

STEM SPOTLIGHT

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Q How did you select your college major?

A I was much more interested in Biology/Physiology compared to other subjects.

Q What was the biggest influence in your selection of major/ career?

A I am able to do what I really enjoy and love to do at work every day.

Q If you could go back to high school and select any elective course to take that would have better prepared you for college, what would it be?

A I would possibly take advance biology or related courses and get involve in more extracurricular activities related to science, such as partaking in bird watching activities and/or volunteering in aquariums/science museums.

Q What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A Teaching to and learning with enthusiastic people, conveying/explaining interesting concepts in biology to students and using different and interesting examples/methods/strategies to facilitate students' learning.

Q How do you/ your company make a positive impact on society/ our community?

A At the University of Tennessee Martin, regularly we have outreach programs that invite K-12 students to our campus to participate in Science Day every year. In this program, every science department has a chance to showcase/demonstrate interesting experiment or project to students. Sometimes, I also outreach to local K-12 schools by taking my undergraduate students and interesting models/slides/activities with me to local K-12 classrooms showing them interesting topics (such as skin and bones, etc.) in the areas of anatomy, physiology, or biology.

Q What is the most interesting thing you have been able to do in your career?

A Teach different interesting subjects in science including biology, human anatomy and physiology, endocrinology, comparative anatomy and physiology etc. In research, I also was able to discover how photoperiod was able to link to reproductive system in the Siberian hamster.



Q How does your career incorporate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)?

A In biology, STEM helps me empower boys and girls alike. Many STEM websites have free curriculum, formal and informal STEM best practices resources, collaboration opportunities etc. These resources help me to engage students in my expertise areas.

Q What makes you get up each morning excited about your profession?

A You get to do something you are passionate about, in teaching biology, at work and the audience is young and energetic.

Q What advice would you like to share with K-12 students who are considering your profession?

A Read, ask, dig, experience, write, and share especially in biology (or related science subject) topics/questions. However, every subject is important while K-12 students are still laying the foundation for their education and life journey.