



1  
00:00:12,030 --> 00:00:13,219  
My name is Wensheng Huang.

2  
00:00:13,219 --> 00:00:17,080  
I'm a propulsion engineer, and I work at  
the NASA Glenn Research Center.

3  
00:00:17,080 --> 00:00:20,330  
Being a propulsion researcher means basically  
a rocket scientist.

4  
00:00:20,330 --> 00:00:24,400  
What I do is I research different ways to  
move stuff around in space.

5  
00:00:24,400 --> 00:00:28,540  
The way an electrical rocket works is by creating  
something called a plasma, which is the fourth

6  
00:00:28,540 --> 00:00:29,980  
state of matter.

7  
00:00:29,980 --> 00:00:33,840  
Basically what happens is you rip an electron  
off of a neutral atom to create ions, which

8  
00:00:33,840 --> 00:00:35,640  
can be electrically accelerated.

9  
00:00:35,640 --> 00:00:39,080  
Now thanks to Newton's third law, whenever  
you accelerate something out the back, you

10  
00:00:39,080 --> 00:00:41,020  
move the spacecraft forward.

11  
00:00:41,020 --> 00:00:47,010  
Diversity is important to my work because  
I'm a scientist and in order to come up

12

00:00:47,010 --> 00:00:49,820

with the best solution, we need to have a lot of different ideas.

13

00:00:49,820 --> 00:00:53,589

If you only have one person working it, you're only gonna have one perspective and one set

14

00:00:53,589 --> 00:00:57,609

of ideas, but if you have ten people that's ten sets of ideas to pick from, and so the

15

00:00:57,609 --> 00:01:01,489

more diversity that we have, the better the solution's going to be for a particular

16

00:01:01,489 --> 00:01:02,489

problem.

17

00:01:02,489 --> 00:01:07,950

I've done a number of events involving kids, including the Young Astronaut Day, Take Your

18

00:01:07,950 --> 00:01:12,200

Child to Work Day, Science and Math Week at Cedar Point.

19

00:01:12,200 --> 00:01:17,070

I mean I was inspired, in part, by the people around me when I was growing up, and I wanted

20

00:01:17,070 --> 00:01:20,729

to be on the other end—giving back to kids.

21

00:01:20,729 --> 00:01:26,480

The Asian Pacific heritage month means two things to me.

22

00:01:26,480 --> 00:01:30,750

First is the Cleveland Asian Festival, which always happens around the middle of May, and

23

00:01:30,750 --> 00:01:34,140

the other is the heritage event held by Glenn Research Center.

24

00:01:34,140 --> 00:01:39,090

To me, this is a time to celebrate the uniqueness of Asian culture.

25

00:01:39,090 --> 00:01:44,479

I've done a number of things, including staffing the NASA booth to dragon dancing

26

00:01:44,479 --> 00:01:46,270

as a part of the local dragon dance team.

27

00:01:46,270 --> 00:01:48,380

That's a really fun thing to do.

28

00:01:48,380 --> 00:01:53,570

My advice to young students would be to keep dreaming big because even though at first

29

00:01:53,570 --> 00:01:56,049

your dreams may seem like impossible.