Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Research Scientist:

I work with the Coastal Change Hazards team to develop and apply coastal numerical models to assess the impacts of coastal hazards on the shoreline and coastal communities. I also investigate the ability of waves and tides to mobilize and transport sediment and other objects on the seafloor. Our work incorporates the impacts of climate change on our coasts. We also assess the effectiveness of various mitigation measures to increase coastal resiliency with the aim of reducing loss of life and property due to coastal hazards.

Explain the skills/abilities that are required for being successful in your role:

The skills required to be successful in this role include being detail-oriented, and persistent. Having good time-management skills and being able to work collaboratively on a team are also essential. Additionally, you should be able to work independently, think analytically, and have good leadership skills.

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

Consider your passions and try to link your career to it. Find a mentor, stay aware of current events in the field, find a good graduate studies advisor, try to get involved with research projects and/or pursue internships in industry to gain experience.