

A Short History of Women in Combustion (WiC)

July 1954: The Combustion Institute is established

1968: The first female program chair, Marjorie W. Evans, is appointed for the 12th International Symposium on Combustion in Poitiers, France



Image: Marjorie W. Evans, the first female program chair, with other members of the community, 1968.

2007: A small informal meeting for women in the field of combustion is held during the 5th National Combustion Institute Meeting in San Diego, California, United States

2008: The first workshop for Women in Combustion is held, featuring a coffee hour, during the 32nd International Symposium on Combustion in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. It has an attendance of 93 individuals



Image: Judith Steciak and JoAnn Lighty at the WiC Coffee Hour, August 2008.

2009: The USA Eastern States and USA Western States both hold a WiC Coffee break at their section meetings

2015: Former CI President Prof. Katharina Kohse-Höinghaus advises the development of WiC activities (coffee breaks, seminars/panels, luncheons) during all relevant meetings

The first official WiC Luncheon is held at the annual Japanese Symposium on Combustion, in Tsukuba, Japan

2016: In Seoul, Korea, the 36th International Symposium on Combustion features a WiC Coffee Break



Image: 36th Symposium WiC Coffee Break, 2016.

2017: The Saudi Arabia Section hosts a Combustion Institute-Summer School (CI-SS) in Thuwal, Saudi Arabia, featuring their first WiC event, a live panel discussion

2019: The Japan Section hosts their first WiC Luncheon during the 12th Asia-Pacific Conference on Combustion (ASPACC) in Fukuoka, Japan

2021: The first remote WiC meeting is held via Discord, during the virtual 38th International Symposium on Combustion, originally planned to be held in Adelaide, Australia

2023: 45 attend the WiC Luncheon held at the 13th U.S. National Combustion Meeting in College Station, Texas, United States

2024: The Japan section hosts a WiC luncheon at the 19th International Conference on Numerical Combustion (ICNC) in Kyoto Terrsa, Kyoto City, Japan, with more than 40 participants