MARY LANGGUTH

Advanced Technology Group,
a Cognizant company

Job Title
Associate Director

Hometown
Missoula...a Sentinel Spartan!

Education
BS Mechanical Engineering from MSU and M. Eng. Healthcare Systems Engineering from Lehigh

What do you do?
I am the lead of ATG/Cognizant's Advisory Analyst team. As an Advisory Analyst, we conduct strategic analyses of our clients' enterprise processes, people, and systems in order to help guide them through their digital transformations.

What was your career prior to ATG?
After college I began my career as a Project Engineer at a manufacturing company where I was responsible for managing capital projects (things like installing a new production line, designing building and installing manufacturing equipment, etc.). During this job I fell in love with analyzing process problems and trying to figure out how to make processes work for people (rather than the reverse).

Why did you choose to pursue a career in technology?
As I was nearing the end of grad school, I was searching for a new challenge and a place to apply my process-oriented mind and experience. I found a job posting with ATG searching for someone to analyze business processes and advise clients on changes and impacts throughout their digital transformation. I almost didn't apply. As soon as interviews started, the people and company culture captured me hook, line, and sinker! I quickly realized that this opportunity would allow me to fulfill two of my biggest passions; helping others and tackling complex problems.

What advice would you give yourself starting your career?

1. Be confident, yet humble. You were hired for a reason and you have value to add. Hold onto the confidence that you do belong. You can learn many things from others around you, but you must give them the opportunity to teach you.

2. Don't settle and embrace failure. It is easy to get in a routine you are comfortable with and stay there. However, true growth comes from continuing to challenge yourself. In doing so, you will experience failures along the way, but know that it truly is okay to fail.

3. Always be a team player. Actively listen to your team members and be willing to fill whatever role the team needs in order to achieve success, even if it is not your preferred role.