



## INWES Member Newsletter #2 – April 2009

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### Editorial

Dear INWES Members,  
dear Readers,

thank you very much for your positive feedback on the first issue of the INWES Member Newsletter.

We are glad to present this second issue of the INWES Member Newsletter. There is a lot to report on the current activities of INWES.

The Inaugural Meeting of INWES Africa is announced. And KWSE invites to BIEN 2009, a conference of the INWES Asian Network.

The Programme Projects Committee of INWES is looking for volunteers. And Monique Frize, Past President of INWES, presents one of the first INWES Projects: an essay competition for girls in Nigeria.

The next (printed) INWES Newsletter is planned for this summer. What's the difference between INWES Newsletter and the INWES Member Newsletter? It is explained inside.

We continue to introduce the INWES team, this time the General Secretary Nadia Ghazzali.

Enjoy!

We'd appreciate it if you forwarded the Newsletter to members of your organisation, colleagues, or persons interested in INWES and its issues.

Petra Mayerhofer

Contact: [petra.mayerhofer@dibev.de](mailto:petra.mayerhofer@dibev.de)



## News from the President

Good News! The **INWES Institute** Application for Charity Status in Canada has been accepted at last. This should enable INWES to raise money for the Institute which will run educational and research projects. In fact, we have just completed our first project with the Institute – an essay competition for schoolgirls, which has just been successfully piloted in Nigeria. Monique Frize, Gail Mattson and Claire Deschênes are heading up the Institute.

One of the things we need to concentrate on this year is our programmes. Although the educational and research ones will be left to the Institute, any others will be done by INWES itself. Yvette Ramos, who chairs the **Programme and Projects Committee** (PCC), is writing about this in more detail in this newsletter, so see if you can help us in any way to devise and carry through these important schemes to achieve our aims and objectives.

A **Regional Conference** is to be held in **Korea** in August this year organised by the Association of Korean Women Scientists and Engineers. All details are on the website ([www.inwes.org](http://www.inwes.org)). One of the declarations of ICWES14 was to set up Regional Networks, and this Conference will discuss the formation of a Regional Network in Asia. Please try to come, especially those of you in Asia, so that you can network and get to know the

people in your region. We have had conferences in Korea in the past which have all been extremely good, so we have high hopes that this will also be very successful. The annual Board Meeting will also be held during that Conference.

On the same subject, a meeting is to be held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in April to discuss a **Regional Network in Africa**. This has been arranged by Issié Yvonne Gueye, and hopes to bring together people from all over the continent. If anyone is interested (the Conference is on 23 – 25 April) please get in touch with the website or the office for information.

Monique Moutaud and I had a very positive meeting in Paris with Barry Greer and Tahani Youssef, President and Director General of **World Federation of Engineering Organisations**. We have discussed our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and are drafting a new one out at the moment. This MOU tries to formalise as far as possible the fact that we will help each other whenever this is appropriate.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the next few months, especially those of you in Asia.

## Inaugural Meeting INWES AFRICA

### **Announcement**

During the 14th International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES14), at Lille, France, organized by “Femmes Ingenieures” de France, with the sponsorship of INWES, the final resolution was taken as related

to the regionalization of INWES. INWES ASIA already exists.

African Women Engineers and Scientific Associations from Côte d’Ivoire (Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Morocco/Canada, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Congo (DRC), Senegal and present at that conference, signed a declaration, giving mandate to Côte d’Ivoire (Ivory Coast), to organ-



ize the regional meeting to launch INWES AF-RICA.

To implement this resolution, we are pleased to inform you and invite you, at the **inaugural meeting to take place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from April 23 to 25, 2009**, with the theme **"What role for women engineers and scientists in the Developing Africa"**.

This first international meeting to be organised, by the Ivorian society of women engineers and scientist (CIFISATS), represents a great opportunity to create an African platform of exchanges between women engineers and scientists of the continent.

For more information and inscription, contact:

Valentine YAPI-GNAORE (Ph.D.)  
President of Scientific committee of the meeting  
Tel:(225)05 46 27 86 / 01 19 86 11  
Email:evayapi11@yahoo.fr

Issié Yvonne GUEYE  
INWES DIRECTOR for French Speaking Africa  
Secretary General of CIFISATS  
President of the executive committee  
Home: 225 22 41 13 27 / 225 22 42 09 04/07 89 03 30  
Skype: guguisis1  
Email: egitecs@aviso.ci/cifisats@yahoo.fr

## BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network

### Invitation

On behalf of the organizing committee, it is with great pleasure that we invite you to **'BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network'**, which will be held in Busan, Korea from August 27 to 29, 2009.

'BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network' will integrate special sessions on Gender, Leadership, Policy and Education and social programs for human networking as well as parallel scientific sessions. We hope BIEN 2009 will provide women scientists and engineers in Asia with an opportunity to share information on their multidisciplinary expertise so that the human network of not only in Asia but all around the world can create a synergistic effect by converging the various technologies each participant is involved in.

The theme of this conference is **"Women in Green Technology towards Sustainable Asia"**. Increased global concerns for sustainable growth have drawn attention to the needs for research and development for Green Technology. The unprecedented expansion of interest during a relatively short period of time has pushed this field to the forefront of national policy and research in many countries, and the role of women scientists in this field is crucial, and more important than ever. We wish that this conference can serve as an occasion to share information and knowledge based on this theme.

BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network  
*"Women in Green Technology towards a Sustainable Asia"* 

BIEN 2009 is the succession of the following two conferences: BIEN 2003 and ICWES13. 'BIEN 2003: 1st Women's Conference on BIEN-Technology' was held in Daejeon, Korea in 2003 as an international event where more than 500 women from over 20 countries attended. The INWES interim board meeting held at that time became the impetus for ICWES13 which was successfully held in Seoul, Korea in 2005.

We anticipate the success of BIEN 2009, and ask for your active participation and support once again.

We look forward to welcoming you all at the 'BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network' Conference.

Sincerely yours,

Mi-Sook Won, PhD  
BIEN2009 Chair  
President, The Association of Korea  
Woman Scientists and Engineers

Byung Joo Min, Ph.D  
Chair, Organizing Committee



## Conference Information

Dates: August 27-29, 2009

Venue: The Westin Chosun Busan, Korea

Language: The official language is English, which will be used in all presentations and printed materials.

BIEN: Bio-, Information, Environment and Nano-Technology

Organized by The Association of Korean Woman Scientists and Engineers (KWSE)

Supported by INWES

Sponsored by National Institute for Supporting Women in Science and Technology (NIS-WIST) & by Busan Metropolitan City

Homepage: [www.kwse-inwesasia.org](http://www.kwse-inwesasia.org)

## Important Dates

Submission Deadline for Abstracts:  
May 31, 2009

Acceptance Notification: June 20, 2009

## News from ICWES15



The 15th International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES15) will be held from 19-22 July 2011 in Adelaide, Australia.

The theme for ICWES15 is **Women in Engineering, Science and Technology – Tomorrow's Solutions Today**. This will be an opportunity to discuss innovative engineering, science and technological practices and projects and to network with colleagues in business, academia and government.

**Women in Engineering, Science and Technology – Tomorrow's Solutions Today** will impact on a cross-section of the profession of engineering, science and technology. Taking this message to the wider community, this event will seek to incorporate a number of discussion forums:

- Innovations and research in the various fields of engineering, science and technology.
- New ideas and solutions to contemporary problems including climate change, water, energy and sustainability.
- Gender Issues and the challenges of attracting women engineers and scientists.
- Industry commitments to diversity and equality in the workplace.

An INWES Asia-Pacific Network Forum will be held in conjunction with ICWES15. This will provide focused discussion on issues of particular interest to Australia, New Zealand and countries in Asia and the Pacific.

ICWES15 is hosted by Engineers Australia.

See [www.icwes15.org](http://www.icwes15.org) for further information and for preregistration.



## INWES Newsletter 2009

The next INWES Newsletter will be prepared in time for the conference 'BIEN 2009: INWES Asian Network' in Seoul from 27-29 August.

The INWES Newsletter is published once or twice a year. With this Newsletter we want to inform the general public and international organisations and companies about the objectives and activities of INWES and its members.

The INWES Newsletter is printed, so that it can be distributed at conferences and workshops but it is also available via the INWES homepage ([www.inwes.org](http://www.inwes.org)). The next INWES Newsletter will be already Issue 1 of Volume 5.

INWES Newsletter and INWES Member Newsletter serve slightly different purposes. The INWES Member Newsletter is aimed primarily at the INWES Members. It is more frequently produced than the INWES Newsletter and it reports also intermediate results and INWES-internal issues. To make this possible texts are not ed-

ited. Furthermore, (so far) photos are omitted so that a distribution via email is not hampered by the file size.

In summary: the INWES Newsletter is polished and more lasting while the INWES Member Newsletter is intended as fast, but sooner outdated.

Many texts will first appear in the INWES Member Newsletter and later, revised and enhanced by photos, in the INWES Newsletter.

We invite you to contribute to both Newsletters.

Please send contributions to the next INWES Newsletter to Yolanda George ([ygeorge@aaas.org](mailto:ygeorge@aaas.org)) until 15 June.

Furthermore, please let us know if you'd like copies of the INWES Newsletter to distribute at conferences, etc.

## Programmes Projects Committee (PPC)

Dear INWES members,

We are recruiting competencies (yours!) for our PPC the Programme & Project Committee. Please fill in and send your application form to [ramos.itu@wanadoo.fr](mailto:ramos.itu@wanadoo.fr) before 30th April 2009

**we need YOU !!!**

By Yvette Ramos  
Vice-President INWES PPC

**PPC Mandate:** PPC identifies potential programs and projects aligned with INWES mission and vision with a worldwide scope. PPC will make recommendations to the INWES Executive Board in order to achieve the projects with

efficiency and effectiveness for INWES members.

**Methods and Tools:** Our basic principle is the optimal couple of strategic thinking (aligning our projects and programs to the goals of INWES and donors) and planning (action).

**What's next in 2009?** Selection of the PPC Management team by May / Building the PPC brochure by June / drafting PPC map by July / Presenting PPC strategy at INWES Regional Conference end of August in Korea / Building Catalogue end of year.



Programmes  
Projects  
Committee

# VOLUNTEER Application Form

PLEASE PLACE  
  
YOUR PHOTO

**FIRST NAME :**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SURNAME – FAMILY NAME :**

\_\_\_\_\_

Male

Female

**Born (year) :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTRY :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:**-----@-----

**Skype account (if so)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile phone :** +

**YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS**  
(good in written)

-  
-  
-  
-  
-

**YOUR PROFILE : BACKGROUND AND KEY AREAS OF EXPERTISE (JOINT RESUME IS POSSIBLE) IN ALIGNMENT WITH FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES (see below)**

-  
-  
-  
-

**PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH ACTIVITIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP US IN :**

- IDENTIFYING PROJECT DONORS WITHIN YOUR COUNTRY- REGION
- ORGANIZING EVENTS (WORKSHOPS, DONORS MEETINGS, ...) FOR PPC
- WRITING AND SUBMITTING PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR PPC
- TAKING RESPONSIBILITIES IN PROJECTS COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT FOR PPC
- ELABORATING COMMUNICATION & MARKETING TOOLS FOR PPC
- CREATING, MAINTAINING AND INTERACTING A DEDICATED PPC PLATFORM (INTERNET)

**PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR MOTIVATION TO US IN THE ACCOMPANYING EMAIL AND SEND THE COMPLETED FORM BEFORE 30th APRIL 2009 BACK TO [ramos.itu@wanadoo.fr](mailto:ramos.itu@wanadoo.fr)**



## An Essay Competition for girls: test case in Nigeria

Story by: Monique Frize  
(extracts from the report by the President of APAGESTE and leader of the project: Okon Uduakobong Aniebiat, Ph.D)

As President of the Inwes Education and Research Institute, it is a great pleasure for Claire Deschênes and I to report on the success of this project carried out by the Association for promoting African Girls in Engineering, Science and Technology Education ( APAGESTE ), a non governmental and non-profit Organization registered in Nigeria, is a member of INWES since 2005. The goals of that organisation is to motivate, attract and retain girls and young women in STEM through facilitating gender inclusive STEM Education, justified by the under representation of girls and women in STEM disciplines and careers in Nigeria.

The project's goal was to award scholarships to aspiring college or university girls in STEM disciplines within 16 -19 years of age in Nigeria. The project was financially supported by the INWES Education and Research Institute in Canada. The project was carried out in Akwa Ibom State (AKS), covering the three senatorial district of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria. Applications were invited from qualified Nigerian girls which was advertised in the Pioneer Newspaper. The call for the Essay competition contained the following points: Why do you want to follow a course of study toward a career in STEM (required length 800 words) and provide a short biography of a woman scientist or engineer from Nigeria (400 words). Applications were received from two categories of young women aspiring to attend university: -Final year secondary school students and year one and two university students, all within the stipulated age limit of 16 to 19 years. Seventy nine (79) essays were received: 34, 23, and 22 from Eket, Uyo, and Ikot. Ekpene Senatorial Districts, respectively, in the secondary school category; eleven (11) essays were received from the three universities.

Selections were made at two levels, firstly at the district level without verbal presentations and at the final competition with verbal presentation of

the essays by the competitors attending the award Ceremony. The marking was done by Nigerian Female Scientists and Engineers selected from participating higher institutions. The results at the senatorial districts level were merged and 27 girls (secondary) were selected as winners at the district level. Winners were contacted and the top six in the secondary category were invited to present their essays in the award ceremony for a final selection. The top three girls from the university category were selected for presentation of their essays.

The final award ceremony took place in the Girls High School Ikot Ibiok( GHS), Eket in AKS of Nigeria. It was a one-day program supported by Akwa Ibom State Ministry of Education and State Secondary Education Board, Bethesda Family Clinic, Friends and Associates of APAGESTE and was attended by representatives of government establishments and the special guest of was the Honorable Commissioner for Science and Technology Mr. Samuel John Effanga. The occasion was hosted by Mrs. Rose Benson, head of chemistry Department and Science teachers in GHS. There were 2,043 girls attending from 16 secondary schools and three universities. Seventy- four (74) female scientists from academia and industrial sector were in attendance as well as male Science teachers/ Mentors.

The chair, Dr. Mary P. Udoh, urged girls to develop a positive image and to have confidence in themselves to attain their maximum potential in their chosen career in STEM. She thanked the APAGESTE President and its members for the initiatives employed by APAGESTE to motivate, attract and retain Nigerian girls in STEM. The Honourable Commissioner for Science and Technology, Mr. Samuel Effanga, encouraged the girls to work hard and assured them that they could perform better than their male counterparts in science-based disciplines and chosen careers if choose to do so. He named Nigerian women who have won laurels and noble awards in areas of STEM and challenged the young girls to look upon these women as models.



After the verbal presentations, the marks were added to the written competitions and the final scores were determined. The top six winners from the secondary school category and top three from the university category received cash prizes and certificates were provided to the winning schools. The remaining twenty-one winners at the district level received consolation prizes, and non winners were given calculators, Set Squares or books to motivate them in future years.

### Results of Final Competition – Secondary Category

Pos.	Name/Age	Score	School
1 <sup>st</sup>	Idorenyin F. Frank / 16	80%	G. H. S. I - AKS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nympha B. Inyang / 16	78%	T.F.I.S - AKS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Inemesit O. Akpan / 16	75%	S.M.S.C - AKS
4 <sup>th</sup>	Joy Godfrey / 17	72%	G. H. S. I - AKS
5 <sup>th</sup>	Faith J. Okon / 17	64%	S.M.S.C - AKS
6 <sup>th</sup>	Demose Charles Ikpe / 16	50%	T.F.I.S. - AKS

G. H. S. I Girls High School, Eket, Ikot Ibiok  
 T.F.I.S. TopFaith International School, Mkpatak  
 S.M.S.C. Senior Science College. Akak

### Results of Final Competition – University Category

Pos.	Name/Age	Score	School	Department
1 <sup>st</sup>	Patience I. Isine / 18	76%	UNIUYO	Elec. Eng.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ukemeobong A. Okon / 18	75%	UNIPORT	Microbiol. technology
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rita Partrick Martins / 19	70%	UNIUYO	Pharmacy

UNIUYO University of Uyo  
 UNIPORT University of Port Harcourt

Awards Secondary Category		
Pos.	Price (NGN)	US-\$ equivalent
1 <sup>st</sup>	20,000 NGN	200\$
2 <sup>nd</sup>	15,000 NGN	150\$
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10,000 NGN	100\$
4 <sup>th</sup>	5,000 NGN	50\$
5 <sup>th</sup>	5,000 NGN	50\$
6 <sup>th</sup>	5,000 NGN	50\$
Sub total		600\$
Consolation Prices for Winners at District Level		
	2,000 NGN each 21 districts, i.e. 42,000 NGN	420\$
Sub total		420\$
Gifts for Other Participating Competitors in Attendance at Final Ceremony (non winners at district level)		
1 Mathematical set	200 NGN each, for 14 girls, i.e. 2,800 NGN	28\$
1 Calculator	1,000 NGN each, for 15 girls, i.e. 15,000 NGN	150\$
1 Exercise book	120 NGN each, for other 23 girls in STEM from visiting schools, i.e. 2,760 NGN	27.6\$
Sub total		205.6\$
Total (Sec. Girls)		1,225.6\$
Awards University Category		
Pos.	Price (NGN)	US-\$ equivalent
1 <sup>st</sup>	25,000 NGN	250\$
2 <sup>nd</sup>	20,000 NGN	200\$
3 <sup>rd</sup>	15,000 NGN	150\$
Total (Univ. Girls)		600\$
Total of Award and Gifts		1,825,6\$

### Impact of Essay Competition

A survey of the participants at the end of the event indicated a positive impact on Nigerian girls and women in STEM. The message reached thousands of girls and young women. A huge success!



## News from INWES

### **World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO ) World Engineers' Convention in Brazil**

by Issié Yvonne Gueye

The World Engineers' Convention was successfully held on December 3–5, in Brasilia, Brazil.

It was magnificent, with the participation of president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who was part of the opening ceremony.

There were four forums: the women's forum, the Pan-American UPADI forum with the election of the president (which was held from November 29th to December 2nd), the Youth forum and the WFEO Convention.

The INWES representatives that were present were Yvette Ramos, Pamela Wain and Issie Yvonne Gueye who have established many contacts for the coming WFEO events. They also worked to negotiate the inclusion of INWES members in WFEO committees. They were present and participated to the discussions of the Committees on Engineering and the Environment, on Capacity Building, on Women in Engineering, to the Women' forum, etc. They also met the Organising Committee from Argentina and from Switzerland (and met the ambassador of Switzerland in Brazil, an engineer) and the person in charge of the organisation for the Kuwait meeting.

A Memorandum of Understanding had previously been prepared between the WFEO and INWES, and further discussions will be held in Paris in March at the WFEO Executive. INWES has put forward Issié Gueye to be the representative on the Women in Engineering Committee, and this now needs to be confirmed with them. Our representatives were present at the meeting of the WiE committee, and we are continuing to communicate with them.

Important WFEO future events are Kuwait in November 2009, Argentina in 2010 and Switzerland in 2011.

Please see also the report of Yvette Ramos on the Women's Forum at WEC2008 in the INWES Member Newsletter #1 (1 January 2009).

### **Juices from the 2007 Wroclaw In- wes Symposium.**

by Uduakobong Okon (Ph.D.), Nigeria

I am one of the four African women who participated in the Regional International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES ) Symposium, held in Poland in July 2007, at University of Wroclaw . My attendance was enhanced by a travel award by the Canadian International Development Agency via INWES. Sharing research experiences with the Eastern and Central European women on STEM issues was enriching with much lessons to learn. Added to the academic benefit, was the cultural exchange as a social advantage.

The warmth of INWES women (sisters) round the world, particularly the Polish INWES colleagues (sisters) was amazing. I started nursing a feeling of having something to remember in Poland. Expressing my feeling to Anna Szemik-Hojniak (Ph.D.) the Chair of the INWES symposium, I became greatly encouraged. It immediately flashed back on my mind how members of her family picked me with other INWES members from the airport to our hotels. Feeling so homely, I thought to myself, '... so INWES is also about families. A bond stronger than colour'.

I found the Polish environments and their schools conducive for learning. On reaching my home Nigeria and sharing the juicy experiences with my family, my son became encouraged and started processing his traveling documents to a University in Poland. Today, my son Mr. UbongAbasi Okon, is studying in the Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland, enjoying the



warmth his INWES Polish aunts and of course the juice of the Wroclaw INWES Symposium.

## **Exhibitions on INWES Activities at University of Wroclaw**

by Dr. Anna Szemik-Hojniak

The city of Wroclaw (Poland) is located in Lower Silesia region, in south-western part of Poland. It is a huge academic center with many universities and scientific research institutions. The oldest one is three hundred years old University of Wroclaw ([www.uni.wroc.pl](http://www.uni.wroc.pl)) with about 4000 academic staff and over 40000 students.

University of Wroclaw belongs to the most important research universities in Poland and it has a world-class research groups and modern facilities both in science and humanities. The world renown are the prominent achievements in the field of mathematics, structural chemistry of transition metal complexes, in physical chemistry of molecular systems, as well as in peptide and porphyrin chemistry. Particular results have been achieved in solar physics, field theory, the many-body theory, solid-state physics, etc. Researches in Computer Science, Astronomy and Natural Sciences, i.e. Geology, Geography, Zoology, Botany, Biochemistry, and Microbiology – Molecular biology, Biotechnology and Anthropology are also very valuable. Important researches are carried out also in departments of Law, Administration, Economy, Social Sciences, Historical, Pedagogical Sciences, and Philology.

University of Wroclaw participates in numerous European and international programmes, e.g. Framework R&D, CRAFT, COST, Leonardo, Phare, Tempus, Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus, Culture 2000, Asia Link and Eureka. The University has numerous international links with universities and research institutions in Europe and the rest of the world, especially with Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Austria, Spain, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Russia and

the USA. After the accession to the EU, the University projects are financed also from structural funds. Faculty and student research, as well as participation in international projects are supported by central administration offices, including Office for the European Programmes and Co-operation with the Region, Foreign Relations Office, Division of Scientific Research and Bursar Office.

As the researcher, academic teacher, representative of the University of Wroclaw in INWES and the INWES director for East Europe Region I decided to arrange for Wroclaw citizens, for women scientists and for female students a small INWES photo-exposition from two exotic places, namely from Kenya and from the South Korea where in the former INWES co-organized "Workshop for African Women Scientists and Engineers" and in the latter a huge ICWES13 meeting was held. These two expositions took place in different period of time in the university bookstore windows, at the Faculty of Chemistry and in the main Hall of the University of Wroclaw. In every place people stopped while reading the INWES objectives and looking at beautiful pictures both from conference venue and from the countryside of Kenya or South Korea. I presented about 100 pictures in each case. There were pinned to special conference stillages.

Information about these events were posted in the University of Wroclaw monthly Review and at the student website.

I have received many phone calls both from scientists and from students that expressed gratitude for the idea to arrange it. Since the University of Wroclaw is INWES Organizational Member, the Rector of the university was very pleased, too.

Thus, this is my small contribution for making a good publicity for INWES.



## INWES Meetings

13 November 08 – Skype – 7th Executive meeting #2008 – Participants: Sue Bird, Monique Frize, Nadia Ghazzali, Kong-Joo Lee, Gail Mattson, Monique Moutaud, Márta Ecsedi

8 January 09 – Skype – 1st Executive meeting #2009 – Participants: Sue Bird, Monique Frize, Nadia Ghazzali, Kong-Joo Lee

4 March 09 – Skype – 2nd Executive meeting #2009

Future meetings:

22 April 09 – Skype – 3rd Executive meeting #2009

23-25 April 09 – Abidjan, Ivory Coast – Inaugural Meeting INWES Africa

Between 24-29 August 09 – Busan, South Korea – Board Meeting #11

## Introducing the INWES team: Nadia Ghazzali

Nadia Ghazzali was elected as a member of the board of directors of INWES during ICWES14 held in Lille, France, in July 2008. At the same meeting, she became General Secretary of INWES.

Nadia Ghazzali is full professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Laval University in Quebec City. Her research program deals with discriminant analysis, classification methods and artificial neural networks for modeling and characterizing large databases derived from the fields of signal processing, medical imaging and pattern recognition.

Dr Ghazzali is a member of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology of Morocco. She is also very engaged with women in STEM as the NSERC-Industrial Alliance Chair for women in sciences and engineering in Quebec. Therefore, she is member of associations of women scientists and engineers, in Africa and in Canada. She is trying to set up, with the help of women engineers and scientists, an Arabic Network.

### 1) Educational Background

Native of Casablanca in Morocco, Ms. Ghazzali carried out her university studies in Rennes, France, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in mathematics, a Master's degree in Statistics, and a Ph.D. in computer science. After a year of postdoctoral research at McGill University, Ms. Ghazzali joined, in 1993, the Department

Mathematics and Statistics of Laval University, where she currently is full professor.

### 2) Professional Experiences

During her academic career, apart from research grants, peer-reviewed publications and supervision of graduate students, Dr. Ghazzali has held several administrative positions in Laval University, including director of the Undergraduate Program in Statistics, Vice-Dean for Development and Research at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, and Associate Vice-Principal for Research. She also has been involved in many events as both invited speaker and organiser. More particularly, she was co-organiser for the International Symposium of Casablanca, held in 2003 at the Hassan II University, Morocco, as part of the 150th Foundation anniversary of Laval University, and of the First International Symposium of Applied Statistics for Development in Africa, held in Benin, in 2007. 3) *Contributions to Women in STEM*

Her mother was her source of motivation and admiration. She was always very supportive from an early age, encouraging Nadia to pursue studies, as she was herself illiterate.

Since November 2006, Nadia Ghazzali holds the NSERC - Industrial Alliance Chair for women in science and engineering in Quebec. The objectives of the Chair are:



- To stimulate further the interest of young women to pursue careers in sciences and engineering
- To have a better understanding of the main factors influencing the choices of careers among young girls;
- To intervene in the environments of high schools, colleges, universities and workplace;
- To promote a positive climate facilitating the recruitment of students for undergraduate and graduate studies in sciences and engineering;
- To emphasize the role and leadership of women and increase their participation in positions of authority.

Besides, she just published, in October 2008, a statistical analysis on undergraduate and graduate students in all universities in Quebec from 1999 to 2007. She is also interested in the history of women scientists and engineers in Quebec. She published in October 2008, a book titled: "Women in sciences and engineering through history in Quebec". She is also very active in the promotion of science and engineering to women and youth. In particular, she col-

laborated in the organisation of the event "Les filles et les sciences: un duo électrisant", held for the first time in Quebec City, on February 16, 2008. Finally, Dr. Ghazzali is the recipient of the Highest Distinction, Advancement of Women (2008) from YWCA-Quebec and of the Arabic Women of Quebec Trophy in teaching and research (2007).

#### 4) French and Arabic Networks

Nadia Ghazzali is member of the "Association de la francophonie à propos des femmes en sciences, technologies, ingénierie et mathématiques (AFFESTIM)" and of the Association of Women Scientists and Engineers from Africa. During ICWES14, in Lille, she initiated a discussion with Arabic women engineers and scientists, from many countries (England, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, France, Canada...) about the need to create inside INWES, an Arabic Network, which will examine issues and problems concerning more specifically the situation of Arabic women in their fields, especially in teaching and research fields.

## News from INWES Members

### ***dib Magazine under New Name: The Woman Engineer***

by Petra Mayerhofer

Since 1987 dib – the German Association of Women Engineers – publishes a quarterly newsletter. The first issue consisted of six stapled pages. Over time the newsletter has evolved to a magazine of about 50 to 60 pages covering issues of interest to women in engineering and technology. Each issue has a focal theme, e.g. "Women Engineers yesterday – today - tomorrow" in the last December issue.

Still, after more than 20 years the name of our magazine – *Rundbrief* (Newsletter) – had not changed. As this name does not longer reflect the appearance and content of our magazine, last year dib initiated an idea competition that yielded 32 suggestions for a new name. From these the General Assembly picked at last: *Die Ingenieurin* (The Woman Engineer).

In March the first issue of *Die Ingenieurin* was published. The focal theme was "Technology – influences, changes, moves – society".

We look forward to future issues.



## Conferences, Workshops & Events

4-5 April | Tokyo, Japan

*Women's International Networking (W.I.N) Mobilizing Women*

[www.winconference.net](http://www.winconference.net)

20 April | Hanover, Germany

*Be.MINT - Best Practices for Women in Mathematics, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Technology (International Workshop)*

[www.komm-mach-mint.de/](http://www.komm-mach-mint.de/)

Startseite/Internationale-Tagung

20-21 April | Mexico City, Mexico

*IANAS Women for Science Workshop (InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences)*

[www.ianas.org](http://www.ianas.org)

23-25 April | Abidjan, Ivory Coast

*Inaugural Meeting INWES AFRICA*

Contact: Issié Yvonne Gueye

[egitecs@aviso.ci/cifisats@yahoo.fr](mailto:egitecs@aviso.ci/cifisats@yahoo.fr)

14-15 May | Prague, Czech Republic

*EU Workshop: Changing research landscapes to make the most of human potential*

[ec.europa.eu/research/science-](http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.topic&id=1860)

[society/index.cfm?fuseaction=](http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.topic&id=1860)

[public.topic&id=1860](http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.topic&id=1860)

2-4 June | Barcelona, Spain

*Women's International Research Engineering Summit (WIRES)*

[www.wires.gatech.edu](http://www.wires.gatech.edu)

25-26 June | Brussels, Belgium

*European Platform of Women Scientists: Annual Conference 2009*

[www.epws.net](http://www.epws.net)

27-29 August | Busan, Korea

*BIEN 2009 : INWES Asian Network*

[www.kwse-inwesasia.org](http://www.kwse-inwesasia.org)

11-13 September | Guildford, UK

*The power of change: Inspiring the next 90 years – WES Annual Conference 2009*

[www.wes.org.uk](http://www.wes.org.uk)

11-13 September | Düsseldorf, Germany

*1st European Conference on Gender and Diversity in Engineering and Science*

[www.fib-conference2009.de](http://www.fib-conference2009.de)

15-17 October | Long Beach, California, USA

*SWE09: The National Conference for Women Engineers*

[we09.swe.org](http://we09.swe.org)

2-6 November | Kuwait

*WFEO KSE EC 2009 Kuwait: Engineering Congress on Alternative Energy Applications*

[www.ec2009kuwait.org](http://www.ec2009kuwait.org)

19-22 July 2011 | Adelaide, Australia

*15<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES15)*

[www.engineersaustralia.org.au/icwes15](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/icwes15)

### INWES Member Newsletter

Deadline for Issue #3: 21 June 2009

Contact: Petra Mayerhofer, Chair Communications & Newsletter Committee

Email [petra.mayerhofer@dibev.de](mailto:petra.mayerhofer@dibev.de)

### INWES Newsletter (printed)

Deadline for Volume 5, Issue 1: 15 June 2009

Contact: Yolanda S. George

Email [ygeorge@aaas.org](mailto:ygeorge@aaas.org)



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