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00:00:08,420 --> 00:00:11,090

My first day of work was really exciting.

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00:00:11,090 --> 00:00:14,790

I was a little intimidated I was meeting a lot of people and seeing a lot of different

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00:00:14,790 --> 00:00:15,790

things.

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00:00:15,790 --> 00:00:19,640

But, it was also really, really exciting because I knew that I was finally gonna actually be

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00:00:19,640 --> 00:00:21,170

a part of this.

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00:00:21,170 --> 00:00:24,770

The building that I work in is where a lot of really exciting things happen, so I was

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00:00:24,770 --> 00:00:29,560

seeing a lot of different facilities, and I remember being sore as I was walking around

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00:00:29,560 --> 00:00:33,510

on that first day, because my furniture hadn't arrived and I was sleeping on the floor of

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00:00:33,510 --> 00:00:35,830

my apartment, but it was great!

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00:00:35,830 --> 00:00:37,270

I can't even describe it.

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00:00:37,270 --> 00:00:42,010

Well, I actually have a bachelor's degree in theater and a lot of people are really

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00:00:42,010 --> 00:00:46,240
surprised when they hear that, because they
always want to know how I went from that transition

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00:00:46,240 --> 00:00:49,589
of, you know, of studying something that's
very creative to something that's more technical,

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00:00:49,589 --> 00:00:53,230
but I think having that kind of creativity
is very, very important.

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00:00:53,230 --> 00:00:58,300
I mean, when you are working at some place
like Goddard and you're constantly developing

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00:00:58,300 --> 00:01:04,030
new ways of doing things, new ways of exploring
things, you do have to be creative and that's

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00:01:04,030 --> 00:01:05,990
something that I think can serve you well.

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00:01:05,990 --> 00:01:11,850
And so, if you are interested in things, you
know like the arts, use it to your advantage.

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00:01:11,850 --> 00:01:16,310
When I was in school, I really wanted to build
up a resume before I actually graduated and

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00:01:16,310 --> 00:01:21,729
I went online and I came across an internship
at Goddard and received it and came out here

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00:01:21,729 --> 00:01:23,650
and I absolutely loved it.

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00:01:23,650 --> 00:01:26,100

It's an absolutely wonderful place to work.

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00:01:26,100 --> 00:01:30,400

It's so exciting to be around people that are so passionate about what they do.

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00:01:30,400 --> 00:01:35,270

The environment is just absolutely beautiful and I knew I wanted to work here, and I went

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00:01:35,270 --> 00:01:39,250

online around the time that I was graduating and they happened to be hiring in the optics

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00:01:39,250 --> 00:01:41,259

and my emphasis was in optics.

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00:01:41,259 --> 00:01:45,880

And, we helped to actually build the hardware, align it.

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00:01:45,880 --> 00:01:46,909

Do that kind of work.

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00:01:46,909 --> 00:01:50,490

Test it at the subsystem component level.

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00:01:50,490 --> 00:01:55,180

And my job is really interesting because do different things each day.

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00:01:55,180 --> 00:02:02,049

Sometimes I am in the lab taking data or looking at data.

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00:02:02,049 --> 00:02:09,729

It's really exciting and to me, you know, trying a new metrology technique and analyzing

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00:02:09,729 --> 00:02:15,310
data, having it show that it works, is just
the most exciting thing in the world to me.

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00:02:15,310 --> 00:02:18,560
And it's so amazing to be able to be able
to go on and show it to the rest of the people

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00:02:18,560 --> 00:02:21,330
and say, "Look, you know what we were going
to do?"

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00:02:21,330 --> 00:02:22,330
It worked.

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00:02:22,330 --> 00:02:23,330
And we have this data to show it."

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00:02:23,330 --> 00:02:24,330
There's no comparison to that.

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00:02:24,330 --> 00:02:27,090
I just absolutely love it.

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00:02:27,090 --> 00:02:31,769
One of the things I find the most challenging
about my job is no matter how hard I plan

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00:02:31,769 --> 00:02:36,220
or how hard I try there are always things
that are outside of my control.

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00:02:36,220 --> 00:02:40,569
We'll be in the middle of building an instrument
and a piece of equipment will break, and we

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00:02:40,569 --> 00:02:44,739
need to fix it and kind of arrange our schedule
to accommodate it, explain to people what

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00:02:44,739 --> 00:02:50,090

went wrong, how we're planning on fixing it, and so it's really caused me to kind

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00:02:50,090 --> 00:02:54,270

of not be so rigid and have to be able to go with that flexibility, because I'm the

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00:02:54,270 --> 00:02:57,620

kind of person who needs to know at every moment exactly what I'm doing.

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00:02:57,620 --> 00:03:00,739

And when I'm thrown for a loop like that, you know you just have to be able to recover

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00:03:00,739 --> 00:03:03,100

from it immediately to keep things going.

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00:03:03,100 --> 00:03:10,819

I'm proud of the fact that in my job I won't compromise what I believe is the right thing.

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00:03:10,819 --> 00:03:16,909

At the end of the day I don't really feel that I answer to any project manager or center

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00:03:16,909 --> 00:03:17,909

director.

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00:03:17,909 --> 00:03:21,760

I answer to my conscience and I answer to the taxpayers of this country, because they