

WIE2016 - Future Technology developed by Women Engineers -

IEEE Japan Council Women in Engineering Affinity Group

The WIE 2016 conference with a theme "Future Technology developed by Women Engineers" was held at Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan, on October 15, 2016. This event was organized by IEEE Japan Council Women in Engineering Affinity Group and co-organized by Chuo University. The total number of participants was 70 including 22 IEEE members.

After welcome message from *Prof. Toshikazu Kato*, Vice-President of Chuo University, we received greetings from *Prof. Toshitaka Tsuda*, Committee Member of IEEE Japan Council.

Emi Yano, IEEE Japan Council WIE Chair, introduced Japan WIE activities and WISE Chuo program.



Keynote speech and special panel session: "Women's contribution to resilient city design and management."

Panelist: *Dr. Kumiko Suda*, Kajima Corporation and *Mr. Hironobu Narisawa*, Mayor of Bunkyo City Office. Moderator: *Prof. Takako Hashimoto*, IEEE WIE International Chair

Opening Talk "Support the next 100 years of civil engineering with Dobo-jyo"

It is the Government's goal to increase the representation of female leaders to 30% by 2020 (the project is called 2030). However the number of women in civil engineering is currently peaked at 2.5%. *Dr. Suda* introduced her career and the project to increase the number of female engineers in Kajima Cooperation. She encouraged people to discover what they are passionate about and integrate that into their work, set goals and never give up until you achieve them.



Panel Discussion "Women's contribution to resilient city design and management"

Mayor Narisawa first introduced "Dobo-jyo working" in Bunkyo ward and the establishment of maternal and infant first-aid station for disaster relief as part of strong urban development. After his talk, the panelists discussed the benefits of involving women in developing social infrastructure.

The audience posed the following question to the panel; “With respect to the target of 2030, we see that the ratio of female students is still less than 30% of the student population. Do you have any good ideas?” The panelists replied that parents play an important role in influencing their child's decision to pursue their studies. They also pointed out that the role of men is important, and we must have the role models like Iku-men and Iku-boss.



Technical Speech: Mobile Robot Telephone “RoBoHoN”

Ms. Miho Kagei, Sharp Corporation

Ms. Kagei described the technical progress of Sharp’s latest mobile robot telephone “RoBoHoN” released in May 2016, and also shared her experiences on leading the development division responsible for “RoBoHoN”.



Technical Speech: How to protect yourself from cyber threats - from targeted emails to training female hackers

Ms. Haruka Suzuki, LAC Corporation

Ms. Suzuki talked about the growing threat of cyber-attacks and the damages they cause. In her talk, she described how social engineering is used domestically and internationally, to obtain private information by attacking vulnerabilities in human psychology and behavior.



She also introduced “CTF for GIRLS”, an ongoing project aimed at training female hackers to thwart cyber-attacks.

At the closing of part 1, we also had a special speech by *Ms. Kayoko Fukushima*, Director of UN Women Japan Liaison Office.

Round table talk

Participants of various ages, from students to working people, exchanged their opinions on various issues regarding their experiences in different areas apart from their profession. Not only women, many men also took part in the table discussion. Rich

discussions were led by them from various viewpoints.



Topics:

- 1) How to widen the career path of Women Engineers?
- 2) How to promote a new project to flourish?
- 3) Increase the number of Female Engineers
- 4) Global leadership as a non-native person
- 5) Understanding diversity & turn it from disadvantage to advantage
- 6) Increased efficiency by remote work
- 7) Career and Work-Life balance
- 8) Recommendation of parallel career

Finally, *Natsuko Noda*, Secretary of IEEE JC WIE made closing remarks.

At this event, we distributed flyers introducing the activities of WIE and YP, and pamphlets introducing IEEE; operated a WIE corner in the reception area; and recruited new members to WIE.

Through this event, we were able to build networks of women engineers, researchers and students and to discuss the future technologies that women cultivate to the world.

Group Photo

