

IEEE Kansai Section WIE Kick-Off Symposium

IEEE Kansai Section WIE AG

IEEE Kansai Section WIE AG was established in 2014 to provide opportunities for women researchers/engineers can communicate and promote science and engineering related careers to women in younger generation. The Kick-Off Symposium with a subtitle “Enjoy Science, Technology and Your Life!” was held to inform and broaden the activity at Osaka University Nakanoshima Center, Osaka on November 22, 2014 with a support from R10 WIE. We had 33 participants including Takako Hashimoto, R10 WIE Coordinator, who introduced the WIE activity via Skype.

The symposium opened with the message from Michiko Inoue, the first Chair of Kansai Section WIE AG, followed by the introduction of WIE activity by Takako Hashimoto and Kazuko Ishikawa, Chair of Japan Council WIE AG. The Symposium had two invited talks and group talks with a theme “Hints to enjoy science technology and life” as follows.

Moments of Switching on My Careers- A Case of Women Engineer's Career Development – by Rieko Yamamoto, Senior Director, Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd.

She introduced her career with some special moments to motivate it and also Fujitsu’s activities to promote women. One of the impressive topics was that the company recognizes the need of special supports for women’s promotion since women have much less roll models than men. In case of men, they can find adequate roll models among many predecessors and that helps them picture their future careers. Therefore, the company provides more supports for women. Her talks attracted young audience and also encouraged newly started WIE AG.

Brain•Learning Model•Economy•Psychiatric Disorder: from the Field of Interdisciplinary Research by Saori Tanaka, Researcher, ATR Brain Information Communication Research Lab. Group.

She introduced her research topics on brain science, which is related to several research areas. Among them, she introduced economy and medical related works. She uses functional MRIs to monitor brain activities and clarifies some human characters or psychiatric disorder to find effective treatment. She well arranged her talk so that even non-specialist can understand her talk. We thought she attracted young women as a roll model.

Group Talk: Hints to enjoy science technology and life

Finally, all the participants divided into groups and enjoy talks within groups, where younger generation asked several question on their career as researchers or engineers and senior generation advised them based on their experiences.

