Day event on May 14, 2021. This inaugural event was created during the pandemic to connect prospective employees with potential companies, provide undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral researchers with mentorship, and promote careers in electrochemistry. Section Chair Prof. **Corie L. Cobb** and Secretary Prof. **Shannon Boettcher** co-organized the event. Virtual attendees participated in panels and breakout sessions with Microsoft, Boeing, Gamry, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Moses Lake Industries, Nel Hydrogen, Membrion, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Building on the successful 2021 event, the ECS Pacific Northwest Section hosted their second Industry and Careers Day on June 13, 2024. To enable wide access, attendance was free and open to both ECS and non-ECS members. In addition to returning participants Microsoft and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the section included new participants: Forge Nano Inc., Presidio Medical, Abbvie Inc., H10 Capital, and John Deere. Section Vice Chair Dr. **April Li** and Treasurer Dr. **Jerome Babauta** co-organized the event. Sessions focused on providing career advice and perspectives for undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral researchers interested in careers in the electrochemical and solid state science fields. Panel members provided insights on their personal career experiences and skills valued in potential job candidates. The event helped connect students and postdoctoral researchers with industry and national laboratory representatives and provided information on upcoming opportunities in the rapidly expanding electrochemical technology area. The section thanks the speakers for their time engaging Pacific Northwest students in career discussions!

For those interested in learning more about electrochemistry and engaging with the section, the ECS Pacific Northwest Section is partnering with the Oregon Center for Electrochemistry (OCE) for a second year to host a joint electrochemistry conference at the University of Oregon (UO) on September 19 and 20.

It is free to join The Electrochemical Society Pacific Northwest Section. However, Society membership in good standing is required. To become a member or to renew your membership, contact the ECS Community Engagement Department.



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