

STEM SPOTLIGHT

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BS in Chemical Engineering

Master of Business Administration

Master in Project Management

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Q How did you select your college major?

A I have enjoyed chemistry since I was in grade school, so I knew I wanted to study something related to chemistry.

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

A I would say my father and my aunt. My father is an Industrial Engineering and my aunt has a degree in Organic Chemistry, I like the aspects of both professions so I decided on chemical engineering.

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?

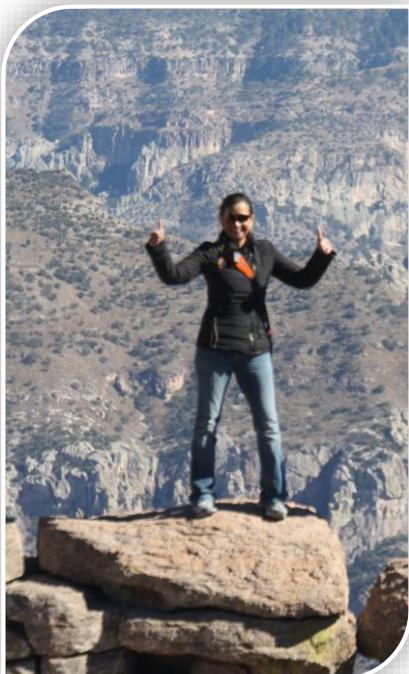
A Advanced Math classes.

Q What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A It offers me new things to learn every day and has offered me the opportunity to travel internationally. I also get to interact with many different people including scientists, sales, marketing, and customers.

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

A At Buckman, we believe that a focused, dedicated global effort will increase the impact we have on the community. We have a formalized program that has become known as Buckman Cares and is supported by a global framework that allows Buckman to truly make a difference in the communities in which we operate globally. On the personal side, I support the Buckman Cares program by volunteering my time in several of the programs we support including: a blood drive, United Way, Springdale elementary school activities such as tutoring, helping with science demonstrations, etc. I also serve on the Girls Inc. STEM council.



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

A Develop products that have made a difference for Buckman and the paper industry. I led a team that developed a green technology for the paper industry that was awarded the Presidential Green Chemistry Award given by the EPA. This is one of the proudest moments of my professional career. On the other hand, another exciting part of my career has been the time spent coaching and developing some of the other women that have come to the labs and helping them advance on their careers.



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

A The fact that I know I will learn something new.

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

A I work for a chemical company, I am involved with science just about every day, and I need to use my chemistry knowledge to develop new technologies and help other scientists do the same. I need to be abreast of other technologies in different industries that can be applied into the pulp and paper industry. With regards to math, we analyze data all the time, so having a good math foundation and statistics knowledge is a necessity.

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

A Study hard, chemistry is not an easy subject but if you put your heart to it, will be easy. Also remember that advancement in any profession is not a given, you need to work hard to earn it.