



1

00:00:10,360 --> 00:00:14,780

During college when I was doing my internships and also just researching what I wanted to

2

00:00:14,780 --> 00:00:21,070

do after I graduated, I realized that I really wanted to work in a planetary science.

3

00:00:21,070 --> 00:00:27,660

So I joined MSL about two years before launch, but I helped develop a lot of operations,

4

00:00:27,660 --> 00:00:28,660

planning and software.

5

00:00:28,660 --> 00:00:37,320

I basically led the cruise, EDL portion of the planning and execution of all of the commands

6

00:00:37,320 --> 00:00:39,790

we sent during that period.

7

00:00:39,790 --> 00:00:42,370

Landing night felt like time kind of stood still.

8

00:00:42,370 --> 00:00:46,730

We'd mentally prepared ourselves to expect anything but when we got that confirmation

9

00:00:46,730 --> 00:00:51,600

that we landed successfully and even got the imagery down we couldn't believe it actually

10

00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:53,560

had happened.

11

00:00:53,560 --> 00:00:58,899

Usually the science team helps kind of give

us overall direction of what they want to

12

00:00:58,899 --> 00:00:59,899

do.

13

00:00:59,899 --> 00:01:03,739

It's my job to kind of make sure that we do the best plan we can to get the most science

14

00:01:03,739 --> 00:01:06,140

out keeping in mind that the rover is still safe.

15

00:01:06,140 --> 00:01:09,939

While the rover is sleeping we have to send a set of commands to tell it what we want

16

00:01:09,939 --> 00:01:14,000

the rover to do during the day and then we go home and rest while the rover is executing

17

00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:15,830

that plan we just built.

18

00:01:15,830 --> 00:01:19,020

The rover transmits back what it did and how it went.

19

00:01:19,020 --> 00:01:23,650

After looking at everything and making sure that the rover's healthy and that the plan

20

00:01:23,650 --> 00:01:30,931

completed as we expected I go on to then lead the team in planning out what we're going

21

00:01:30,931 --> 00:01:32,320

to do for the next day.

22

00:01:32,320 --> 00:01:39,080

My dad was an engineer and my family obviously  
valued math and sciences and with those two