

Gunther Wittstock

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<http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/en/pc2/>

Candidate's statement

Electrochemical science comprises many fundamental aspects of interfaces with links into other scientific disciplines as well as applications that affect large scale industrial processes and consumer products. Likewise the membership of the International Society of Electrochemistry is diverse with respect to their scientific interests, their affiliation and geographic origin and their need of support from ISE. Serving such a community as Treasurer within the Executive Board of ISE would be a great honour for me. If elected, my emphasis would be on

- maintaining transparency about the financial aspects of the society both with respect to accountability of the Executive Committee and sustainable financial background for ongoing ISE activities.
- ensuring effective use of the financial resources of the society to the benefit of electrochemistry and ISE membership
- maintaining low memberships and reasonable meeting fees.



Biography

Gunther Wittstock was born in 1965 in Schwerin (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany). He studied chemistry at the University of Leipzig and obtained a PhD in Analytical Chemistry (with G. Werner). After stays at the University of Cincinnati (1992-1993 with W.R. Heineman) and at the Technical University of Munich (1994-95 with H.-L. Schmidt), he prepared his habilitation at the Wilhelm-Ostwald-Institute of the University of Leipzig (with R. Szargan). In 2001 he became full professor of Physical Chemistry at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg where he runs an electrochemistry group with currently 19 researchers and PhD students from 11 countries. His research interest is focused on localized interfacial charge transfer reaction which he investigates within a larger variety of application. This includes biomimetic interfaces, functional organic thin films on the basis of self-assembled monolayers, patterned organic thin films, organic-inorganic functional materials, nanoparticle assemblies at interfaces, localized electrocatalytic reactions in particular oxygen reduction reaction in different media. Recently, there has been a particular emphasis on molecular reaction in energy conversion systems. He uses scanning electrochemical microscopy which is complemented by surface spectroscopies and other microscopic techniques. Wittstock has authored 157 peer reviewed journal articles and 8 book chapters. He is fluent in German and English and has revivable knowledge of Russian and Spanish languages.

His achievements have been recognized by a grant of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Klaus Jürgen Vetter Award of ISE (selection).

Wittstock served ISE as Regional Representative for Germany (2006-2011). He headed the local branch of the Society of German Chemists (GDCh) in Oldenburg from 2003-2006 and had been vice chair of the working party of Electrochemical Analysis Methods of GDCh from 2001-2015.

He has organized or co-organized twelve symposia and conferences between 1999 and 2015, among them three Symposia on ISE Annual Meetings in Nizze, Prague and Lausanne.