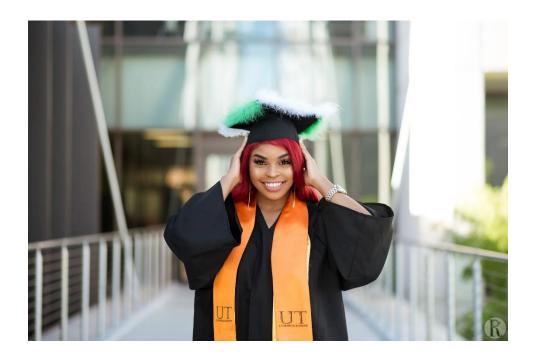**Eseoghene Igbru**

Power Optimization Engineer

"When I look back at all I have accomplished, I am highly encouraged, and I know I can only go forward from there. This is the mentality that students who decide to pursue a career in STEM should develop."

1. Tell us about yourself and your role at AMD.

My name is Eseoghene Igbru but I go by Ese. I am Nigerian and have lived in the United States since 2010. I attended UT Austin for my undergraduate studies, and I am currently pursuing a Master's degree at Texas A&M. Here at AMD, I am responsible for power optimization of processors that we work with. My primary goal is ensuring minimal loss of power when these processors are used.

2. What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

In Nigeria, there were several hardships that my family and I faced so I was always conditioned to figure out solutions to problems or create my own solution when I was not given much of a choice. This was why my favorite subject in school was mathematics. In mathematics, there is always a solution to the problem and in certain instances, there are multiple routes to get to that solution. If I couldn't solve the problem the exact way the teacher taught it, I knew that there were other ways to solve the problem, thus challenging myself to learn several approaches to the problem. This lesson I learned from Mathematics has also helped me in life considering the many obstacles that life throws at us.

3. When did you know you wanted to go into STEM and what inspired you?

Moving to the U.S., my family did not have a lot so I wasn't privileged to go to a great high school where I could expand my computer science knowledge. I knew I wanted to be an engineer after years of living

with little to no electricity in Nigeria and deciding to bring change to the flawed system, but my parents couldn't afford to send me to a high school with a good introductory program. Therefore, I came to UT with little to no engineering background as my peers bragged about the first computers they built and how many competitions they had participated in. However, the privileges I lacked only motivated me to always give my best.

4. What does engineering mean to you?

To me, engineering means always improving your methods to achieve the best solution and being an engineer in AMD has taught me to challenge myself to be in a state of continuous improvement.

5. What advice would you like to give students who want to pursue a career in STEM?

When I look back at all I have accomplished, I am highly encouraged, and I know I can only go forward from there. This is the mentality that students who decide to pursue a career in STEM should develop. The road might not be easy, but you must show up every day wanting to make a difference.