Practical Engineering: Life as a Consulting Engineer and Scientist

So you are graduating with a degree in engineering, now what? Many students will contemplate obtaining more advanced degrees, and many will consider entering the private sector of consulting engineering. This seminar will focus on some of the factors for starting and advancing your career in the fields of science and engineering while engaged at an engineering firm. Emphasis is placed on the types of skills desired by firms, and what it takes to become a consultant operating under the professional formula of “Sell – Manage - Do” practiced by many firms. A summary will be presented of the types of civil and environmental projects that private sector engineers may become involved with and the career paths that are typically expected. The discussion will include a presentation of some of the challenges that are encountered along the way and some strategies for conquering them. This presentation will provide practical applications and aims to be interactive to allow for questions from the audience.

About the Speaker

Mr. Johnson has over 18 years of experience in the environmental consulting and contracting industry and is currently a Senior Engineer in Geosyntec Consultants’ Columbia, Maryland office and a member of the Steering Committee for Geosyntec’s Environmental Management practice group. Mr. Johnson’s primary field of study is in environmental due diligence, site assessment, investigation, and remediation consulting, and he has conducted and managed numerous remedial investigations. Mr. Johnson also assists commercial companies and attorney clients evaluate potential future environmental remediation requirements and costs associated with industrial facilities as part of due diligence and related transaction support, and also provides technical support during environmental litigation. Mr. Johnson received his Bachelor of Arts in Earth and Planetary Sciences from the Johns Hopkins University, and his Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park.