

The 1995 SWE Achievement Award recipient is the Walter P. Murphy Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Director, Center for Quantum Devices at Northwestern University. Dr. Razeghi is a leading researcher in the field of optoelectronics and possesses the unique ability to do both cutting-edge research and educate future researchers. She has been awarded 32 patents and is the author and co-author of more than 600 papers.

SWE Achievement Award Acceptance Address: **DR. MANIJEH RAZEGHI**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. It is a great pleasure and honor for me to have been selected as the 44th recipient of the Society of Women Engineers Achievement Award. In receiving this award, I would like to acknowledge my parents, my teachers and my family all of whom have played a vitally important role in my life and the success of my career. These three groups of people are perhaps the most important influences on any individual in this world.

Why do I acknowledge my parents first? In most families, a father's dream is to have a son as the first born. However, my father (who incidentally at the age of 19 was a pilot) wished to have a daughter. So, even before I was born, he chose my name to be Manijeh, which means "the preferred child of a king."

This was the first and one of the more important steps in making me proud to be a woman. My education started at an early age at home with my parents and grandparents, who taught me the importance of educa-



Corning representative Ellana Cook presented the Steuben bowl to Dr. Razeghi on behalf of Corning and SWE.

who are parents, and to future parents, that the role of parenting and, in particular, education starting from the first day is, was and will continue to be, crucial in all generations and cultures.

Next, I would like to acknowledge my teachers as the second building block of education and career. I was lucky to have many excellent teachers and professors during my studies who encouraged me and opened my eyes

I would like to say to those of you who are parents, and to future parents, that the role of parenting and, in particular, education, starting from the earliest days is, was and will continue to be crucial in all generations and cultures.

tion for all and especially for women. It is from my parents that I learned to be proud to be a woman, to understand the importance of family values and the importance of education in obtaining success in life.

I would like to say to those of you

to the infinite and exciting world of science.

Finally, I would like to thank my family. I was 15 years old when I met my husband and, despite the protests of my parents who wanted me to finish my studies first, I got married. It

was through the help, encouragement and understanding of my husband, however, that I not only raised our three children but continued my studies to the highest level, in other words, a Ph.D. and Sc. Doctorate in physics from the best university in Paris.

Yet again, it was family values which were the most important building blocks for the success of my career.

At this time, I would like to say I am proud to be a mother and to have raised three children, Nader, Ferihtej and Farzaneh, so that they in turn have become examples to many others. I am proud to be a professor and to be involved in the education of many excellent scientists, both female and male, who are now in many important positions in industry and academia and educating others not only in the United States but all over the world.

I am proud to be a scientist and researcher and to be actively involved in the process of science in this world.

At this time, I would like to encourage all the women present to be aware of their values, to understand their responsibility and their importance for the present and future of this world.

There is a proverb which says, "Heaven is under the feet of the mother." Another proverb tells us, "When a mother rocks, with one hand, the cradle of her child, with the other hand she is shaking the world."

While men may appear to have had the best opportunities for education, it is the influence of their mothers when the men were young and later in life from their wives, that has always proved most important.

Many times we hear women complaining that the most important posts in the work place or world are occu-



Dr. Razeghi holds the SWE Achievement Award plaque accompanied by daughters Farzaneh, (left) and Ferechteh (right) who traveled with their fiancées from Paris for the Achievement Award presentation.

piated by the men. But they should not forget that these men are their children. Men cannot deliver children and do not have the same influence on the education of their children.

This means that contrary to conventional wisdom, "women control the world."

In finishing, I would like to say that since September 1991, when Dean

Jerome Cohen convinced me to join Northwestern University, my objective has been to create a 'Center of Gravity of Genius' for students and scientists.

Today, less than four years hence, the Center for Quantum Devices has already accomplished this goal and has proved to be unique in many ways. I invite all of you, if you are passing through Chicago, to come visit us and please bring your children!

The many achievements in the last few years would not have been possible without the help, encouragement and support of Northwestern University, various industrial organizations and especially U.S. government agencies such as ARPA, ONR, U.S. Army and Air Force. I would like to thank them all.

Finally, I again would like to recognize the support and understand-

ing of my husband and my children. My two daughters Farzaneh (who is a biophysicist and engineer with Rhonc-Poulenc Ronev) and Ferechteh

I am proud to be a scientist and researcher and to be actively involved in the process of science in this world.

(who is a physicist and technical director of Vintici in Paris) are here with their fiancées, Alain and David, despite their very busy schedules. Unfortunately, my son Nader could not be here tonight because he is finishing his MBA in Paris this week, and my husband has stayed there to support him.

I would like to thank them, thank all of you and wish the SWE good luck for the future.