

2016 Meeting of the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists – Asia Pacific Nation Networks (INWES APNN)

WOMEN ENGINEERS SECTION



reported by
*Ir. Assoc. Professor
 Dr Leong Wai Yie,
 Chairman,
 Women Engineers Section.*

This year, the annual Meeting of The International Network of Women Engineers & Scientists – Asia Pacific Nation Networks (INWES-APNN) 2016 was held in Wellington, New Zealand, on 17 August. The meeting, hosted by the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand, was represented by all Chair Ladies of Women Engineers and Scientists from the Asia-Pacific region.

The occasion was graced by Kong-Joo Lee (President of INWES), Elena Trout (President of IPENZ), Susan Freeman-Greene (Chief Executive of IPENZ) and Tracey Ayre (Organising Chair).

The Chair Ladies presented their country's reports and shared valuable information on issues relating to national policies facing woman scientists and engineers. They also discussed ways to connect women engineers, locally and internationally. They hoped to establish strong networking, encourage women engineers to participate in engineering activities and make contributions to society as

well as enable a platform for self-development and continuous learning.

Ir. Assoc. Professor Dr Leong Wai Yie, Chairman of IEM Women Engineers Section, presented the IEM WE yearly activities and initiatives which included reports of technical seminars, charity events and corporate connections organised.

The networking meeting would definitely play a key role in guiding INWES regional networks (Africa, Europe and other regions) to reach another milestone. At the meeting, the committee expressed its intention to bid for the APNN meeting in 2018 and the International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES) in 2020.

Assoc. Prof. Leong, also Chair Lady of INWES APNN Working Group of Gender Equality and Governmental Act, presented the joint strategies and initiatives for gender equality by Japan, South Korea, Malaysia and other ASEAN countries.



The Chair Ladies of Asia Pacific Nation Network.



Tomoko Numazawa from Japan presenting the country report.

It was also noted that the KWSE/APNN Young Women Scientists Camp & Smart Sister Workshop would be held in October 2016.

INWES is a global organisation network of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) with members from over 60 countries. While the field of engineering appears male-dominated, the landscape is rapidly changing and there is now growing support for the training of more women engineers in Asia. The Chair Ladies of INWES-APN will continue their work to highlight the contribution of women in Engineering and Science. We will meet again in Yokohama (Japan) in 2017. ■
