

#AlumniUMH

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UNIVERSITAS Miguel Hernández ALUMNI UMH

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What was your future perspective when you studied Industrial Engineering?

I always wanted to work in Formula 1, so studying Industrial Engineering was one of the best ways to achieve my dream. The truth is that Industrial Engineering is a career that covers many professional fields, so it has professional opportunities for almost all tastes.

What did you like most about the race?

The preparation acquired without a doubt. On the other hand, from the beginning until the end of the race, the growth of the UMH as a university and in terms of facilities was fantastic. And, finally, you can not forget the classmates, since I have great friendships that began in class during those years of study.

Any teacher or teacher that has specially marked you and that you remember with affection?

Well, here I can mention Miguel Sánchez Lozano, because he was the teacher who supervised me in my final year project. Apart from the classes I taught, I had a few tutorials about the project with Miguel during a busy summer.

Since you dreamed of designing F1 cars until today which is your profession, what would you highlight from that route?

Definitely the dedication and constant effort required to achieve it. Without vocation, it is not a profession that can be easily reached. Once inside, the technological level of F1 is something incomparable and the pace of development is tremendous because the cars evolve in each race.

Currently working at McLaren leading aerodynamics projects in this British team. Tell us about the responsibility that this entails and what it brings you personally and professionally.

Specifying a little more, I lead a team of engineers in aerodynamic correlation projects. Basically, the F1 cars are in which the aerodynamics is a determining factor in their behavior on the track, since the aerodynamic forces stick the car to the asphalt and that makes them go much faster in a curve than a traditional car. The aerodynamic evolution is achieved through the use of wind tunnels, CFD and track tests. Among these three tools, differences always

appear and in correlation we try to understand the motive of each one in order to improve it as soon as possible, thus achieving that the design improves in the most efficient way possible. It's a big responsibility because in McLaren Racing we will not stop until we fight for victories again, so it entails pressure and hard work, but the variety of topics we are involved in is very broad: instrumentation in the circuit, testing methods in CFD (by computer) as in the wind tunnel, practical and theoretical tests on the behavior of air in specific areas ...

How do you see Formula 1 in a few years in terms of technical advances?

In 2021 there is a big change in the rules, so the cars will change significantly in their appearance compared to the current cars. Speaking in general, F1 must remain at the top of technological issues (engines, wheels, aerodynamics, data analysis, materials, control systems ...), thanks to being a world of research and development, but it is very important to see many of these improvements on the street. The McLaren of our sister company (McLaren Automotive) are a great example of this transfer of technology and knowledge.

Do you think that the internship is important during the race before finishing the degree?

I see them very important. Personally, I did not have the opportunity to do any interesting in my time, but they put you in an advantageous and privileged position at the end of the race with a degree and a proven professional experience. In fact, during my time in F1, I've seen many grantees spend a year working between their second and third years of engineering (taking the British system as an example), and when they do it really well, they can go back to college with a offer of firm work so that they rejoin as engineers when they finish the race ...

What advice would you give to recent graduates for their foray into the world of work?

That they fight to obtain their professional dreams, although they seem very distant, and that they do not discourage in their attempt. Both in sport and in professional life, you have to get up and fight when obstacles are encountered along the way.