In *Who Rules America?*, Domhoff argues that the corporate community uses its economic power to shape policy-making via its control over a “policy-planning network”. The network is comprised of foundations, think tanks, university research institutes, and policy discussion groups. Essentially, foundations fund the other actors to produce research that justifies policies that are of general interest to the corporate sector (i.e. limited government, anti-regulation, anti-consumer, anti-environment, anti-union, etc.). The students in SOC253-12 produced a main spreadsheet (see the Project #1 excel spreadsheet) that maps the flow of money from ultraconservative foundations to think tanks. The source of our data was Media Matters Action (http://mediamattersaction.org/transparency). Media Matters is an anti-corporate/anti-conservative advocacy group. They went to the effort of examining IRS Form 990s (required annually of all tax exempt foundations to document their tax exempt status) for a large number of conservative foundations from 1985-2009. The numbers in the cells are the amount of money that a given foundation gave to a given think tank summed over the entire time period. Note that, for some foundations, data were not available for some years. But, this means that the totals are actually underestimates of the cash flows. The spreadsheet demonstrates that (a) the network exists, (b) it is quite “dense”, and (c) the flow of funds is massive. We wanted to identify the “core actors” (i.e., most influential or powerful actors) in this network. In this regard, the two main pieces of information available to us were (a) the volume of cash given by foundations or received by think tanks and (b) the number of connections between each foundation and all think tanks (and vice versa). These two dimensions are not perfectly correlated. By plotting the volumes of cash and number of connections between foundations and think tanks, we can see if “groupings” or “clusters” emerge. These results are presented in graphs 1 and 2. As you can see, clusters of both foundations and think tanks emerge quite clearly. The most powerful foundations are the Scaife and Koch Foundations, and Olin, Bradley, and Smith Richardson. The most prominent think tanks are Heritage, American Enterprise Institute, Hudson, Manhattan, Hoover, Cato, FreedomWorks, and the Intercollegiate Studies Institute.