

Event Report: 2022 IEEE CASS JJC WiCAS Event

Shintaro Arai, Organizing Chair of CASS JJC WiCAS Meeting

Event Name: 2022 IEEE CASS JJC WiCAS Blended Meeting: Let's find a work-life balance after the COVID-19 pandemic for young researchers and students

Event Date: December 21, 2022

Event Venue: University (Suita Campus)
Graduate School of Information Science and Technology (IST)
Building A, 2nd floor
(1-1 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan)

Organizer: IEEE Circuits and Systems Society Japan Joint Chapter

On December 21, 2022, IEEE CASS JJC organized a WiCAS event “Let's find a work-life balance after the COVID-19 pandemic for young researchers and students” in a blended format (in-person and online). The WiCAS has been engaged in various activities to empower women researchers, with women researchers playing a central role in these activities. In Japan, there is still a significant difference in the way of thinking between men and women regarding gender equality. Especially, males are more indifferent to this issue. We organized this meeting because now is the best time to think about life planning with your partner with whom you will share the future, as the COVID-19 infection has changed how each of us works, even if only unintentionally.

Figures 1-7 show the scene on the day of the event. Tables 1 and 2 show the schedule of the day and the number of participants. First of all, Prof. Yoko Uwate (2022 WiCAS Chair, Tokushima University) online introduced WiCAS & DEI.

In this meeting, we had three invited speakers. The first invited speaker was Prof. Misa Fujita, Chukyo University. The title of her talk was “Recommendations for Ph.D.” Prof. Fujita is a young researcher who received her degree in March 2020. Based on her experience, she introduced students to the good points and cautions of entering a doctoral program.

After Prof. Fujita's talk, we gathered the Ph.D. recipients on the stage to ask questions from the students. They politely answered questions from the students.

The second invited speaker was Prof. Tetsushi Fujimoto, Doshisha University. The title of his talk was “Career Development Support for Female Researchers -Prospects and Problems-.” He introduced issues and problems surrounding female researchers, such as the imposter phenomenon, and how we should solve these problems.



Fig. 1: Prof. Yoko Uwate.



Fig. 2: Prof. Misa Fujita.



Fig. 3: Discussion with Ph.D. Recipients.



Fig. 4: Prof. Tetsushi Fujimoto.



Fig. 5: Dr. Riichi Kudo.



Fig. 6: Free Discussion.



Fig. 7: Group Photo.

Table 1: Time Schedule.

Time	Event
14:00 – 14:10	Introduction of WiCAS & DEI Speaker: Prof. Yoko Uwate (2022 WiCAS Chair, Tokushima University)
14:10 – 14:35	Invited Talk 1: Recommendations for Ph.D. Speaker: Prof. Misa Fujita (Chukyo University)
14:35 – 14:50	Discussion with Ph.D. Recipients
14:50 – 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:00	Invited Talk 2: Career Development Support for Female Researchers -Prospects and Problems- Speaker: Prof. Tetsushi Fujimoto (Doshisha University)
16:00 – 16:10	Coffee Break
16:10 – 16:35	Invited Talk 3: Case of the child-rearing for male office workers Speaker: Dr. Riichi Kudo (NTT Network Innovation Laboratories)
16:35 – 17:00	Free discussion

Table 2: Number of Participants.

Category	# of Participants (# of IEEE members)		Total
	In-person	Online	
Regular	10 (9)	32 (25)	42 (34)
Student	14 (7)	12 (4)	26 (11)
			68 (45)

The third invited speaker was Dr. Riichi Kudo, NTT Network Innovation Laboratories. The title of his talk was “Case of the child-rearing for male office workers.” He is a researcher working for a company. And he has three children. He introduced how men should be involved in child-rearing while working, focusing on his current child-rearing. The meeting ended with a discussion between the invited speakers and audience members after the talks.

All three invited talks were very lively, and the discussion was endless. CASS JJC hopes to continue to hold events related to WiCAS in the future. Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to IEEE CAS WiCAS for providing us with the fund to hold this event.