

WIE Newsletter

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WIE Mentor's Message

Hello IEEE and WIE Bangalore community. Am excited to share this platform with you to grow in your careers and in life. As a long time member of IEEE and WIE, I have seen this institution grow from strength to strength. I have been witness to members imbibe many life skills along with a knowledge of the ever changing technology. Latest in the series of victories, the IEEE UVCE student branch has won the 2018 Region 10 Education Activities Group Award. Congratulations to the team.

I am also excited to inform that this year the WIE Bangalore section will have the privilege of hosting the International Leadership Summit in August 2019 and the WIE-CON 2019 in collaboration with the Bangladesh section in December 2019. I urge you to take all these opportunities to network, volunteer, and participate in both the local and global IEEE WIE activities. This will enable you to grow as individuals and as a community.

Prof. P Deepa Shenoy

Editor's Piece

Recently I came across an article on **Research Matters** a Bangalore based Research Centre **Gubbi Labs**. The article was titled, *Why women continue to be under-represented in academic careers?* It was co-authored by Prof. Rohini Godbole, a Professor at the Centre of High Energy Physics, Indian Institute of Science. According to AASSA, the proportion of women engaged in science remains roughly consistent from the Undergraduate (~40%) to the Ph.D. level (~30%). However, it drops significantly post this with only about 10% - 15% women holding faculty positions in academic institutes. The same holds true for career women as well. Representation of women at higher management in companies is abysmal.

Most working women, at some stage, will have to precariously balance a competitive and demanding career with other priorities like marriage, children and family responsibilities. As Prof. Godbole says, "It is this overlap of time periods which are critical from both professional and personal point of view, which turns out to be a real speed breaker in case of scientists compared to other professions."

How do you think we can change this situation? I have some thoughts which I would share in the coming months. But I would like to hear from you.

For more about the article, here's the link:
<https://researchmatters.in/article/why-women-continue-be-under-represented-academic-careers>



IEEE Bangalore Section WIE Affinity Group



Activities conducted in February

- The WIE webpage was successfully launched. Please check out <http://wie.ieeebangalore.org/>
- A webex WIE EXECOM meeting was held on 17th February 2019 to discuss the various activities for 2019
- IEEE Branch Councilors meet was held at RVCE Bangalore on 24th February 2019.
- The WIE networking event **Parichaya** was held successfully on 24th February 2019 at RVCE, Bangalore. Over 70 members were present on this happy occasion.
- The first discussion for conducting ILS 2019 was held. The dates have been confirmed as 30th and 31st August 2019.
- **Ottige Kali** a flagship program is being designed under the leadership of Prof. Anandi Giridharan, IISc. This program aims to empower students of government schools with many life and technical skills.
- A whatsapp group of faculty advisors was created by Dr. Ashwini Holla. This is presently providing support to 19 student branches.
- An informative talk titled "Innovation – Developing a Growth Mindset" was given by Dr. Kumudhini Ravindra at Amrita School of Engineering on 19th February 2019. The event was organized by their IEEE Student Branch and WIE Affinity Branch.

Wish you all a Wonderful Women's Day on 8th March 2019. Do something fun for yourselves. Let your hair down and take it easy for a change. Life is busy as it is. It's important once in a while to just stop and take a deep breath; to take in the sights; to breathe in the fragrance of the fresh grass or roses; to dance with your little ones; or just be.

We would like to hear from you. Keep those messages and pictures coming. Share your ideas and thoughts. This is your newsletter.

Regards,
WIE Team