

GSA'S WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

WISH

WOMEN IN
SEMICONDUCTOR
HARDWARE

October 1, 2025 | SAN JOSE, CA



ABOUT THE EVENT



WISH, GSA WLI's premier technical conference, was an inspiring celebration of innovation and empowerment. The event welcomed around 1,000 attendees, including industry luminaries, visionary entrepreneurs, brilliant university students in STEM, and showcased the evolving landscape of technology. Attendees experienced powerful keynotes from trailblazers who are reshaping the tech world, and celebrated award ceremonies honoring extraordinary women who had broken the glass ceiling and those paving the way for future generations. It was a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals and build valuable relationships to help propel careers forward. WISH championed gender parity and celebrated the remarkable achievements of women in technology—bringing together a movement that is transforming the industry!



EVENT RECAP

The event kicked off with an inspiring Fireside Chat with Sylvia Acevedo (Member of the Board of Directors at Qualcomm and Credo) and Jodi Shelton (Co-founder and CEO of GSA). Sylvia Acevedo shared hard-earned lessons from her extraordinary journey—from NASA rocket scientist to CEO and Fortune 100 semiconductor board director. The program also featured panel discussions on Leadership Lessons from Industry Trailblazers, The Future of Talent Acquisition, and AI and The New Era of Engineering. The technical breakout sessions highlighted advancements in semiconductor hardware where 18 speakers, selected by the WLI Technical Steering Committee, presented their work in Artificial Intelligence, Design Technology, Process Technology, Packaging, and Assembly.





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“Walking out of GSA WLI WISH25, my heart was full of gratitude, inspiration, and renewed purpose to lift others as we continue shaping the future together. I left GSA WISH25 truly inspired and energized! This was more than an event, it was a celebration of what happens when women leaders share their journeys, lift each other up, and open doors for the next generation.”

Sonia Leon, Ex-Intel, Sun Microsystems, Motorola

“There’s something powerful about being in a room where women share their journeys of resilience and leadership, reminding us that the future of semiconductors is not only about hardware, but about people.”

Sai Priyanka, graduate student at SJSU

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Four awards were presented to industry women throughout the day, beginning with Dr. Julie Sheridan Eng from Coherent, who was recognized as the recipient of the **Dr. Lisa Su Woman of Innovation Award**, for her exceptional dedication and contributions to the development, innovation, growth, and long-term opportunities for the semiconductor industry. Manisha Gambhir from Marvell was presented the **Rising Women in Semi Award**, Yanfang Le of AMD was presented the **Female Up & Comer Award**, and the **Designing the Difference Award** was awarded to Marvell.

You can view recordings of the event including the fireside chat, panel discussions, and award presentation as well as photos taken at WISH, all available [here](#)!



FEATURED SPEAKERS

EMCEE

Annelise McCarthy

**Founder, Women's Speaking Coach, Public Speaking Expert,
Facilitator, Keynote Speaker & MC Her Speaking Coach**



Annelise is a renowned Women's Speaking Coach with over 15 years Public Speaking training and experience. An international speaker, entrepreneur and CEO, Annelise is also a World Public Speaking Championship Finalist and holds a double bachelor's degree in Law and Mandarin. With a combined social media community of over 200K, Annelise is a necessary modern voice for women wanting to speak up and stand out. Annelise had the ballroom booming with energy with her inspiring words. She ended the conference with a thoughtful poem about women's empowerment and takeaways she gained from WISH. **ADD POEM LINK**

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZERS



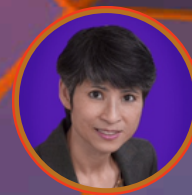
Chandana Pairla
Moderator
Rensas



Carrie Pelton
Broadcom



Dipti Vachani
Arm



Duy-Loan Le
Cirrus Logic, Atomera,
Brainchip, Wolfspeed



Julie Shin Choi
Cerebras

This was an empowering panel discussion featuring some of the most senior and influential women in the semiconductor industry. These trailblazing leaders had not only risen to the top in a highly competitive field but had also paved the way for future generations. In this session, they shared their personal journeys, keys to success, and insights on how to become effective leaders in the tech world. Attendees gained valuable advice and practical strategies from these accomplished women who had truly made it to the top in tech. It was a unique opportunity to learn from the best and be inspired to pursue career aspirations in the semiconductor industry.



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"Still feeling energized, inspired, and humbled after the GSA WISH event earlier this week. That's what a room full of 1,000 women does to you - it fills you with energy, purpose, and a renewed belief in what's possible when we lift each other up."

Isha Arora, Coherent

"I met so many strong, inspiring leaders whose stories reminded me that if they can do it, so can I. This experience was completely life-changing, and reminded me that when you change the way you see the world, the world you see changes."

Maria Leon, Engineering student at WashU



THE FUTURE OF TALENT ACQUISITION



Rose Castanares
Moderator
TSMC Arizona



Fran Dillard
Micron Technology



Sheryl Ehrman
San Jose State
University



Tara Hsu
Marvell Technology



Pradheepa Raman
GlobalFoundries

Semiconductors are the beating heart of today's world, powering everything from consumer electronics to the AI systems driving the digital economy. Sustaining the pace of innovation, critical to the industry's future, depends on attracting and retaining exceptional talent. Yet the technical complexity of the field, and its increasingly competitive landscape, make talent acquisition an ongoing challenge. This panel brought together experts in workforce development and talent strategy to explore how we could attract, engage, and retain the next generation of semiconductor leaders. From diversifying the pipeline and rethinking educational pathways to fostering inclusive cultures and supporting long-term career development, the discussion spotlighted actionable strategies to secure the talent needed to drive innovation forward.

CO-DESIGNING INTELLIGENCE: AI AND THE NEW ERA OF HARDWARE ENGINEERING



Lakshmi Ramagiri
Moderator
Microsoft



Bonita Bhaskaran
Nvidia



Renu Mehra
Synopsys



Olivia Wu
Meta



Sharon Zhou
AMD

As AI transforms how we design semiconductors, the boundary between human and machine ingenuity is being redefined. This panel explored how generative AI, autonomous agents, and open-source tools are reshaping design workflows, challenging traditional hardware methodologies, and shifting the talent landscape. What does this mean for junior engineers, researchers, and the future workforce? Are we building toward a new model of AI-human leadership, or phasing out the very people who drive innovation? Attendees joined a conversation at the intersection of AI, hardware, and human potential.

TECHNICAL SESSION

SPEAKERS: AI TRACK



Liya Liu
Senior Member of
Technical Staff
AMD



Rachel Son
Senior Engineer
Sandisk



Tingting Weng
Senior Staff Engineer
Marvell Technology

TECHNICAL SESSION

SPEAKERS: DESIGN TRACK



Aradhana Kumari
Staff Engineer & MTS,
Research and
Innovation
STMicroelectronics



Carmen Galotta
Physical Design
Engineer
STMicroelectronics



Sangeeta Raste
Senior Manager
PMTS Silicon Design
AMD



TECHNICAL SESSION

SPEAKERS: PROCESS TRACK



Ellie Chen
Hardware Product
Engineer
Meta



Jasmine Chang
Process Engineer
Micron Technology



Qi Wang
Distinguished
Engineer
Marvell Technology

TECHNICAL SESSION SPEAKERS:

SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY TRACK



Anju John
Senior Hardware
Systems Engineer
Meta



Lucy Yu
Principal Hardware
System Development
Program Manager
Microsoft



Xiling Sun
Principal Firmware
Engineer
Microsoft

TECHNICAL SESSION

SPEAKERS: TEST TRACK



Isabelita Camaclang
MTS Silicon Design
Engineer
AMD



Manvitha Pannala
Technical Program
Manager
AMD



Mayura Padmanabhan
Technical Project
Manager
SEMI



Pragya Nahar
Director Test Engineering
Infineon Technologies



Sujata Paul
Principal Silicon
Reliability Engineer
Microsoft



Xia Ju
Senior Manager
Product Development
Memory Technology
Sandisk

POSTER SESSION PRESENTERS

ML Based Learning To Enhance Battery
Management In IOT Based WLAN
Connectivity



Aparna Raghunath
Infineon

Low-Power Architectures For Clock
Domain Crossing In SoC Design



Aradhana Kumari
STMicroelectronics

Leakage Current Mechanism In Bi-
Directional Forward-Biased Diode In
Series For High-Frequency ESD
Protection Device



Irene Monica
STMicroelectronics

Review Of 3D NAND High Aspect Ratio
Non-Pillar Features Scaling Strategies



Jiewei Chen
Micron Technology

Addressing Reliability In Integrated
Circuit Design: A Focus On Hi-Z Nodes



Valentina Cuomo
STMicroelectronics

BER Regressions For Accelerated
Debug And Characterization Of PCIe
Gen6 Interfaces



Ujjwala Godavarthi
Astera Labs

AI-Driven Verification Coverage
Optimization



Catherine Choi
Marvell

Modeling And Assessing The Effect Of
Receiver Analog Front-End
Characteristics On High-Speed DDR
Link Performance



Kanupriya Bhardwaj
AMD

Deploying Scalable Data Infrastructure
For Real-Time AI/ML Driven Product
Test



Li Sun
Cisco Systems

Effect Of Thermal Management On
Device Temperature And System
Performance



Ragasudha C P
IVP Semiconductor



POSTER SESSION PRESENTERS

Designing A Complex Chip In Under A
Year: Methodology Or Technology?



Sashi Obilisetty
Synopsys

Neural Network-Driven FEC Decoding
Algorithm Selection For 200+ Gbps
Ethernet Systems



Xuanxuan Lu
Credo

The Path To Enhanced Firmware
Efficiency In Lightweight
Microcontrollers: Harnessing The
MSMU Compiler For RAM Utilization
Optimization And Latency Reduction



Kalpana Bommakanti
AMD

A Comprehensive Microbenchmark
Suite With Enhanced Flexibility And
Tuning Options



Laya Harwin
AMD

Forecasting Chip Performance
Distributions From Sparse
Semiconductor Manufacturing Data
Using AI/ML



Subhasree Purushothamanshanthi
AMD

Agent-AI Assisted Parameter Turning
In Active Electrical Cables For Device
Interoperability



Tingting Weng
Marvell

Early Detection Of Firmware Bugs
Using An Efficient, Rigorous And A
Scalable Unit Testing Framework



Sriranjani P
AMD

Quantifying Solder Performance:
Finite-Element-Analysis Based
Warpage Prediction At Critical Thermal
Profiles For Robust Power Packaging



Qingming Feng
STMicroelectronics

Overcoming Formal Verification
Challenges In Concurrent Linked List
Hardware Designs



Bhavyasree Vummaneni
Marvell



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“Proud to have Marvell Technology as the Title Sponsor, with Janice Hall kicking off the event and emphasizing the importance of women’s leadership in her keynote. It was fantastic to hear from Marvell’s CEO, Matt Murphy, about the new Executive Accelerator Program that he is sponsoring for women leaders in the semiconductor industry. During the event, I was deeply inspired by the stories and leadership examples shared by talented women in the tech industry.”

Alua Suleimenova, Marvell

“Honored to be part of this extraordinary event, bringing together over 800 passionate semiconductor professionals from across the globe. The energy, remarkable achievements, and shared drive for innovation were incredibly inspiring. Witnessing the dedication and collaboration driving our industry forward is truly empowering.”

Neelam Agarwal, Renesas

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Rita Klein
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Head of Engineering
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Meta



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Micron



Katie Eckermann
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