

IMA Student Leadership Conference 2016 - Eastern Michigan University Student Chapter

Jens Stephan, Faculty Advisor :

“Over a dozen EMU accounting students attended the annual IMA Student Leadership Conference in Detroit from November 10 - 12. Our students met with employers offering internship opportunities and became acquainted with their counterparts from a number of universities around the country. Information about preparing for and taking the CMA exam was readily available. The conference featured concurrent sessions on a variety of topics of interest to business school students, including the rebuilding/revitalization of downtown Detroit, finding the right career in the world of business, qualities of great leaders, and career tracks in management accounting, and honing your interviewing skills. As future accountants, students will be engaging in continuing education and attending such conferences throughout their careers – this was a great introduction to that part of their professional careers. “

Eneida Ziraj, President of IMA Eastern Michigan University Chapter, BBA in Accounting Information Systems student:

“The Student Leadership Conference this year was a very valuable source of information for all Accounting students. This is my second time attending the conference. This year all the speakers had new information and speeches for the student. The conference was just as informative and helpful this year. During the opening session, John Fikany said:

“Have an *‘I care attitude’* “. He said that if you care enough about things and people, good things will happen to you. At the end of the second day of the conference we got the chance to go to Punchbowl Social where we had dinner and played bowling. It was nice meeting and talking to other students in a fun environment.

Its great how very successful people were willing to share some of their experience and advice to help students succeed. The fact that these people are doing this, means that they believe in us and our ability to succeed in life. “

Joeun Lee, Vice President of IMA Eastern Michigan University Chapter, BBA in Accounting Information Systems student wrote:

“This was my first time attending the IMA Student Leadership Conference. Luckily the annual conference was held in Detroit this year which allowed more of our group members, including myself, the opportunity to attend. I really enjoyed the session provided by John Fikany. He made it dynamic, fast-paced, and kept us on our toes with questions and insights he brought to us. Career roundtables were really practical and informative. I was able to ask questions personally and what facilitators brought to the table was more than what I could ask for. I walked away with insights from the experienced professionals and speakers as well as memorable experience with other students. “

Kirsten Wolfe, IMA member, BBA Accounting and Finance student, wrote:

“I am so glad I decided to attend the IMA's Student Leadership Conference in Detroit this year. Not only was I able to listen to some inspirational speakers, I found an array of individuals that so openly wanted to help me prepare for my future career. I was given free prep materials for the CMA exam and I was also able to obtain three internship interviews just from handing out resumes the first night of the conference. I talked to students from schools all over the country, and asked them how they were enjoying Detroit, with overwhelmingly positive responses. I'm proud of the city of Detroit and my state of Michigan. This year's conference was brilliantly organized and incredibly informational. The people that organize these events care so much about our futures, and I think more people should take advantage of opportunities like these. My group had a great time and it was a fun bonding experience for us all, I look forward to next year's conference in Houston, I hope it's just as great! “

Michael Bisbikis, IMA member, BBA in Accounting student, wrote:

“*Skyscrapers are cheap.*” Terry Bean was quoting Quicken Loans VP John Fikany. How can such a statement be representative of a national conference? Simple, choosing these words allows one to see bigger, dream bigger and act bigger. Allowing students in the early stages of their careers and veterans in business alike to both be taken aback by such a statement is truly powerful. It causes a person to place perspective on their individual goals and reassess them if needed. Isn't that what the IMA is centered on, growth and opportunity? After listening to this presentation alone, I was self-reflecting on my own personal goals and reestablishing larger goals that I know I will be able to obtain because the sky's the limit.



Eastern Michigan University IMA student chapter.



Punchbowl Social Night



Eastern Michigan University IMA student chapter.
Enjoying the great view during the break – Detroit RiverWalk



Showing what a great experience we had.