

What is your field of study? Why did you choose this field to work in?

My undergraduate education is in Electrical Engineering. I became interested in computer technology during my freshman year of high school. I was an apprentice for the Department of Defense during my freshman and sophomore years of high school, and studied under the direction of a Chemical Engineer. It was during this time period that I began to learn about different engineering fields. I always had an interest in how computers worked and were designed, so I considered majoring in computing engineering. The University of Maryland did not have a computer engineering program when I entered the University in 1995, so I decided to pursue a degree in electrical engineering with a specialization in underlying computer architecture.

Is the engineering/science/technology field different than what you thought it would be?

Practical engineering is much more team oriented than I expected. In school, we worked on small project teams and took projects from concept to design to completion. In the corporate world, projects span many different organizations and sites globally, and it is rare to actively participate on a single project for its entire duration. Additionally, when working in industry, you become aware of the market-driven motivations for projects you are involved in.