

Careers Chat



ABOUT ALEJANDRO GALLEGO SCHMID

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MY JOURNEY INTO SCIENCE

As a child, I knew I wanted to be someone that takes care of the environment. My favourite subjects at school were biology, chemistry and music; I was not so keen on art and drawing though. At university, I studied Environmental Science and then went into Environmental Engineering because that was my passion. When I finished my studies, I didn't really know what I wanted to do next. It was my flatmate who persuaded me to explore the world of research and apply for a PhD. It was the best decision I ever made - I discovered that I love research and teaching. I tried working in industry but that was not for me so I came back to research.

MY JOB

Part of my job is to be a lecturer at a university. I teach about sustainability, climate change, impact and different sources of energy. I use maths in my job to put different environmental impacts into numbers so that they can be compared and improved. As the Head of Sustainability at the School of Engineering where I work, I am responsible for improving the sustainability of the university itself. I am very lucky to work with an amazing team of people who all have the same goals as me. It's important to me to know that that my work is meaningful and will have an impact on the world - that's what motivates me to get up every morning! My days are full of variety and I get to meet lots of very interesting people.

MY HOBBIES

Recently, I took on a running challenge and ran 70km in 11 hours - it was very tough but I am proud that I completed it! In my spare time I like reading true crime and mystery books. I also enjoy cooking and I make quite a good paella. I have been collecting stamps for over 30 years and I'm very proud of my collection!

A QUESTION I WANT TO ASK

What one action would make the biggest impact on making our world more sustainable?