

INSIGHTS FROM EXPERIENCE: ALUMNI ADVICE FOR FUTURE SUCCESS



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TABLE OF CONTENT

01 Alum's Introduction



02 Skills & Competencies Advice

03 Dickinson' Experience

04 Key Takeaway



ALUM'S INTRODUCTION



OUR ALUM



Chavaun Johnson

- Graduated from Dickinson with a Computer Science Major & Business Concentration in 2003.
- Currently working as a Data Engineering & Analytics Division Lead - Advanced Optics @ Corning Incorporated - Glass, Ceramics and Concrete Manufacturing.
- Transition from CS to Data Analytics: looking for the balance between technical work and business work



SKILLS & COMPETENCIES ADVICE





***“WHAT SKILLS DO YOU RELY ON
MOST IN YOUR ROLE, AND WHAT
PERSONAL QUALITIES ARE
ESSENTIAL FOR SUCCESS?”***

Early Career:

- SQL & other programming languages.
- Providing analyses for different departments' requests

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USE DatabaseName;  
GO  
  
CREATE PROCEDURE ProcedureName  
    @FirstName type,  
    @LastName type....  
AS  
|  
//Your SQL query here  
Select FirstName, LastName  
FROM Employee  
WHERE FirstName = @FirstName AND LastName = @LastName  
GO  
IF @ContactCode INT  
    SET @ContactCode = 0
```



Right now: (After 10+ years of working)

- Focusing on bringing strategies and business insights rather than doing technical tasks.
- Essential skills: Understand the business domain; Exceptional communication skills



***“AS COLLEGE STUDENTS, WHAT
SKILLS OR AREAS SHOULD WE
FOCUS ON IMPROVING WHILE WE
STILL HAVE TIME TO GROW?”***



AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

Communication Skill

Enhance the ability to translate technical terms to business insights for non-technical stakeholders.

Keep up with the market

Understand the changes and the evolution of the technology market, regarding software, needs, and trends.
(incorporate AI into your work)

Take initiatives

Put yourself in a tough position, for example, leading a project



***“HOW TO MAKE YOUR PROFILE
STAND OUT ?”***

KEY STRATEGIES

to stand out when applying for jobs, in an interview,...

Networking

Networking is about creating and nurturing connections with people in your industry. These relationships can be with alumni, current professionals, professors, or anyone who can offer valuable insights or opportunities.

Pursuing Internship

Internships offer hands-on experience in your desired field. This experience can help you develop skills, build your resume, and better understand the industry.

Staying Confident

Believing in your abilities is crucial for success. Focus on your strengths and accomplishments, and don't let self-doubt hold you back.

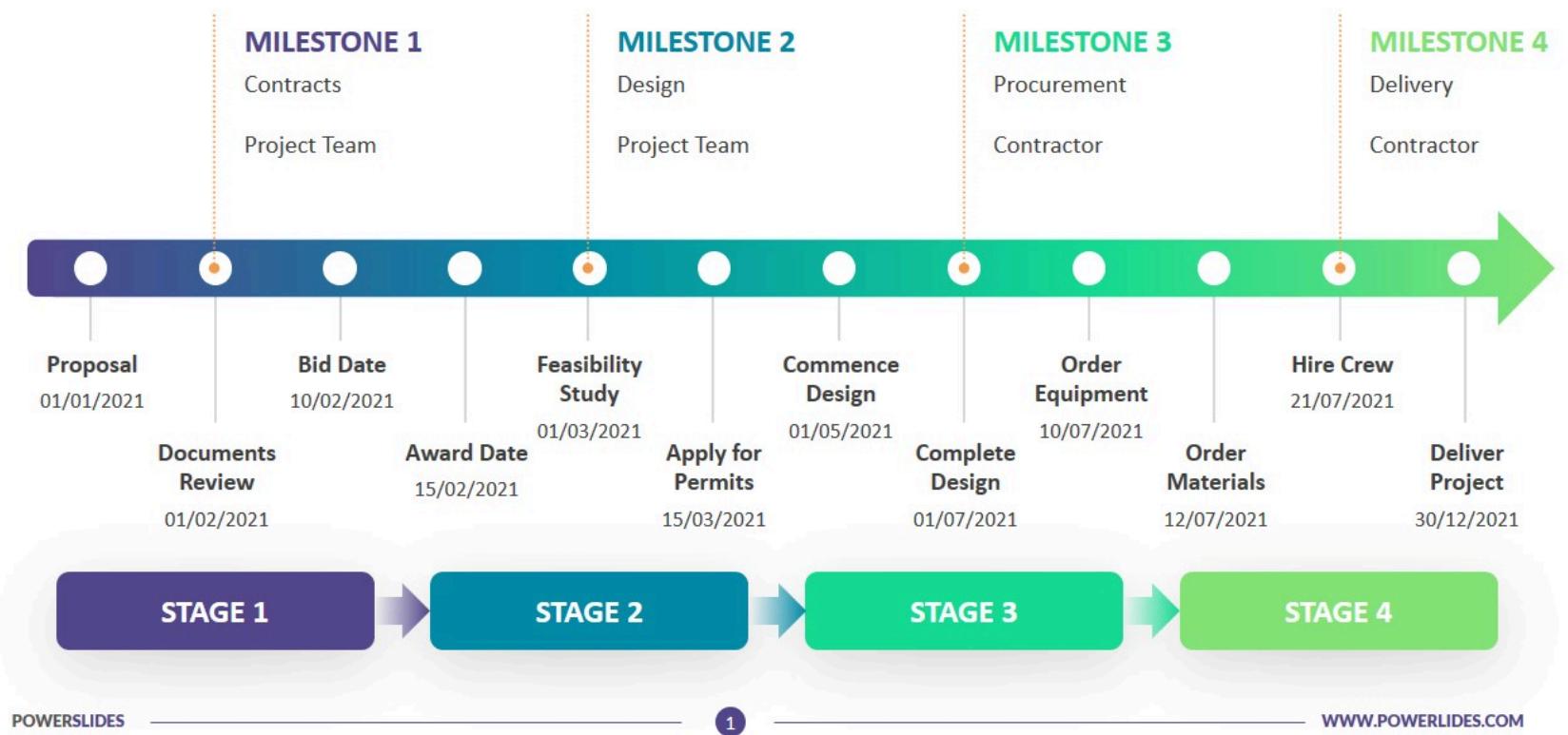


***“ADVICE FOR MANAGING DATA-
DRIVEN PROJECTS”***

- Establishing a timeline at the beginning of the project to track progress over time
- Brushing up on technical skills



PROJECT TIMELINE



POWERSLIDES

1

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- Clearly defining the goals and purpose of the project.
- Practice the habit of managing upwards

DICKINSON'S EXPERIENCE



STRENGTHS AND AREAS FOR GROWTH

Dickinson's Preparation for the Workforce

Strength

Strong Work Ethic:
Dickinson's ability to handle a heavy workload demonstrates a strong work ethic and commitment to completing tasks efficiently. This is a valuable asset in any workplace.

Area for growth

The ability to translate technical findings into business language is crucial for effectively communicating with non-technical stakeholders. This includes the ability to present information clearly and concisely, tailor explanations to different audiences, and use visual aids to enhance understanding.

KEY TAKEAWAY



Communication drives the success
and impact of data analysts and data
scientists



**THANK
YOU**

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