

Women in Circuits and Systems (WiCAS) at LASCAS 2022 March 24, 2022

A Women in Circuits and Systems event took place during the 13th Latin American Symposium on Circuits and Systems (LASCAS), the flagship conference for Region 9 of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society (CASS).

The LASCAS 2022 WiCAS event was held on March 2nd, in the city of Santiago (Chile). The event was organized by Renata Mella (QA Engineer, Synopsys) and Paola Yang (R&D Engineer, Synopsys). Due to the situation of

COVID-19 the Organizing Committee decided to have a hybrid event. A few of the local undergraduate and post-grad university students who attended received financial aid thanks to the funds granted by WiCAS.

The WiCAS event focused on the theme of renewable energy and climate change, it included a keynote presentation, a panel discussion, and social activities.

Dr. Yoko Uwate (Tokushima University, Japan) provided an introduction of WiCAS-YP organization. During

WiCAS-YP Steering Committee

Women in Circuits and Systems (WiCAS) supports career development for **IEEE CASS members**, particularly women, minorities, and those at early career stages.

WiCAS + **GoLD** = **WiCAS-YP**

IEEE Young Professionals is the group of IEEE members and volunteers who have graduated from **their first professional degree within the past 15 years**.

IEEE CASS Bylaws (Feb. 2014)

Figure 1. WiCAS-YP introduction by Yoko Uwate.

this introduction, Dr. Uwate delivered an inspiring message to women and remarked importance of this type of events.

The keynote section titled “The Next-Generation Power Electronics Interfaces for Green Applications”

was presented by Dr. Sanjida Moury (Lakehead University, Canada). The presentation was regarding the subject of the role of power electronics interface in power generation from renewable resources and electric vehicles, the challenges we are currently facing in designing



Figure 2. Panelists: Sanjida Moury (top left), Patricia Hidalgo (top right) and Claudia Rahmann (bottom).



Figure 3. WiCAS organizers: Renata Mella (left) and Paola Yang (right).



Figure 4. Attendees at Novohotel Las Condes in Santiago, Chile.

The panelists shared their insights and personal experiences in academia and reflected on the value of inclusion and diversity in STEM areas.

power electronics interfaces, and the strategies we are taking to address those challenges.

The panel discussion, in addition to Dr. Sanjida Moury's, incorporated the participation of Dr. Patricia Hidalgo (University of California, San Diego, USA) and Dr. Claudia Rahmann (University of Chile, Chile). This section covered topics such as the current situation and challenges of renewable energies, their impact on climate change. Moreover, the panelists shared their insights and personal experiences in academia and reflected on the value of inclusion and diversity in STEM areas.

A WiCAS lunch and a networking session successfully took place at the beginning and end of the event respectively. In-person attendees had the opportunity to meet

and interact with each other. Positive feedback was given by the attendees during the networking session.

The WiCAS co-chairs want to express their gratitude to the LASCAS general chair, Dr. Victor Grimblatt, and the conference organizing committee, for the technical support received in planning and execution of the WiCAS event. The WiCAS co-chairs also thank the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society for the financial support to this event, and Dr. Yoko Uwate, for her personal involvement in the WiCAS program. Finally, a special thanks of gratitude to the panelists Dr. Sanjida Moury, Dr. Patricia Hidalgo and Dr. Claudia Rahmann for their great contribution.

Many thanks to Renata Mella and Paola Yang who contributed to this report.