BLOOMING
Inclusion and Diversity in STEAM

Interview Questions

STEAM Journey : "Can you share your journey and what inspired you to pursue a career in STEAM? Were there any key moments or influential figures that directed you towards this path?"

From a young age, I was driven by a curiosity about how things work and a passion for solving problems. This inquisitiveness led me to delve into scientific concepts, technological advancements, and engineering challenges. My father played a pivotal role in this journey by introducing me to geometry and higher-level mathematics, which significantly shaped my understanding and appreciation for the exact sciences. He also provided me with books on mathematics, physics, and foreign languages. Throughout my life, I have always admired Marie Curie.

STEAM Achievement: "What do you consider your most significant achievement or contribution to your field? How do you hope your work will impact the future of STEAM?"

Two of my most notable achievements include my research in electromagnetic compatibility, which is essential for ensuring that electronic medical devices function without mutual interference, and my work in artificial intelligence for medical image processing. Additionally, my involvement in the accreditation process and quality assurance of study programs has significantly elevated the standards of education in my field.

Regarding the future of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), I am dedicated to advancing research and enhancing educational standards. My goal is to inspire and prepare the next generation of innovators, particularly women, to pursue careers in these fields.

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Challenges and Overcoming Them: "Throughout your career in STEAM, what were some of the significant challenges you faced both in your personal and professional life? How did you overcome them? How did these challenges shape your professional journey?"

As a professor and researcher, balancing the demands of teaching, administrative duties, and conducting cutting-edge research can be quite challenging. In academia and research, long hours and the pressure to publish can significantly impact personal time. This requires substantial time management and dedication. I strive to stay updated with the latest advancements in technology and research methodologies, which necessitates continuous learning and adaptation.

Advice for Young Women: "What advice would you give to young girls who are interested in STEAM but might be hesitant to pursue it due to stereotypes or the fear of failure?"

If young girls have a passion for science, technology, engineering, arts, or mathematics, they should pursue it wholeheartedly. Their enthusiasm and curiosity are their greatest assets. Don't let stereotypes dictate what you can or cannot do. Many women before you have broken barriers in STEAM fields, and you can too. Learn from your mistakes, as each one is an opportunity to grow and improve. Don't be afraid to take risks and try new things.

Surround yourself with people who believe in your potential and can offer advice and encouragement.

Future of Women in STEAM: "Looking towards the future, how do you see the role of women evolving in STEAM fields? What changes do you think are necessary to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for women in STEAM?"

As more women enter and excel in STEAM fields, their visibility will inspire future generations. This growing representation can help dismantle stereotypes and encourage more young girls to pursue careers in these areas. Women will increasingly occupy leadership positions, influencing policies and practices that promote gender equality and inclusivity. This shift can lead to more diverse perspectives in decision-making processes.

In the classroom, it's essential to create an environment where all students feel valued and supported. Encourage girls to participate in discussions and group projects, and provide positive reinforcement for their contributions.

Timisoara

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