Investment Program Makes Annual Trip to NYC

In early April 2019, the School of Business Investment Society travelled to New York City to engage with professionals at the heart of the world financial system. Program Director Dr. Mark Pyles, Dr. Daniel Huerta, and 15 members of the Investment Society visited four distinct institutions around New York, each providing extraordinary insight on the inner-workings of the multifaceted dynamics of finance.

The excursion kicked off with a visit to the offices of Weiss Multi-Strategy Advisors, where the students interacted with various employees of Weiss from all segments of the business. We are very fortunate to have our great friend and Program board member Mr. Jay Tucker, who is the COO for Weiss, schedule a diverse array of professionals to speak with us. Each seemed to offer his or her own unique skills and abilities in the incredibly successful and dynamic company.

From Weiss, the group moved up Park Ave to 59th St where they entered the hallowed corridors of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co (KKR). The students tried to resist dropping their jaws upon entering the doors of KKR’s New York Office with its panoramic views of Central Park from 42 stories up. Luckily the group was swiftly moved into a private conference room that still offered the vista, allowing each member to get an acceptable Instagram photo. Aside from the impressive views and art installations, KKR presented professionals from various segments of the business. Students were interested to learn of all the various segments housed within KKR because it is typically referred to as a private equity company. We must give great thanks to CofC alumnus Ms. Beth Hammond, for setting up and organizing the visit.
She gave the program a truly incredible experience, and inspired many students with the aspiration of working at KKR later in their careers.

Following all of that day’s excitement, the group relaxed with some classic New York Italian food at Carmine’s. Relaxation was certainly needed as the next day the group had two more stops on the New York adventure. At the beginning of the next day everyone headed off to Bloomberg’s headquarters on Lexington Ave. The group was able to get some professional tips on the functionality of the Bloomberg Terminal by Mr. Doug Edler, a dedicated instructor of financial theory to Bloomberg’s computer engineers. Mr. Edler proved to be very knowledgeable on various commands he thought the group might find useful. The group was also happy to see former program member Peyton Dalton who is currently a FX Specialist at Bloomberg. After the training we were taken on a tour of Bloomberg’s incredible headquarters which houses TV studios, radio studios and enough snacks to seemingly feed the city of New York for a month.

For the finale of the New York Trip, the group took the 6 train downtown to the financial district to visit the mecca of finance, also known as the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). The group was fortunate enough to be guided around the floor by long-time friend of the Investment Program and multi-time speaker at the Investment Symposium, Mr. Peter Costa. Pete is a former Floor Specialist at the Exchange and therefore knows all of the ins and outs. The group was there on a Friday afternoon and got to watch the Exchange be closed by some “representatives” from the WWE. The group was also very excited to be “featured” on CNBC’s Closing Bell coverage.
Following the Friday activities, the Program hosted a happy hour gathering for former Program members that live in the area – which provided a wonderful opportunity to reconnect and allow their experiences to be benefit the younger versions of the Investment Society. The two-day experience in the heart of the financial world is an invaluable privilege offered to the students. Each participant was able to make valuable connections and get foreshadowing of how their near-term future may look. We look forward to many more visits in coming years.