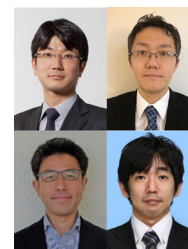# Report on the IEICE Welcome Party

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1. About the Welcome Party

The Welcome Party is one of major activities of the IEICE Communication Society (IEICE-CS) held at every IEICE General Conference. The objective of having this party is to provide young engineers especially students with a good opportunity to meet and talk friendly with experienced researchers and engineers in various organizations.

It had been held at the IEICE Society Conferences in September from 2008 to 2011. However, considering school year in Japan (starting in April), in 2013, we moved it at General Conferences in March so that it can help students to think about their possible engineering carrier just before starting their new school year. However, the event could not be carried out in 2020 since the General Conference 2020 had been canceled due to the global pandemic of COVID-19. In 2021, the welcome party was held in the virtual format because the General Conference 2021 was also held online.

2. The Welcome Party in 2022

The Welcome Party was held online on 15th March 2022, the first day of IEICE General Conference 2022. In this year, this event was held jointly by Communication Society (CS), Engineering Sciences Society / NOLTA Society (ESS/NLS), Electronics Society (ES) and Information and Systems Society (ISS).

Table 1 shows the whole contents of the party. It began with the opening remarks from Prof. Hisaya Hadama, the CS president for 2021. It was followed by the chat session where participants randomly sent to the breakout rooms to enjoy conversation with others in the room gathered by chance.

In the presentation from companies, nine companies being active in the communication field, NEC, NTT Lab., Oki, NTT docomo, Hitachi, Fujitsu, Mitsubishi Electric, Murata Manufacturing, presented their business and R&D activities. It was followed by the session in which students can frankly talk with employees of the companies in the designated breakout rooms so that students could have an image of working in the telecommunication industry.

Finally, we conclude the party with the closing remarks from Prof. Yukari Tsuji, the next CS president.

As a result, we had 85 participants including 35 students. Form the survey, some comments from the attendees are introduced as follows:

- It was my first time participating in the welcome party. The atmosphere was casual, and I was able to listen to interesting talks.
- I was able to talk with people I wouldn't usually meet.
- Time for the conversations was not long enough though.

90% of the participants had been satisfied. We believe this experimental event was very successful.

3. Conclusion and Acknowledgements

The CS Welcome Party was successfully held with over 80 participants. The next Welcome Party will be held in March 2023 at the IEICE General Conference at Shibaura Institute of Technology in Saitama, Japan if the conference would hopefully be held in the conventional face-to-face style. We expect many people to participate in next Welcome Party. We would like to thank all participants, especially from companies, national institutes, Societies, Technical Committees, and Membership and Service Committee.

Fig. 1 Group Photo

Table 1 Contents of the Welcome Party.

Session	(min.)
Opening Remarks from the CS president	10
Chat I	20
Presentation from Companies (NEC, NTT, Oki, NTT docomo, Hitachi, Fujitsu, Mitsubishi Electric, Murata)	20
Talk with the Companies	30
Chat II	10
Closing remarks from the next CS president	10