

NASA MISSION: ENCOURAGING THE PURSUIT OF STEM EXCELLENCE



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www.nasa.gov

Background





- Parents from Monterrey, Mexico
- Number 7 of 8 children
- Grew up in the Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg, TX

- 2004 B.S. Mechanical Engineering
 - Research: Nano Reinforced Polymeric Materials UTPA
- 2006 M.S. Mechanical Engineering
 - Research: Electrorheology of C₆₀ Suspension Fluids-UTPA
- 2011 Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering
 - Research: Low-Temperature Processing of Inorganic Polymers-TAMU



NASA GRC : A Long History in Innovation and Excellence

- NASA
- Originally established as the Aircraft Engine Research Laboratory (AERL), part of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) in 1941.
- A national resource for innovations in aircraft engine technology, influencing commercial and military propulsion systems.
- Renamed the Lewis Research Center and became part of the new National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958.
- In the early 1960s, Lewis pioneered the use of liquid hydrogen for rocket and aircraft propulsion, allowing the U.S. to win the race to the moon.
- Throughout the last 75 years, our scientists and engineers have advanced technology in both aviation and space exploration. These innovations have given the U.S. a leading role in the aerospace industry.



NASA GRC Work Profile



NASA Glenn Core Competencies



Air-Breathing Propulsion



In-Space Propulsion and Cryogenic Fluids Management



Physical Sciences and Biomedical Technologies in Space



Communications Technology and Development



Power, Energy Storage and Conversion



Materials and Structures for Extreme Environment



Materials and Structures Division







Why Does NASA Have a High Standard of STEM Standard of STEM

It's Obvious!



NASA's missions to explore our world, our solar system, our galaxy and our universe presents extraordinary complex challenges. These challenges can only be met with excellence in STEM education, innovation, and a lot of hard team work.

Examples of Excellence in Materials Science

Thermal Protection Systems





Coated Reinforced Carbon/Carbon Composite



High Temperature Reusable Surface Insulation (HTRSI)

English Reinforced Carbon Carbon (RCC) High-Temperature, Revisible Surface Insulation (HRSI) -Low Temperature, Reveable Surface Insulation (LRSI) Coated Nomex Felt Reusable Surface Insulation (FRSI) Metal or Glass Arra, iq m (sq ft) Weight, hp lib? Dement LOWER SURFACE 332.7 (3581) 532.1 1 11 1 FRSI LRSI HRSI RCC 254,5 (2741) 532,1 (1172) 254,5 (2741) 1014,2 (2236) 479,7 (5164) 4412,5 (9778) 38,0 (409) 1697,3 (3742) 918,5 (2025) UPPER SURFACE Total 1105.0 (1189588574.7 (18.90 Includes bulk insulation, therma HRSI - Black LRSI - Off White FRSI - White RCC - Light Gray Thermal Protection System, Orbiter 102



Re-entry Environment



- Temperature to 2000 K
- Reduced pressure--0.005 to 0.010 atm
- Gases--O₂, N₂, CO₂
 - Shock leads to O, N and ions
- Short times ~15 minutes/re-entry
- Best simulated with arc-jet

Radioisotope Power Systems (RPS) For Deep Space **Exploration**





Where Does Excellence Begin?



Traits of Excellence

- Dedication
- Determination
- Resilience
- Perseverance
- Flexibility
- Tenacity
- Integrity
- A perhaps a little bit of confidence!

To Achieve Excellence in All Endeavors, A Plan Must be in Place





Strategies to Achieve Excellence

- Develop Plans-Plan A and Plan B if you need it!
- Prepare
- Apply Time-Management
- Develop Skills
 - Technical Undergraduate Work
 - Mechanical Engineering-Research
 - Physics- Research and Lab Instructor
 - Mathematics- Research
 - Internships-NREL Internship and REU at UTPA and Vanderbilt University
 - Non-technical Management work: HESTEC 2004 2005
 Student Competition Coordinator
- Learn From Failure-Plan B!!! The Plan may change but the GOAL is the same!
- Utilize Resources
- Never Give Up and Keep Your Eyes on the PRIZE!







The Results of Planning and Hard Work

RESULTS: A STRONG COMPETITIVE RESUME Highlighting Academic Achievements, Work Ethics and Skills. **REWARDS:** OPPORTUNITIES!





The Day All The Hard Work PAID OFF! Monday, April 25, 2011 11:51 AM



Preparation and Planning Can Take You Far



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwipxdQ74pU



CHOOSE to Pursue Excellence in STEM





The Rewards Are Out of This World...





NASA Opportunities

- Pathways Program
 - Prepares students for careers by providing related work experience
 - Rotates scheduled work sessions with school
- Pathways Intern and Recent Graduate Positions:
 - o <u>www.usajobs.gov</u>
 - Example-Search "glenn pathways"
 - For PMF-STEM visit <u>www.pmf.gov</u>
- Regular Full-Time Positions:
 - o www.usajobs.gov
 - o Search "glenn research center"
- Other Student Opportunities:
 - o https://intern.nasa.gov
 - Search Opportunities
 - o Limited opportunities for international students

Just for fun...Your Next Picnic!





