

Meet the Academic – Dr Fanfu Wu

Introduction

Hi, my name is Fanfu Wu. I'm a research fellow in WMG, University of Warwick.

What route did you take into your current role?

I first had my masters degree in manufacturing engineering in WMG and then I applied the PhD here and I started my PhD in Material engineering and my field is about engine electrical steel for the electric motors for the electric vehicle.

What inspired you to become a scientist?

When I was about 11 or 12, I wanted to have my own factory and to do the manufacturing stuff that I find. If you want to do those levels of things, you need to be scientifically strong and understand the science and the principles behind it. Then I start to realize to become a scientist researcher will be the first thing I need to be

Did you have any role models that inspired you?

Well, two important people. They really influenced me a lot. First was my mom and she is a professor of dentistry. The other person is my PhD supervisor that she really inspired me to become a PhD scientific researcher when I was doing my masters degree here.

What challenges did you face over the course of your STEM career?

When I try to explain my scientific principles to my audience that I find, well, not everyone is interested in that topic, so I need to find the specific way or an accurate way to explain what I want to explain to target the audience. That's the most difficult thing because different levels of audience, they understand things in different ways.

What advice would you give to someone aspiring to go into a STEM career?

Well, first go for it. It's very important because you want to create an impact for your work, so you are a representative of a university or a researcher. So you absorb the energy from your institution, then spread it out to the public, make the public know oh, this is what an academic institution does, and that's the impact. And the knowledge they are delivering to the next generation.