Career Profile of NIEHS Principle Investigator, Patricia Jensen, PhD

What is your current title and how long have you worked in your current job?
Tenure-track Investigator
Head, Developmental Neurobiology Group
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/NIH

15 months

Where did you get your PhD and what discipline was it in?
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Center for Neuroscience

Did you do a postdoc? Where?
Two postdocs:
1. St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Department of Neurobiology (Advisor: Tom Curran.)
2. Harvard Medical School, Department of Genetics (Advisor: Susan Dymecki)

What are your main daily responsibilities?
I head an active research program in developmental neurobiology.

What are the keys to success in your career field?
Passion and determination

What were the most important factors in choosing your career path?
Passion for scientific research in developmental neurobiology

What 1 or 2 pieces of advice do you have for people who want to land a job like yours?
Know what you want, and then work hard and be assertive until you reach your goal

Links for more information on this career path:
Reaping the Benefits of a Government Job
http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2009_10_23/science.opms.r0900081

Working in a government lab