



Women in Microwaves

A Multidimensional, Multiscale, Multifunction Life: IWS2018 WIM Session

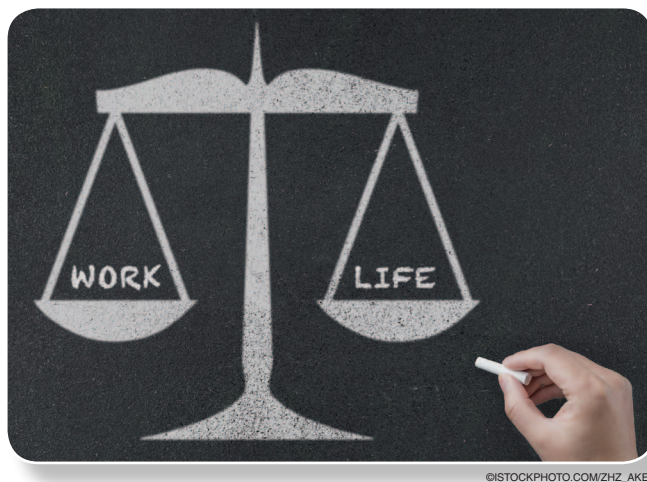
■ Wenquan Che and Ye Han

The 2018 International Wireless Symposium (IWS2018), part of 2018 China Microwave Week (CMW2018), was held in Chengdu, China, on 7–9 May 2018. CMW2018 was well attended, with approximately 1,500 participants. Along with the conference, a special Women in Microwaves (WIM) and Wireless session, organized by the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) WIM subcommittee, was held the morning of 9 May.

Over 30 people attended this event, including four panelists from Hong Kong and Mainland China, Prof. Ke Wu and Prof. Maurizio Bozzi from the MTT-S Administrative Committee, and several young female professionals and graduate students (Figure 1).

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The wife of the German Consul in Chengdu was also present for this special session.

The session was divided into three parts: an invited talk, a warm-up speech, and a panel discussion. The session focused on inspiring and motivating female professionals to continue their careers as well as to cultivate an environment for the female engineers' and researchers' professional growth in both the academic and corporate sectors. In addition, it provided a platform for discussing the challenges that both male and female professionals face as part of contemporary multidimensional, multiscale, and multifunction life.

Dr. Wenquan Che, WIM subcommittee chair and organizer of the event, delivered a welcome greeting to attendees [Figure 2(a)] and also thanked Dr. Ye Han for her efforts in preparing the session. Dr. Lin Dai [Figure 2(b)] from the City University of Hong Kong was invited to deliver an interesting talk, "Massive Random Access: Fundamental Limits, Optimal Design, and Applications to M2M Communications,"

which focused on providing satisfactory communication access efficiency in new-generation wireless communications. Dr. Che then gave a short talk, "Observations Behind the Gender Gap," in which she shared her viewpoint about the divide between male and female professionals. Dr. Che said that, while there are intrinsic differences between the two genders, one is neither better nor worse, and both are equally important to society.

During the panel session, the three panelists—Dr. Lin Dai, Dr. Xiuping Li, and Dr. Ying Liu—shared their experiences about work–life balance [Figure 2(c)]. Prof. Wu and Prof. Bozzi



Figure 1. A group photo of some attendees at the CMW2018 WIM session.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 2. (a) Dr. Wenquan Che delivering the welcoming address and (b) acknowledging the participation of Dr. Lin Dai. (c) The three panelists sharing experiences about work-life balance.



(a)



(b)

Figure 3. Panel discussions led by (a) Prof. Ke Wu and (b) Prof. Maurizio Bozzi.

(Figure 3) also shared some of their thoughts and encouraged young female professionals to focus more on their own interests and explore their potential talents rather than focus on gender differences.

The session sparked debate and fruitful exchanges. The attendees enjoyed the panelists sharing their advice, important for either men or women: we should choose what we want and be who we want to be. Most importantly, we need

to focus on wise choices and then work hard for our own interests and dreams. The essence of our life is happiness, both physically and mentally, in addition to our professional careers.

