INCOSE Spotlight on DeAnthony Heart
Interviewed by Sandy Young, info@incose.org

Name: DeAnthony Heart
Title: Senior Systems Engineer
Organization: MITRE Corporation

Current Residence: McLean, Virginia, USA

Domain: Systems Engineering
Studied in college: Aerospace engineering and systems engineering
Year joined INCOSE: 2014
Roles in INCOSE: INCOSE Washington Metro Area STEM co-chair; First class, INCOSE Leadership Institute
Years in systems engineering: 5 years

1. **What is the biggest challenge you face?**

   Peter Guber once said that to succeed you have to persuade others to support your vision, dream or cause. This is an understatement in the world of systems engineering as it is your job to create, connect and at times persuade others of a greater unified vision. The challenge of becoming a world class technical leader of people, processes and technology is something all great systems engineers must face. It's a continual challenge that I am both confident and exhilarated to undertake throughout my career.

2. **Why did you apply for INCOSE's Leadership Institute? What have you learned so far?**

   Only during my work with the Leadership Institute did I realize why systems engineering demands a capacity for leadership. It is the systems engineer who must work across disciplines to bring all the pieces together. Therefore, a capacity for both people and technology is needed.

   Stemming from the Leadership Institute, I was recently offered and accepted a position as INCOSE's Growth Initiatives volunteer program manager. I look forward to working with all of you and if you see me at the next INCOSE conference, stop and say hi! ☺

3. **What have you been able to accomplish as INCOSE WMA's STEM co-chair?**

   Not enough, for all the events, working groups, conferences, school visits and mentoring sessions Marshai McIntyre (co-chair) and I have completed. It doesn't come close to the necessary impact for the engineers and scientists of tomorrow. Needless to say our commitment to STEM is a life-long investment with only three conditions: have impact, learn something and have fun.

4. **If you weren't a systems engineer, what would you do?**

   My many interests would eventually lead me back to the multidisciplinary field of systems engineering. Even as a budding entrepreneur I used many systems engineering principles when I created my first company MailAPotato.com. Long story made short: If I chose another field I would only be a systems engineer known by another name.

5. **What do you like to do outside of work?**

   I coach 10th grade basketball and by the time this quarterly newsletter runs I would have proposed and hopefully began planning for my wedding. Wish me luck!