



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Olivia Bartik

Project Manager



Q. How did you become employed at ATL?

A. I graduated from SUNY Oneonta in the Spring of '22 with a B.S. in Geology and soon after applied for a job at the Binghamton Branch. After interviewing with Will Bell, I requested to be placed at the Albany division instead; since I was making the move upstate from Long Island, I wanted to be just a bit closer to family for a wide range of reasons. Luckily my request was heard, and I started as a field tech at the Albany division in late August of 2022.

Q. Who were your mentors at ATL when you started out?

A. When I first started out, my mentors were mainly Emmett Dwyer and James LaMarco. For the majority of the latter half of 2023, Dylan Snyder and Bob Field became my mentors. Besides the endless pranks, Bob taught me the in's and out's of everything that revolves around our laboratory testing operations, especially the little things that one could only have knowledge of due to years and years of experience. I am really looking forward to carrying on his legacy here.

Q. What technical skills did you acquire that helped make you an expert in your position?

A. Being a STEM major in college, I can't even recall the amount of technical papers and essays that I wrote. All of that practice undoubtedly helped prepare me for all of the material testing reports that I would draft here at ATL. Additionally, I spent a lot of time at school during my senior year in the field conducting my own research, as well as traveling and mapping vast swaths of SoCal for a degree required field course. Although I'm not wading through stream beds with a camera and GPS, or taking strikes and dips anymore, my time spent doing field work in school also helped make the transition here as a field tech a much easier task. Who doesn't love being outside?!

Q. Did you make decisions that helped you move forward in your ATL career?

A. When I first started, the summer was already winding down into the "slower" winter season, so I was eager and willing to take every opportunity to help out anyway I that could. You need paperwork filed, cylinders checked-in, snow shoveled, samples tossed, anything? I'm your girl. I think this attitude helped me stick out from the crowd and, more importantly, demonstrate my work ethic to my superiors and coworkers. By the time I started hearing people talking of Bob's imminent retirement and that there would be an opportunity for an open position, I knew I was in the right place at the right time.

Q. What project that you worked on is the most memorable, and why?

A. I worked on two different projects at Global Foundries in Malta over the course of Fall '22 to Early Spring '23, both with the same crew. I think these are my most memorable jobs because the crew guys were extremely nice and funny; they made me feel like I was part of their crew. I've found that while most crews are polite and helpful, I've also noticed that there is a tangible separation between the testers and the daily crew. In the worst, albeit rare, scenarios, being a woman on site just exaggerates this. But with this Jersen crew, I always felt like one of the guys and looked forward to working with and seeing them again.

Q. What do you like the most about the path your ATL career has taken?

A. When I first started and met with Dylan, I remember him telling me about how there is a lot of potential for upward growth through the company. To have only been with the company for less than a year and a half, its amazing to have seen that prove true for me already. I love the responsibilities that I have been entrusted with, and I also enjoy the fact that I still get to go out in the field and do the occasional SWPPP every week. For me, it's the best of both worlds.

Q. What area of knowledge or experience are you looking to expand?

A. Obviously, I am continuously looking to expand my knowledge of our laboratory tests. Bob taught me well, but there's still so much that can only be acquired over time and my own experience. I would love to expand my knowledge in my field of study by acquiring my F.G and eventually my P.G.

Q. What do you like to do outside of ATL?

A. Outside of work, I enjoy reading, playing video games, trying to keep my plants alive, and cooking. I love spending time with my cats, Marceline and Little Man. In the summer, my boyfriend and I enjoy hiking together, birdwatching, mushroom hunting, and camping. This summer we plan on spending a week in Acadia National Park with his family, a first for both of us. I am also an Advanced Open Water SCUBA diver, and I enjoy taking the occasional trip to the bottom of a lake whenever I have the opportunity.



Fieldwork in the Anza Borrego Desert in Southern California.



Shenandoah National Park.



Surface support (divers underneath the water).



Pet cat, Little Man.



Pet cat, Marcie.