

During today's seminar we listened to Joshua Rizzo. Joshua Rizzo is a principal consultant at Improving and the title of his talk was Improving. Rizzo talked about the types of projects software engineers and technologists can expect at consulting companies like Improving. For example, He worked on a [AA.com](https://www.aa.com) meals and seat selection platform that incorporated languages and frameworks like Java, Spring, Oracle, and Selenium. He mentioned that many of the projects he worked on utilized SQL and the Angular framework. He later went into how Improving has been influenced by some Aggie values in the development of their own company values (Excellence, Involvement, and Dedication) . This is due to the fact that Improving is an Aggie Owned Company. While delving into the company infrastructure and business model Rizzo mentioned how Improving is following a conscious capitalism mindset and following a stakeholder model that prioritizes community culture. Rizzo went on to explain the benefits of being an employee at his company. Some of the benefits included flexible hours, a casual dress code, an opportunity to work remotely, and an ever increasing salary. During the Q&A portion of the seminar I asked Rizzo what kind of questions to ask to determine whether there was an opportunity for individual growth at that company. He answered my question by stating that it would be great to ask what kind of internal growth trainings the company offers to its employees. I will definitely ask prospective employees about whether they offer internal growth trainings in the future. Overall, I really enjoyed this seminar as I knew very little about what its like to be a principal consultant at a software driven company like Improving prior to this event.