STUDENT NEWS

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ECS Technische Universität Ilmenau Student Chapter

The ECS Technische Universität (TU) Ilmenau Student Chapter elected new officers for 2024: Nurul Amanina Binti Omar, Chair; Lukas Esper, Vice Chair; Gisella Lucero, Secretary; and Ivan Genov, Treasurer.

The chapter held its fall 2023 meeting from October 19 to 20 at TU Ilmenau. The scientific focus was on the fundamentals of X-ray crystallography methods regarding qualitative and quantitative phase analysis as well as Rietveld refinement. Esteemed Prof. Lothar Spieß, one of the authors of *Modern X-ray diffraction: X-ray diffraction for materials scientists, physicists and chemists*, was the presenter. Prof. Spieß has long-standing experience in teaching students on these topics. Dr. Michael Stich followed with an overview of battery research methods and common mistakes.

PhD candidates in the chapter also discussed the status of their PhD projects. Marius Grad gave a talk on the surface modification of titanium-based materials through the diffusion of carbon. Gisella Lucero presented her work on the development of electrochemical sensors based on PEDOT and hollow bimetallic nanoparticles for the detection of nitrite and phenolic compounds. Lukas Grohmann and Charan Mukundan gave updates on the combination of

electroplated and CVD layers and materials for aluminum-graphite dual-ion batteries, respectively.

This spring, the chapter hosted an in-person meeting at SCHOTT, Landshut, Germany.



ECS Technische Universität Ilmenau Student Chapter members end their seminar's first day with a dinner.
Photos: Ivan Genov.



Participants gather for the 2023 ECS TU Ilmenau Student Chapter fall meeting.

ECS Indian Institute of Technology Madras Student Chapter

The ECS Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) Student Chapter organized five events in 2023. To celebrate Teacher's Day on September 5, one of their most celebrated solid state teachers, Prof. **Kanamaluru Vidyasagar**, presented a lecture on structural correlations of nonmolecular solid-state energy materials. More than 60 IITM students and faculty members, and students from other Chennai region institutes, attended the event.

From September 20 to 21, in association with the SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), the chapter held an event titled "Guest Lectures and Hands-on on Electrochemical Energy Storage." This two-day event featured guest lectures by Prof. **Jinwoo Lee** and Prof. **Seongbeen Kim**, The Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST); Prof. **Sangaraju Shanmugam**, Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology; and Prof. **Kothandaraman Ramanujam** and Prof. **Ramanathan Srinivasan**, IITM.



Cyclone Michaung causes the ECS Indian Institute of Technology Student Chapter's "Energy Summit and Pre-conference Workshop on Electrosustainability" to move online.

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More than 60 ECS Indian Institute of Technology Madras Student Chapter members, faculty, and students from other regional institutes celebrate Teacher's Day.



ECS Indian Institute of Technology Madras Student Chapter members join speakers and the SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) organizing team, (top row from left to right): Prof. Srinivasan Ramanathan, Dr. Thandavarayan Maiyalagan, SRMIST; Prof. Kothandaraman Ramanujam, Prof. Jinwoo Lee and Prof. Seongbeen Kim, KAIST; (bottom row from left to right): Sange Wangmu, Gayathri Nagalakshmi, Swati Panigrahi, Nikhil George, Mohana Priya, Anoop Naikkath, Mahendar Mainikar, Rubi, Megha Bala, and Abhlipsa Sahoo.



ECS IITMSC faculty advisor Dr. Raman Vedarajan delivers his invited lecture during the conference.



Workshop participants gather with speakers and organizers after the valedictory event.

The event also featured hands-on sessions focused on electrochemical energy storage covering zinc-ion batteries, fuel cells, and impedance spectroscopy. A "fastest finger first" quiz marked the workshop's conclusion, testing participants on the topics discussed during the lectures and hands-on sessions. Winners received cash prizes.

In December, the chapter hosted the "Energy Summit and Preconference Workshop on Electro-sustainability" on the sidelines of the IITM Energy Consortium's Energy Summit 2023 conference. Cyclone Michaung caused the event to transition to an online format at the last minute. Dr. K. Ramesha, Director of the Central

Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI), inaugurated the event and delivered the plenary lecture covering topics that included DFT calculations, lithium-ion batteries, sodium-ion batteries, and electroorganic synthesis. More than 60 participants engaged in the online workshop.

Chapter members played a pivotal role as volunteers during the Energy Summit held from December 6 to 7. Dr. Raman Vedarajan, a chapter faculty advisor, delivered an invited talk titled "Circular Solution: Giving New Life to Polymer Electrolyte Membranes from Fuel Cells and Electrolyzers" during the conference.