

STEM SPOTLIGHT

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Master of Science in Electrical Engineering

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Q How did you select your college major?

A My father and older brother were both engineers so I just followed their lead. My father strongly encouraged me to pursue electrical engineering.

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

A I was always good at math and science so engineering was a logical choice.



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 It isn't an elective-English! Written and oral communication skills are vital to have a successful career in any field.

Q What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A Seeing our team come together in response to an emergency. In the electric utility business any time the weather gets really nasty, think ice storm or tornado, that is when our organization really shines. It is very rewarding to restore power to a community when it has been struck by a natural disaster.

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

A Everyone uses electricity, by keeping it affordable and reliable we make our communities stronger and more livable.

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

A Several years ago I was asked to put together a 24x7x365 dispatch center. The project involved communications, IT, operational and engineering aspects and most importantly human resources. Pulling together all of the various pieces of the puzzle was just a lot of fun.



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

A Focus on the fundamentals. English and math are two subjects you can't get away from so you need to just buckle down and do the work to become good at them.



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

A The fact that we are a member owned organization makes it very rewarding to know that we are working hard every day to improve our communities.

