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"Engineering means the ability to solve a problem that exists. Understanding the need of the moment, designing something to fit that need and then productizing it to be the most profitable for your company and the best quality for the consumer."

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

I work in the Foundry Technology Group, which is a liaison between the foundry that manufactures our devices and AMD. My current role is an early enablement product owner and program manager for my team. Specifically, I help work with the design of the product early on and investigate areas where we could help reduce the cost for making our product and bring up any concerns which would need to be tackled early on before high-volume manufacturing.

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

My decision to go into STEM was based on my favorite subjects in school. The subjects I seemed to have a natural affinity for were logic driven – things which could be proven or explained. I liked the binary, specific and finite aspect of these subjects – rather than the subjective, speculative, or maybe creative side of others.

3. What does engineering mean to you?

Engineering means the ability to solve a problem that exists. Understanding the need of the moment, designing something to fit that need and then productizing it to be the most profitable for your company and the best quality for the consumer.

4. What has been your biggest challenge and how do you overcome hurdles?

The biggest challenge, which I think everyone faces again and again, is constant change. After all change is the only constant! Our roles change, the technology changes, market demand changes, the company's organizational structure changes. I overcome the anxiety of change by reminding myself to breathe and remember that "Progress is impossible without change!"

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

 If this is where your passion lies, pursue it with full vigor. Nothing can stop you, as the passion can make even the impossible happen. You should not pursue STEM because of a friend or family says to; it should be your passion. Dig deep and take your time!