A productive exchange between a recruiter and an Economics staff member at the Texas A&M Fall College of Liberal Arts Career Fair resulted in nine Texas A&M Master’s of Economics students making the trip to Washington D.C to meet with three prominent Think Tanks. The Heritage Foundation, Cato Institute and American Enterprise Institute hosted the nine Aggies over a period of two days where the students were able to talk about current issues as well as potential internships and jobs after graduation.

At The Heritage Foundation, the students met with the Program Associate of Young Leaders Program and the Congressional Fellowship and Outreach Program Manager, Policy Outreach, Policy Services and Outreach. After a tour of the building, they discussed internship and full-time opportunity for students, research on health care reform, national defense & terrorism, the influence of immigration laws on the labor force, health growth of domestic economics and the impact of the Brexit and Grexit.

At Cato Institute the students met with a Policy Analyst who was an Aggie graduate from The Bush School. The discussion centered around national defense, particularly East Asia military deployment, including the North Korea nuclear threat. He also discussed internship possibilities because they are always needing interns to help their analysts with data collection and conducting research.
On the second day, the Aggies met with HR personnel and the Manager of Academic Programs at American Enterprise Institute. The Aggies received a presentation of AEI’s history, main research interest, standing in the think tank industry, overall working environment, scholars within the institute as well as internship and full-time opportunities and their requirements.

Each of the nine students enjoyed their trip and came away with contacts and potential opportunities for post-graduation jobs. All three organizations expressed their keen interest in further interaction and communication with our students this upcoming fall.