Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Vehicle Safety Performance Integration Engineer:

I am currently part of a two year rotational program called TRACK that is designed to expose new hires to different roles throughout the vehicle development process. In my current position, I help develop and validate the performance of different safety systems in a vehicle and how they work together to keep occupants safe in the event of a crash. I create test plans to assess vehicles against government and internal requirements, crash whole vehicles and perform component level testing, analyze the data and document any findings. A car cannot move forward to production without my team signing off that it meets or exceeds our safety standards.

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Biomedical Engineering?

As a student, you are in a unique position where busy people will still take a moment out of their schedule to answer a question or give advice. Use this as a way to open doors to opportunities, people, and learning. Classes are a fantastic way to learn, but I found that I better understood my course work when I was able to apply that information through internships and undergraduate research. Not only did the experiences I had with internships and research help me understand what I enjoy, they made me more marketable. Employers prefer to see some experience outside the classroom. When you are able to talk about what you did, what you learned, and the impact you made, it helps you stand out. So go out and find those opportunities to learn and expand your abilities.