

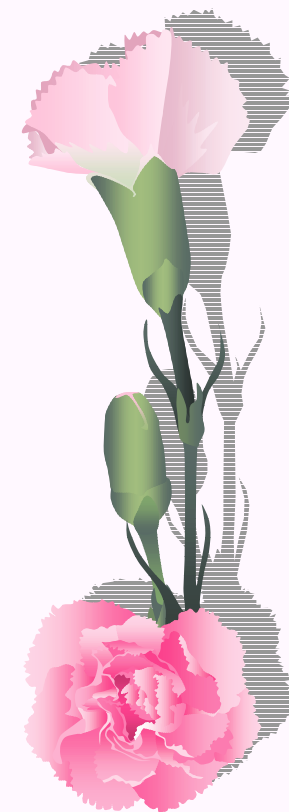
Professor

# Janina Mazierska

**Professor and Head  
Institute of Information Sciences and Technology,  
Massey University  
Palmerston North, New Zealand**



Janina Mazierska received the Ph.D. from Warsaw University of Technology, Poland, where she worked from 1972 to 1982. She spent four years with University of Jos, Nigeria, and sixteen years with James Cook University, Australia, where she served as Deputy Dean of Engineering for two years. In 2004, she joined Massey University, New Zealand, as Head of the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology. Her research interests are microwave properties of materials for wireless communications, with over 100 papers and conference presentations in this field. In 2005, she was elevated to IEEE Fellow. She will serve as Director of IEEE region 10 in 2007-2008.





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# Janina Mazierska

*“Why I Have Chosen to Study Electronic Engineering  
-a Story of a Woman Engineer from Warsaw”*



WIE Japan, Yokohama, 10/11/2005



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# Content

- Introduction
- Vote of Thanks
- History of my Life
- Women in Science and Engineering
- Poem by Rihaku
- Conclusion



WIE Japan, Yokohama, 10/11/2005



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Yet to be golden and red leaves of maples smile to me  
And the sky is perfectly blue  
How happy I am to be in the land of Kawabata  
and Kurosawa  
and to extend WIE friendship from New Zealand,  
Australia, Poland  
to all Japanese Women



WIE Japan, Yokohama, 10/11/2005



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# Vote of Thanks

I would like to thank very much the IEEE Japan Council, MTT-Japan and Professor Michiko Kuroda in particular for inviting me to this distinguished WIE meeting to share my thoughts and professional experiences



WIE Japan, Yokohama, 10/11/2005



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# IEEE WIE

- First WIE affinity group started in 1999 only
- Currently 86 chapters, 9882 members, 7026 F
- Region 10: 5 regular and 9 student chapters
- Asia-Pacific needs a WIE Coordinator on ExCom!!
- **WIE Can revolutionalise IEEE activities!!!!**



WIE Japan, Yokohama, 10/11/2005



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# Life of Janina Mazierska

- Where I am now
- My background
- History of my life
- Influential Moments and People
- Why have I chosen to be an EE?



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# Janina Mazierska: now



- Professor and Head of the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, Massey University, NZ
- Fellow of IEEE for “Contributions to Precise Measurements of High Temperature Superconducting and Dielectric Materials”
- Editor for Microwave Applications for IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity
- IEEE Region 10 Director –Elect for 2007-2008
- Recipient of Order of Poland for service to the Australian-Polish Community





# History of my Life

1915, maternal grandparents



1938, my father



Born 28 January 1948 in Warsaw,  
Poland

With my mother



1954-1965: Primary School im. St. Sempolowskiej and High School im. N Zmichowskiej  
1960-1065 had a pen-friend, Hiromi Usui, from Tokyo



1965: started a Masterate  
Degree in Electronic  
Engineering  
at Politechnika Warszawska  
(Warsaw University of  
Technology)

Extra activities at PW:

Y1: Group President,  
Y2&3: Year President,  
Y4: Student Union Secretary



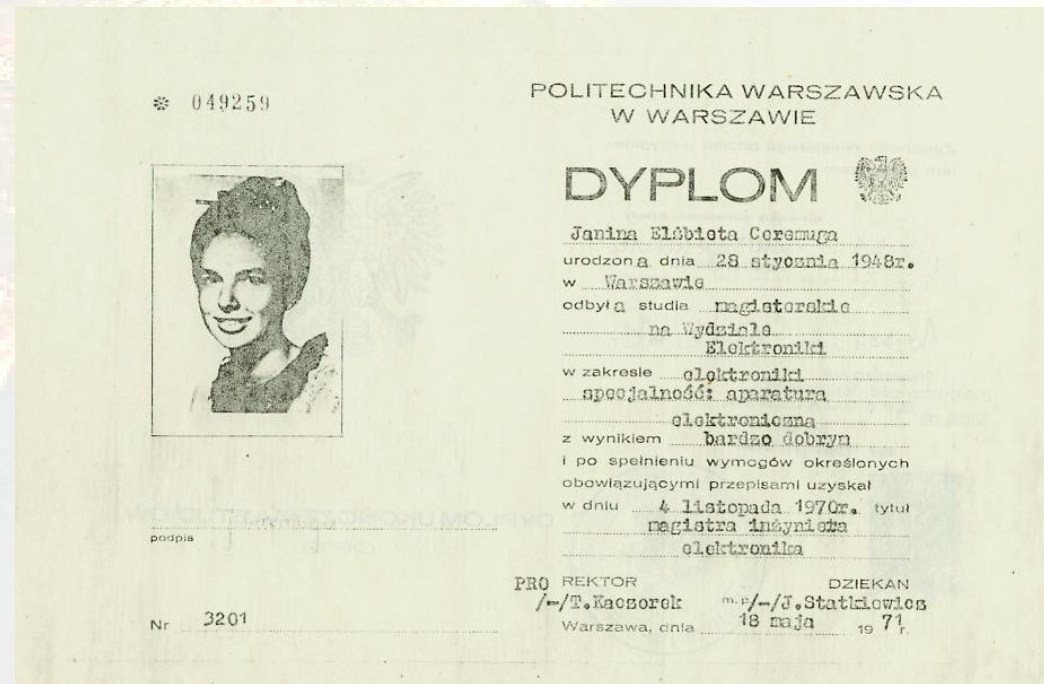


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Married in February 1969



Graduated in November 1970  
with a Master degree in Electronic  
Engineering (Instrumentation and  
Measurements and Acoustics)



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- ▽ Nov. 1970: Started working as Assistant Lecturer at Politechnika Warszawska
- ▽ Oct. 1972: enrolled into a PhD program at PW
- ▽ July 1973: my first son was born, Krzysztof
- ▽ Nov. 1977: had my first paper published





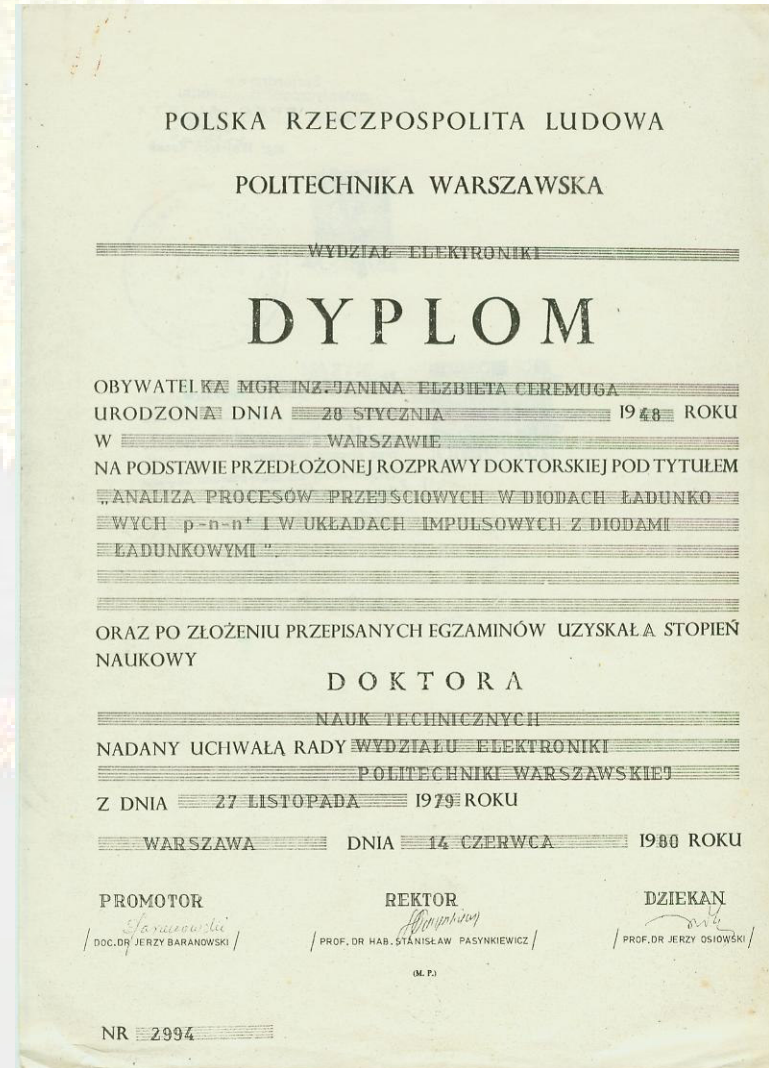
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1975: got my first Vice Chancellor Prize for research achievements

Jan. 1979: my second son Adam was born



Nov. 1979: defended my PhD thesis “ Analysis of Transient Processes in p-n-n+ Step Recovery Diodes and in Pulse Circuit with SRDs” and was awarded a PhD



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Nov 1979: was promoted to  
Assistant Professor

Jan 1980: my third son Michal  
was born



1983: moved to University of Jos,  
Nigeria to assist in introduction of  
degree in Electronics under an  
Inter Governmental Program



1983: Joined IEEE



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## 1987-2003 James Cook University, Australia

① Progressed from Lecturer to Associate Professor and Deputy Dean/Acting Dean of the Faculty of Engineering.

① Developed a Research Laboratory for Precise Measurements of Low Loss Materials

① Organised IEEE NQ Section and became active in the Region 10

① My children grew up

① I divorced (1997)





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# 2004 - Massey University, New Zealand - - time of harvest and to give back

Institute of Information Sciences and Technology:  
72 academics, \$7M budget

"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received--only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage“ -

- St Francis de Asisi



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# Influential Moments of my Life

- “If someone can do anything , you can do it, and even better” – my Father
- Visit (by chance) to Politechnika Warszawska at 16
- Incidental meeting with a PhD student
- “A women needs to work twice as hard as a man to be assessed as good as a man” – F. Ivanek
- Mentoring, International Networking, Sabbaticals at Stanford University, CA



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So why have I chosen to be  
an Electronic Engineer???

Purely by chance.....

but this decision enabled me to have an  
independent life, a very interesting career, travel  
the world and to make a small difference

**We need to create opportunities  
for young women to consider becoming a WIE**



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# Women in Science and Engineering

Many women made a significant impact in S&E throughout the centuries

But it was difficult because of no access to formal education

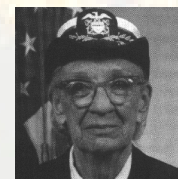
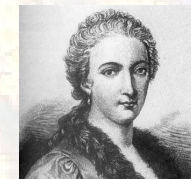
We, women of the XXI c are really privileged.....

The very first technical name recorded was male - Imhotep - the architect of the first pyramid. The second - was female - En Hedu'Anna (c.2354 BC)



Theano

Hildegard von Bingen





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# Benefits of being a WIE

- Interesting and independent job
- Good salary
- Opportunities to travel the world
- Jobs for every personality and family situation
- Women are typically very successful....



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# My Advice to Young WIEs

Always Believe in Yourself

Aim Very High

Be Persistent and do not get Discouraged Easily

Respect not only Others but Yourself too

Take Time to Relax and Enjoy



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# Poem by Rihaku

The jewelled steps are already quite white with dew  
It is so late that the dew soaks my gauze stockings  
And I let down the crystal curtains  
And watch the moon through the clear autumn



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# Conclusion

For centuries women waited  
for men to “create” a life for them

Now it is time women do it themselves

Becoming a WIE is a step in this direction



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