The Texas A&M Department of Economics had the honor to host the first ever High School Counselor Day on Friday, 6 September, 2019 in the Allen building on the Texas A&M campus.

This one-day conference brought in 28 high School guidance and career counselors from schools across the state of Texas – with some flying in from as far away as McAllen.

Dr. Jonathan Meer, Dr. Danila Serra and Mr. Kurt Felpel were the conference hosts and primary speakers however, the attendees also heard speakers from the College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M Admissions as well as current ECON students.

A wide variety of topics were covered to include:

“What is Economics and why is it great?”

“What types of careers do ECON majors do?”

“What are some College of Liberal Arts initiatives to assist first-generation students?”

“What are some examples of current Economic research being done by students at A&M?”

However, the topic that was the most highly received was hearing from five current ECON students. These outstanding students spoke about why they chose ECON, how they got there, their successes and struggles and why ECON is making a significant impact on their future careers.

Feedback from the high school counselors was overwhelmingly positive. Some of their comments about the conference were:

“This was one of the best events that I’ve attended in several years. I truly appreciate all of the time and effort put in by all to make it a great experience. I am presenting to seniors this week, and have already shared some of the great things that I’ve learned about your department. Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to working with your department.”

“I loved this. I wish more programs offered experiences like this. And, you made me consider A&M for doctoral work. Thank you so much. I would absolutely recommend this to other counselors in my district if you do it again.”

“I was thoroughly impressed with the workshop, and I left that day talking about economics with my friends, family members, and colleagues. I have just been back to work for half a day, and I have already discussed the information with one of my students.”

“You can tell your professors have a passion for their school and their subject area and love their career choice! Very well done!”
High School Guidance and Career Counselors at the Department of Economics Conference