

The Role and Functional Positioning of Financial and Economic University Think Tanks in the Construction of "Double First Class" Universities

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Abstract: With their own unique disciplinary advantages and professional background, the think tanks of finance and economics universities have become an important force in the process of "double first-class" construction. On the one hand, it actively contributes professional intellectual support to government decision-making, and provides scientific basis for policy making with accurate data analysis and in-depth theoretical research. On the other hand, it can effectively promote discipline construction and talent training, provide a practical platform for students, and improve their professional quality. In this background, the article analyzes the role of financial think tanks in building the "Double First Class" initiative. After analyzing the functional positioning of customer political consultation, theoretical innovation, and public opinion guidance, we can focus on strengthening the construction of financial and economic think tanks, enhancing the construction and cross integration of think tank disciplines, consolidating the construction of international think tanks, promoting the transformation and utilization of think tank achievements, and improving service capabilities. These measures can better promote financial and economic universities to achieve the goal of "Double First Class" construction and contribute greater wisdom and strength to economic and social development.

Keywords: Financial and Economics University Think Tank, Double First Class Construction, Role positioning, Functional positioning, intellectual support

1. Introduction

With the continuous deepening of the "Double First Class" construction, the proportion of university think tanks in the construction system of new think tanks with Chinese characteristics is increasing, and their role is becoming more and more prominent. As a think tank that mainly serves the economy, finance, and management, financial and economic universities play a unique and important role in the process of "Double First Class" construction. The various studies conducted by think tanks in finance and economics universities not only provide scientific basis and knowledge support for the government's decision-making process, but also promote the construction of disciplines and the overall progress of higher education institutions through theoretical exploration, practical innovation, and talent cultivation. Therefore, in-depth exploration of the role and functional positioning of financial and economic university think tanks in the development of the "Double First Class" construction is of great significance for improving the service capabilities of corresponding university think tanks and promoting the connotative development of higher education.

2. The role of financial and economic think tanks in the construction of "Double First Class" universities

Think tanks in finance and economics universities play a crucial role in the construction of the "Double First Class" initiative. They are not only a model of combining academic research with policy practice, but also an important force in promoting knowledge innovation, talent cultivation, and social services in the field of finance and economics. In the background of pursuing the construction of "Double First Class" universities, think tanks in the field of finance and economics have brought new vitality to the connotative development of finance and economics universities by deeply participating in key national strategic decisions and promoting cutting-edge research in disciplines, cultivating high-quality finance and economics talents, and providing precise key social services.

Financial and economic university think tanks are a model of combining academic research with policy practice. In the current global economic integration and increasingly complex financial market environment, countries have put forward more accurate and scientific requirements for the formulation and implementation of financial policies. Financial and economic university think tanks rely on their profound academic background and professional research teams to conduct in-depth research on domestic and international economic situations, analyze the impact and effectiveness of financial policies, and provide strong intellectual support for government decision-making. These institutions provide valuable reference materials for the government through various channels such as submitting policy research reports, providing feedback on governance effectiveness, and participating in policy consultations, which helps them formulate scientific and reasonable financial policies and ultimately assist in improving the overall level and effectiveness of the country's financial governance.

Think tanks in finance and economics universities play a leading role in cutting-edge research in disciplines, and one of the core tasks of the "Double First Class" project construction is discipline development. Financial and economic university think tanks, with their disciplinary advantages, can conduct in-depth research on important theoretical and practical issues in the field of finance and economics, promoting interdisciplinary integration and innovative development. Think tanks rely on the platforms of universities and research institutes to continuously promote cutting-edge research in the field of finance and economics through various channels such as hosting academic seminars, publishing high-quality academic research papers, and undertaking key scientific research projects. This can also contribute to enhancing the influence and competitiveness of the discipline. Therefore, the research results of think tanks play an important academic support role in the discipline construction of finance and economics colleges, which is conducive to improving the academic level and comprehensive strength of universities.

Financial and economic university think tanks provide an important platform for precise social services. The construction of "Double First Class" universities requires more attention to social service functions. Financial and economic university think tanks have established close cooperative relationships with enterprises, governments, and other organizations in joint research, technical consulting, and talent cultivation, providing strong intellectual support for economic and social development. They have the ability to provide tailored solutions and professional consulting for the specific challenges faced by enterprises during their growth process, helping them enhance their market competitiveness and innovation potential. At the same time, think tanks can also provide social policy evaluation and decision-making consultation to the government, helping it better play its role in economic regulation and market supervision.

3. The functional positioning of financial and economic think tanks in the construction of "Double First Class" universities

3.1. Political suggestion

The primary and core function of the development of "Double First Class" think tanks in finance and economics universities is to provide political consultation and suggestions. This function reflects the fundamental nature of think tanks as policy research and consulting institutions, as well as the trinity of academia, politics, and practice. It is an important way for think tanks to serve the country and society, and promote economic and social development^[1]. In the grand blueprint of the "Double First Class" construction, think tanks in finance and economics universities should break out of narrow disciplinary perspectives, even beyond the perspective of universities, have a high position, broad vision, and broad vision, be good at observing the overall situation and planning major events, and carry out forward-looking, strategic, applied, and reserve policy research according to the decision-making needs of the Party and the government^[2]. Through in-depth exploration of specialized knowledge in the field of finance and economics, closely integrating national development strategies with the practical needs of economic and social development, we will propose scientific, forward-looking, and feasible policy recommendations for government decision-making. Financial and economic university think tanks have abundant academic resources and strong research capabilities, with high-level experts and scholars conducting in-depth discussions on key areas such as national financial policies, financial market regulation, and international trade rules. The think tank team has built a comprehensive research framework and adopted cutting-edge research techniques and methods to conduct in-depth and systematic analysis of key issues in the field of finance and economics, proposing targeted and practical policy recommendations. These suggestions not only provide strong

intellectual support for government decision-making, but also contribute to promoting scientific and effective government decision-making. At the same time, financial and economic university think tanks also serve as a bridge between the government, academia, and industry, promoting coordinated development in policy formulation and implementation. By organizing various forms of activities such as policy seminars, expert discussions, and inviting representatives from government officials, scholars, and entrepreneurs to participate, in-depth discussions and exchanges are conducted on key issues in the financial field, providing more comprehensive and diverse information and perspectives for the government's decision-making process. Establishing a smooth communication mechanism between the government and university think tanks is conducive to improving the transparency of policy formulation and public participation, promoting policy feasibility and implementation effectiveness.

Under the background of the "Double First Class" construction, the policy suggestion function of financial and economic think tanks in universities is also manifested in the in-depth study of international financial rules and the formulation of response strategies. Against the backdrop of increasing global economic integration, the formulation and changes of international financial rules have had a significant impact on the economic interests and security of various countries. Based on tracking the latest developments in international financial rules, financial and economic university think tanks conduct in-depth analysis of the impact and challenges these rules bring to the national economy, and propose response strategies and suggestions to the government, which is conducive to safeguarding national economic interests and security, enhancing the country's international financial discourse power and influence.

3.2. Theoretical innovation

Under the background of the "Double First Class" construction, theoretical innovation has become another important functional positioning of financial and economic university think tanks. Financial and economic university think tanks are the main bases for academic research and knowledge innovation, shouldering the mission of promoting financial and economic theoretical innovation and leading disciplinary development. Under the background of the "Double First Class" construction, think tanks in finance and economics universities should fully leverage their comparative advantages, professional advantages, and differentiation advantages, clarify their development positioning, condense their characteristic research directions, conduct in-depth discussions on major theoretical and practical issues in the field of finance and economics, continuously promote theoretical innovation, and provide new ideas and methods for discipline construction and development^[3].

The think tanks of finance and economics universities gather a group of experts, scholars, and research teams with high level, deep academic foundation, rich practical experience, and the ability to conduct in-depth research on hot issues in the field of finance and economics. By exploring new research perspectives and adopting innovative research methods and technical tools, they continuously promote the innovation and progress of finance and economics theory, bringing new vitality and momentum to the construction of this discipline. These theoretical innovations not only enrich the knowledge system of finance and economics, but also provide strong theoretical support and guidance for practice. At the same time, the construction of think tanks in finance and economics universities has promoted interdisciplinary research and integration, facilitated the coordinated development of finance and economics disciplines with other disciplines, expanded the research perspective and methodology system of finance and economics disciplines, and promoted discipline innovation and development^[4]. The theoretical innovation function of think tanks in finance and economics universities is also manifested in learning and drawing on international financial theories. Against the backdrop of deepening global economic integration, the development and innovation of international financial theories have had an important impact on the formulation and implementation of financial policies in various countries. Based on tracking the latest research results and trends in international financial theory, financial and economic think tanks in universities analyze the inspiration and reference for China's financial policy formulation, provide reference and suggestions for government decision-making, and help enhance the scientific and effective nature of China's financial and economic policies, thereby promoting the sustained and healthy development of China's economy and society.

3.3. Public opinion guidance

Under the grand goal of building "Double First Class" universities, think tanks in finance and economics also shoulder the function of guiding public opinion. Think tanks in finance and economics universities are an important part of knowledge innovators and thought leaders in the field of finance

and economics. They can publish research results, hold academic conferences, hold public lectures and other forms, actively promote financial and economic knowledge, guide social public opinion, and create a favorable ideological atmosphere and public opinion environment for economic and social development^[5].

The research results of financial and economic university think tanks are the main medium for the public opinion guidance function of university think tanks, dedicated to in-depth exploration of key and popular issues in the field of finance and economics, and providing cutting-edge and targeted insights and suggestions, thereby providing solid knowledge support for government decision-making and the general public. These research results have both academic value and strong practical guidance significance, as well as guiding the public to understand and think about financial issues, enhancing their financial literacy and consciousness. At the same time, financial and economic university think tanks actively interact and communicate with the public through academic conferences and public lectures. These institutions invite representatives from various fields such as government, academia, and business leaders to participate in in-depth discussions on key issues in the financial field, providing a platform for the public to understand financial policies and learn financial knowledge. Communication and interaction are conducive to strengthening the public's attention and understanding of financial issues, enhancing their financial literacy and participation. Under the background of the "Double First Class" construction, the public opinion guidance function of financial and economic think tanks in universities is also reflected in their emphasis on and guidance of international financial public opinion. In today's increasingly integrated global economy, international financial public opinion plays an increasingly important role in China's economic and social development. Based on tracking the development trend and direction of international financial public opinion, financial and economic university think tanks conduct in-depth analysis of the impact and challenges that the international situation brings to China's economic and social development, and propose response strategies and suggestions to the government. This is conducive to enhancing China's discourse power and influence in the international financial field, thus creating a favorable international public opinion environment for the sustained and healthy development of China's economy and society.

3.4. Social service

In the context of the "Double First Class" construction, think tanks in financial and economic universities not only play an academic research and policy consulting role, but also shoulder important tasks such as serving society and promoting economic and social development^[6]. Serving society is an important functional positioning of financial and economic university think tanks, demonstrating their social responsibility and commitment as knowledge innovators and intellectual supporters.

Based on in-depth research on major issues and practical needs in the field of finance and economics, think tanks in finance and economics universities rely on disciplines to fully leverage the role of "libraries", truly enhance the connotation of "intelligence" and the sustainability of development, improve the credibility and influence of research results, and accurately and effectively serve the government, enterprises, and the public^[7]. By adopting cutting-edge research techniques and methods, in-depth analysis is conducted on core areas such as financial policies, financial markets, and enterprise operations, and targeted and practical solutions and suggestions are provided. This not only helps the government and enterprises better meet the challenges brought by economic and social development, but also promotes the public's understanding and awareness of financial issues.

From the perspective of serving the government, financial and economic university think tanks actively participate in the process of policy formulation and implementation, and provide decision-making consultation and intellectual support to the government. By submitting policy research reports and participating in policy evaluations, valuable references are provided for the government to formulate scientific and reasonable financial policies. At the same time, think tanks establish close cooperation with government departments to jointly carry out policy research, project implementation, and other activities, promoting the efficient implementation of policies.

As for service enterprises, financial and economic university think tanks can provide customized solutions and consulting services for practical problems encountered in the operation process of enterprises. Think tanks have established deep partnerships with enterprises, gaining a deep understanding of their needs and challenges, and utilizing their professional knowledge and research results to provide various services such as strategic consulting, market analysis, and risk management to enhance their competitiveness and innovation capabilities, and promote sustainable development.

From the perspective of serving the public, think tanks in finance and economics universities actively promote financial knowledge and ideas, including organizing public lectures, publishing research reports, and conducting science popularization activities. University think tanks are committed to enhancing the financial knowledge and awareness of the general public, providing a pathway and platform for them to understand financial policies and learn financial knowledge. This is conducive to strengthening the public's attention and understanding of financial issues, and improving their financial literacy and participation. In addition, financial and economic university think tanks actively participate in social welfare undertakings, public service projects, etc., to help promote economic and social development and improve people's livelihoods. By collaborating with various social groups and charitable organizations, we carry out public welfare activities such as poverty alleviation, education assistance, and environmental protection, fully demonstrating the social responsibility and contribution of university think tanks.

Under the background of "Double First Class", think tanks in financial and economic universities have become increasingly prominent in serving society. By committed to continuously innovating service methods and research methods, we aim to improve the quality and efficiency of services, thereby providing more accurate and efficient service experiences for governments, businesses, and the general public. Think tanks expand their research horizons, establish collaborative networks, and enhance their influence and competitiveness in the international financial field through exchanges and cooperation with renowned think tanks, research institutions, experts, and scholars at home and abroad.

4. Suggestions for strengthening think tank construction and enhancing think tank service capability

As an important academic research and policy consulting institution in universities, the construction and development of financial and economic think tanks are of great significance for enhancing the comprehensive strength of universities and serving the country and society. To further strengthen the construction of think tanks and enhance their service capabilities, the following are some specific suggestions.

Firstly, we need to strengthen the construction of think tanks in financial and economic universities. These include capital investment, talent support, and policy support. Increasing funding can provide sufficient financial support for think tank research projects, academic conferences, and publications; Introducing and cultivating high-level experts and scholars can enhance the research strength and academic level of think tanks; Formulating corresponding policies and measures can provide strong institutional guarantees and support for the development of think tanks.

Secondly, we need to strengthen the construction and cross disciplinary integration of think tanks. Financial and economic university think tanks should rely on their own disciplinary advantages, strengthen the intersection and integration between financial and economic disciplines and other disciplines, expand the basic scale of think tank construction, and promote the innovative development of disciplines^[8]. Establishing interdisciplinary research projects and forming interdisciplinary research teams can promote communication and collaboration between disciplines, expand research perspectives and methodological systems, and provide broader development space and possibilities for think tank research.

Thirdly, we need to strengthen the internationalization of think tanks. In the context of global economic integration, think tanks of finance and economics universities should actively participate in international exchanges and cooperation to enhance their influence and competitiveness in the field of international finance and economics. Collaborative research projects and academic conferences can be established with internationally renowned think tanks and research institutions to enhance communication and collaboration with international peers. At the same time, it can actively introduce international outstanding talents and advanced concepts to promote the internationalization of think tanks.

Finally, we need to strengthen the transformation and application of think tank achievements. The research results of financial and economic university think tanks should pay more attention to practical application and achievement transformation, and serve the government, enterprises, and the public more accurately and effectively. We can start from both building a mechanism for transforming research results and promoting the deep integration of industry, academia, research and application, and strengthen the connection and collaboration between think tanks and practical application fields to promote the transformation and application of research results^[9]. At the same time, we should not only

establish and improve the evaluation system and incentive mechanism of think tanks, mobilize the enthusiasm and creativity of think tank researchers, but also build and improve the evaluation system and incentive mechanism, and commend and reward the research achievements and member contributions of think tanks through various methods such as setting up excellent achievement awards and excellent team awards.

5. Conclusion

Financial and economic university think tanks are the link between academic research and policy practice, and their strategic position in the construction of the "Double First Class" cannot be ignored. By clarifying role positioning, strengthening functional performance, and continuously promoting the deepening and innovation of think tank construction, we can not only provide more accurate and effective decision-making support for the government, but also effectively promote interdisciplinary integration and the cultivation of high-level talents, thereby helping finance and economics colleges to occupy a more advantageous position in the global higher education landscape. Against the backdrop of the continuous deepening of the "Double First Class" construction and the emergence of new demands for economic and social development, financial and economic university think tanks should continue to adhere to open cooperation, innovation driven, and continuously improve their research capabilities and service levels. They should make updated and more contributions in building a new type of think tank system with Chinese characteristics and promoting high-quality economic and social development.

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