September 13, 2013

Honors students in the College of Business Administration are participating in a new course called the Honors Business Seminar. By being vigilant of the impact that organizations have on all their stakeholders, and doing their best to create win-win outcomes for all with a stake in an organization’s performance (with particular emphasis on doing the right thing), successful businesses today are practicing “conscious capitalism.” Finding out how to best embody this philosophy is a primary focus of this new class. In looking for examples of such companies in our region, the class visited Crider Foods in Stillmore, Georgia and, in addition to enjoying a fine low-country boil, toured the plant and spoke with owner Billy Crider and several members of his management team. Students had the opportunity to learn about the company’s transition from a chicken processing plant to a canning plant, as well as the company’s research and development efforts related to bringing inexpensive sources of canned meat protein products to less developed parts of the world. Students were able to discuss with Crider management the impact of Crider on the local community as well as the local ecological environment.