



In 1993 Christopher A. Lewicki a nineteen-year-old University of Arizona (UA) Aerospace Engineering sophomore received his first taste of NASA R&D through a 1993 AZSGC Undergraduate Research Internship and discovered an insatiable appetite for all things “space”! Through Space Grant he became an integral member of the NASA Mars Observer’s Gamma Ray Spectrometer and NEAR missions teams while his enthusiasm, growing expertise, and leadership qualities propelled him to the presidency of UA SEDS, SEDS USA, the NASA Academy at Goddard where his research received the summer’s top honors (1996), and a two-year Space Grant Graduate Fellowship to lead the first UA student satellite program (1997-1999). Upon graduation, he landed his dream job at JPL, beginning a professional ascent that led him--one week before his 30th birthday--to the front of Mission Control where he presided over the NASA MER’s Impact/Egress team as Flight Director responsible for successfully “valet parking” Spirit and Opportunity and “handing the keys over to the science team”. Since then, he has served as Senior Flight Systems Engineer on the Phoenix Mars Scout Mission. Through it all, Chris continues to support SEDS and generously advises aspiring space professionals about "How to Land that Great Job in the Space Program" by taking full advantage of the myriad of opportunities to become involved in leading-edge R&D at our Research 1 university. Chris’s bio on Wiki.seds.org says it all, “All hail Chris Lewicki!”