Career Advice

- Be a good listener and communicator:
- Take initiative
- Keep your cool
- When given the opportunity jump at the opportunity to work with your more experienced coworkers, they will appreciate your help and they have the connections to advance your career
- Go to career fairs
- Don’t be afraid to have a conversation with someone (even if you don’t see how it will help you advance your career) you never know how opportunities may present themselves

What certifications have been the most useful:

- Get OSHA-10, OSHA-30 when you are in school (employers are more likely to hire you if they don’t have to take the time/money to get you these certifications)
- Other than OSHA-10 and/or OSHA-30 it depends on your job
- Focus on getting the certifications that your employer offers/recommends

Handling difficult conversations/situations:

- Take your safety and your integrity seriously
- Don’t’ work for companies that put you in danger
- Get away from any immediate conflicts and tell your supervisor
- Be open, honest and yourself starting at the interview
- When you are a new employee be a friend to all, as you gain more experience you can take more authority
- If you want to correct someone don’t be overbearing, give facts with a smile, nudge with kindness

How do you manage being overwhelmed by a project:
- Break the larger tasks down into a list of smaller action items
- Identify a path and the obstructions that are in the way of your goals
- Communicate obstacles to your coworkers/supervisor
- Don’t be afraid of asking questions and saying that you are overwhelmed

How did starting off as a construction laborer affect your career:

- Being a laborer was hugely important beneficial to my career, especially as a scheduler, but it having the knowledge that you gain from work in the field could also make you a better project manager or coordinator

How do you deal with differences in race/gender as a construction worker:

- You may have to work harder/take more initiative and they might treat you differently at first, but you can prove yourself

What will the industry look like in 10-20 years:

- Faster calculations
- Better modeling technology
- More diversity
- Emphasis on safety
- Sustainability-centered projects/methods
- Client driven
- More cohesive team
- New project delivery methods