



1
00:00:04,740 --> 00:00:05,910
I'm Teresa Vanhooser.

2
00:00:05,910 --> 00:00:10,080
I'm the Deputy Director here at the Marshall
Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

3
00:00:10,080 --> 00:00:14,860
I had an uncle who was an engineer for TVA,
so when I was getting close to graduating

4
00:00:14,860 --> 00:00:19,050
from high school, and was trying to think
about what it was that I wanted to do, he

5
00:00:19,050 --> 00:00:21,619
suggested engineering.

6
00:00:21,619 --> 00:00:27,539
It sounded like a good way to take my love
for math and take it to the next level.

7
00:00:27,539 --> 00:00:31,330
That's why I made a decision to go to Tennessee
Tech because they had a great engineering

8
00:00:31,330 --> 00:00:32,330
department.

9
00:00:32,330 --> 00:00:39,820
I really thought I was going to stay in Tennessee,
maybe go back towards home when I graduated.

10
00:00:39,820 --> 00:00:48,010
But, my now husband - then boyfriend - co-oped
with NASA.

11
00:00:48,010 --> 00:00:54,690
When he said they were coming to do interviews,

I thought that would be a really cool job.

12

00:00:54,690 --> 00:00:57,780

After they came to interview, shortly after that I got an offer.

13

00:00:57,780 --> 00:01:00,430

They said we'd love for you to come to work for NASA.

14

00:01:00,430 --> 00:01:03,229

It didn't take me long to say yes.

15

00:01:03,229 --> 00:01:10,820

Of course, at that time, there wasn't a lot of women at NASA and particularly in the organization

16

00:01:10,820 --> 00:01:13,140

and the branch that I was in.

17

00:01:13,140 --> 00:01:18,140

I was the only female with the exception of the secretary that was there.

18

00:01:18,140 --> 00:01:23,840

I never ever felt like that I didn't belong or they didn't want me there.

19

00:01:23,840 --> 00:01:25,950

It was always an encouraging?

20

00:01:25,950 --> 00:01:32,150

they always found ways to include me and to make sure that they were teaching me along

21

00:01:32,150 --> 00:01:34,630

the way and bringing me up to speed.

22

00:01:34,630 --> 00:01:42,460

It was always, from day one, a great opportunity to get to work with a lot of great engineers.

23

00:01:42,460 --> 00:01:48,139

Being willing to take a risk and being willing to take on a new challenge is the first step

24

00:01:48,139 --> 00:01:49,970

in moving up.

25

00:01:49,970 --> 00:01:51,429

It's not always going to be easy.

26

00:01:51,429 --> 00:01:56,380

There's always going to be challenges throughout any job that you take on and hopefully I'll

27

00:01:56,380 --> 00:02:03,079

be able to be one of those people who younger women can look at and say 'If she can do it,

28

00:02:03,079 --> 00:02:04,079

I can do it.'

29

00:02:04,079 --> 00:02:08,530

That's one of my passions I have: around mentoring and developing people.

30

00:02:08,530 --> 00:02:16,690

Being a supervisor allowed me to be able to do that and to be able to see the fruition