

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

SANDY POWER

HOW DID YOU COME TO BLACKSBURG?

I grew up in a rural community in South Carolina and lived and worked in Atlanta after college. I had the opportunity to move to the beautiful New River Valley back in 2000, and I have been with Hokie Passport ever since then.

WHAT'S ONE PROJECT YOU'RE CURRENTLY WORKING ON?

I run the servers and “back of the house” hardware and software for us. We’re currently adding more servers and resources for the CS Gold system to accommodate VT’s growth. The system’s used by the university community 24-7, so finding times to implement changes without degrading services can be very challenging.

WHAT'S SOMETHING OUTSIDE THE OFFICE YOU'RE MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Nature and environmental causes. I am a lifetime member of the Sierra Club. We have a responsibility to leave the earth in good shape for the generations that come after us.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE HOBBIES?

Hiking, kayaking, working out, and going to live music performances. I also serve on the board of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Blacksburg.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE YOUR MOST IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES OR STRENGTHS?

I love learning new things, seeing new places, and meeting new people.

WHO IS SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU? HOW SO?

Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She has been such a strong champion for women’s equality for decades, and she is still at it!

MOST REWARDING THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Knowing that over 100,000 students have obtained degrees at VT since I started working here, and I had a tiny part in that.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN, OR A FAVORITE SAYING THAT STICKS WITH YOU?

“Nothing ventured, nothing gained.”



- SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR
- HOKIE PASSPORT SERVICES
- JOINED VIRGINIA TECH IN: 2000
- B.S. in AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING (Clemson University)
- SPOWER@VT.EDU

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

Working in my family’s farm equipment dealership

WHAT'S ONE THING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Rafting on the Colorado River!

WHAT'S ONE FOOD OR BEVERAGE YOU ABSOLUTELY COULD NOT GO WITHOUT?

Strong black coffee

WHAT'S ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY YOU WISH YOU COULD'VE WITNESSED?

JFK’s “we choose to go to the moon” speech. It must have been amazing to hear that in 1962.

WHAT TV SHOW ARE YOU WATCHING THAT OTHERS NEED TO CHECK OUT?

I don’t watch much TV. I listen to NPR, and I like Krista Tippett’s show “On Being” a lot.