

VITA

Amie Michelle Smith was born on August 7, 1975, in Baltimore, MD. She grew up in Arnold, MD, where she graduated from Broadneck High School in 1993. In high school, she participated in the SEAP (Summer Engineering Apprenticeship Program) at the Annapolis Detachment, Carderock Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center.

In the fall of 1993, Amie began her studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Following her freshman year, she accepted a cooperative education assignment with Virginia Power at North Anna Power Station in Mineral, VA. She spent three semesters with Virginia Power and another two semesters as an intern with General Motors at the Baltimore Truck and Bus assembly plant in Baltimore, MD.

Amie actively participated in several organizations on campus. She served as the 1998-99 president of the Virginia Tech chapter of Pi Tau Sigma, the National Mechanical Engineering Honor Society, and the 1997-98 Vice President of Kappa Theta Epsilon, the National Cooperative Education Honor Society. She has held various positions as a member of Gamma Beta Phi, Mortar Board, and Golden Key Honor Society. Amie also played violin in the New River Valley Symphony Orchestra.

In May 1998, Amie graduated Magna cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Business. She spent the following summer as an intern with Swales Aerospace in Beltsville, MD.

Amie began her graduate studies in the fall of 1998 at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University as a research assistant in the Thermal Radiation Group, directed by Dr. James R. Mahan. In January 1999, she began working with the Radiation Branch of the Atmospheric Science Competency at NASA Langley. She spent a summer in the LARSS (Langley Aerospace Research Summer Scholars) program, mentored by Dr. Martial P. Haeffelin.

In December 1999, Amie graduated with a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Following graduation, she began her doctoral studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in anticipation of a faculty career.