

Interview: Laura Villada

How would you describe your area of study to your grandmother?

My area of study is Business Administration, which includes the management of resources within a private organization.

What is your primary motivation for persevering through graduate school?

My husband and my children, I want to be an example for them. Show them that it is never too late to pursue a dream.

Do you think there is any value in social networking with other graduate students in non-related fields?

Of course, interacting with students and professionals in diverse fields allow each other to enrich perspectives, broad views, and learn and understand other fields that play a role in our society.

What is your favorite stress-reduction technique?

Running provides me with a healthy way to reduce stress.

What is the last book you read strictly for pleasure and how long ago was it?

October Sky, based on a true story of several boys from a coal town in West Virginia who decided to transcend by building rockets. I enjoyed this book this past summer.

Please describe your most meaningful academic relationship.

What surprised you the most about graduate school?

The energy and enthusiasm of the majority of the students

If travel to Mars happens in your lifetime, would you want to be one of the scientists on board? If yes, what would you contribute to the mission?

Astronaut is not exactly my goal, but if I was selected to be part of the crew I would help to create an environment of harmony and healthy communication.

What is your favorite comfort food and why? How often do you consume it?

Hard to believe but my comfort drink is water. I drink it all the time

If you hadn't been admitted to graduate school, what do you think you would be doing right now?

Keep trying, because I had clear in my mind that studying an MBA was what I wanted to do.

When do you expect to complete your degree?

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