A social network analysis is based on an assumption of the importance of relationships among interactions. Network models conceptualize structure as lasting patterns of relations. These network patterns are composed of a series of nodes. A node is an individual actor within a network such as links, ties, and bridges. When discovering the relationships between nodes, it often helps to find the center of the clique. Agent Turner is the center node within the social network and is the bridge between computer science and the humanities field. He does this through the assortment of educational experiences, such as his degrees in fields such as mathematics, biblical studies, religious studies, and statistics. He bridges the networks of the computer science agents with the humanities agents through his links and ties.

In the computer science field, Agent Travis Atkinson holds the position as the main node. Agent Atkinson starts the link with himself Agent Gourd, and Agent Duncan who all studied computer science. Agent Hummel is linked to the computer science field because of his field of study with computers. Agent Hummel has a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering. All three of the agents in the division shared similar government jobs.

One of the major nodes in the humanities division is special agent Nicole de Fee. Agent de Fee majored in English and Economics and has a tie with Agent Rufleth in their English education, because Agent Rufleth has a PhD in English. On the other hand, Agent Mhire is the start of the Political Science branch in the humanities division. Agent Mhire links himself with Agent Pigg who also has a doctorate in Political Science. In addition, Agent Mhire is connected to Agent Atkinson due to their background in the FBI. Another related government agency connection includes the CIA. Agent Pigg was employed by the CIA from 2002 to 2010. Agent Atkinson worked as a CIA agent from 2002 to 2005. Lastly, Agent McKevitt earned a living with the agency from 2006 to 2009. In addition, the agents in these departments have similar college backgrounds.

Although networks are usually made through thing such as employment, education backgrounds can also be used to form a network. Agent Mhire is linked to Agent Turner through their past education. Although, these agents attended the University Munich at different times, the similarities of their studies reveal speculation on whether they were linked through professors, or social groups. Agent Tims is related to Agent Atkinson and Agent Gourd through a direct link of attending Mississippi State University and Stanford University. Agent Tims’ relations to those two agents are through his education history. Agent Hummel is related to Agent Gourd through a link within their education as well. There is a ten year gap between Agent Hummel’s and Agent Gourd’s attendance at Carnegie Mellon University, but since their degrees are in similar fields, it can be assumed that their interest in common social groups has linked them together.

In conclusion, the biographical data sheets of these agents of the Department of Homeland Security can have multiple links to one another. Many other ties between the agents could have been linked, such as regional similarities or current DHS employment. However, the main social network bridges humanities and computer science to the center node, Agent Turner. As a result, the remaining agents are the other components to the social network setup which have links to connect one another.