POST-CONFERENCE TOUR
12:30 PM to 5:00 PM    PICK-UP: Marriott Eagle Crest Lobby

Tour Cost: $50/person Includes guided tour of city, transportation and group rate admission to both museums.

Lunch at the Tower Inn
The Tower Inn (owned by EMU alumnus Roice Savvides) is a family-owned restaurant and bar. This Ypsilanti staple offers Mediterranean and Greek food, gourmet pizza, and more in a casual atmosphere.

Ypsilanti Water Tower and Demetrius Ypsilanti Monument
Arguably Ypsilanti’s most famous landmark, the Water Tower was completed in 1890. Built in the height of Victorian era sexual repressiveness, William Coats’ 147-foot (44.8 m) masterwork is regularly listed as the “world’s most phallic building” (most recently in 2014’s Destination Strange). In front of the Water Tower is a monument to Ypsilanti’s namesake, Demetrius Ypsilanti. A bust of the father of Greek independence stands between a US and Greek flag.

EMU College of Business Atrium (Hall of Flags)
EMU’s College of Business is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The EMU COB has its own building in downtown Ypsilanti, separate from the main campus. One of the highlights of the EMU COB is the Hall of Flags in its atrium. All of the flags are carry plaques with the name of the nation and the donor sponsoring the flag.

Yankee Air Museum
At the Yankee Air Museum, we will hear the stories of “Rosie the Riveter” at the first aircraft manufacturing complex to use Henry Ford’s automotive mass production technique, a leading technological innovation of the time. The museum shares the facts, glamor, and almost forgotten legacy of southeastern Michigan’s aviation history. Set on the site of the Willow Run facilities designed by famed architect Albert Kahn, it contains an original U.S. Army Air Forces’ hangar, antique planes, as well as exhibits of how the community came together to focus on global peace. The museum communicates the outcomes and diverse messages of what happens when global upheaval sparks technological and cultural revolutions.

Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum
The Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum (informally called the “Hudson Museum”) is a unique automotive museum that is home to cars from the local Willow Run Plant and cars from Hudson Motors. The collection includes the original Fabulous Hudson Hornet and a Tucker automobile movie prop from the movie Tucker: The Man and His Dream. The prop is a feature of a Preston Tucker display. Preston Tucker was from Ypsilanti and did his engineering work a couple of blocks from the museum. The YAHM includes 30 vintage automobiles with a historical connection to Ypsilanti—including a 1953 never assembled Kaiser body.

End at Depot Town
The tour ends at Ypsilanti’s Depot Town. This historic district dates to the opening of railroad service in the 1830’s. The area has served as a stop on the Underground Railroad, as a Civil War military barracks and as a bustling center of Ypsilanti historic restaurants and shops. Among the most notable of these is the Sidetrack Bar & Grill, which has housed a restaurant in the same building since 1850. The area also features a caboose from the 1920’s, a signal tower, a landmark clock, the Farmers Market Building, a Civil War Mural (on the 1861 former barracks) and a scenic walkway over the Huron River.