

From: [Ben Marchionna \(MEDC\)](#)
To: [Katelyn Crain \(MEDC\)](#); [Steve Bakkal \(MEDC\)](#); [Michelle Grinnell \(MEDC\)](#); [Garrett Anderson \(MEDC\)](#); [Natalie Allen \(MEDC\)](#); [Paul O'Connell \(MEDC\)](#)
Subject: FW: U-M Inputs for Michigan Stargate Proposal
Date: Sunday, March 9, 2025 10:56:10 AM

Katelyn et al,

See below for several inputs to consider from the U-M folks.

Personally, I don't think we need to include the historical timeline. It's interesting but not worth the page space. The relevance to national security / LANL is useful but I similarly suspect we should highlight the UM-LANL relationship and not explicitly say that's our strategy. We can save that for the accompanying face-to-face meeting (since this a developer RFP).

Ben Marchionna

Chief Innovation Ecosystem Officer

The State of Michigan

From: Karthik Duraisamy

Sent: Saturday, March 8, 2025 9:43 AM

To: William Foss

Cc: Kelly Sexton ; Steven Ceccio ; Ben Marchionna (MEDC)

Subject: Re: U-M Inputs for Michigan Stargate Proposal

One thing that Lane Dilg mentioned was the relevance to National security and implications therein. She also mentioned viewing these as national security assets and security infrastructure surrounding it. Since we are thinking seriously about security, this will be a good thing to add.

Also, you mentioned the AI lab. The following is of relevance (pick the most relevant).

The University of Michigan has a rich history of developing and maintaining advanced computing infrastructure.

1943 - Prof. Arthur Burks was a key player in the development of ENIAC - the first general purpose digital computer.

1946 - The University acquired the laboratories at Willow Run from the War Department, which became the site for the first innovations in computing at U-M

1951 - MIDAC (Michigan Digital Automatic Computer) project started to create the first digital computer at U-M.

1967 - U-M acquires its first virtual memory computer, an IBM 360/67, one of the first computers of its kind in the world.

1967 - U-M developed the Michigan Terminal System (MTS) "a pioneer in early forms of email, file-sharing, and conferencing"

1979 - U-M's Amdahl 470V/6 was 12th on the first edition of the Linpack Benchmark list (fastest supercomputers in the world)

1988 - U-M started the PhD in Scientific computing - the first such program in the nation.

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Karthik Duraisamy

Samir & Puja Kaul Director, Michigan Institute for Computational Discovery & Engineering (MICDE) [Website Magazine Conference](#)

Professor, Dept. of Aerospace Engineering & Dept. of Mechanical Engineering [Website Annual Newsletter](#)

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

On Sat, Mar 8, 2025 at 9:22 AM William Foss <wtfoss@umich.edu> wrote:

Should we also add comments about having the #1 nuclear engineering program and the statistics for SEAS in environmental studies and renewable energy? Peck and Liesl might have some good drop in content but conscious of keeping this group small / quick turn

On Sat, Mar 8, 2025 at 8:32 AM Kelly Sexton <kbsexton@umich.edu> wrote:

Good morning. Great news about upcoming briefings with [REDACTED].

Thanks, Steve. I am sure the MEDC is on this, but it's probably worthwhile to highlight the state's commitment to the UM -LANL relationship. I took a stab at that below:

University of Michigan and LANL Partnership: The University of Michigan has entered into a partnership with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) focusing on advanced computation. U-M deepened its research relationship with LANL with a five-year, \$15 million award in 2024. U-M will partner with the LANL to develop advanced computing technologies—including artificial intelligence and increasingly sophisticated modeling techniques—to address critical challenges. U-M will work with LANL to provide vertically integrated solutions that involve tightly coupling extreme-scale algorithm development and domain knowledge with elements of AI and computer architecture to generate significant efficiencies, scales and throughput so that researchers can address the root causes of, and potential solutions for, important global challenges. While the research is foundational in nature and focuses on transformational advances in scientific computing, the team will initially apply these methods to explore the fundamental physics of fusion and its potential impact on clean energy and basic processes in stellar evolution.

This partnership was expanded in Fall 2024 to include the creation of a state-of-the-art facility for high-performance computing and an AI research center. The facility will be located in Washtenaw County and house two computing centers. One center will support LANL scientists and engineers in conducting research and development focused on critical national security AI challenges. An adjacent academic computing center will enable U-M faculty and students, and university partners from throughout the state, to collaborate with LANL researchers on multidisciplinary research projects. Details can be found [here](#). Funding for the new facility will likely be a combination of federal and state money allocated for economic development, **including a** [\\$100M Strategic Site Readiness](#)

[Program Grant](#) from the State of Michigan earmarked for site development, construction and other related activities necessary to construct the new research centers.

This partnership between U-M and LANL is part of a larger strategy to support research and translation in the area of Artificial Intelligence, especially with regard to the use of reasoning AI for the analysis of complex mathematical and scientific based problems. Furthermore, U-M and OpenAI have recently announced a collaboration that will support joint research projects focusing on AI applications that broadly benefit society as part of OpenAI's newly created academic partnerships.

On Sat, Mar 8, 2025 at 7:51 AM Steven Ceccio <ceccio@umich.edu> wrote:

Good morning everyone,

Please take a look at the following and modify as necessary. Karthik, I suspect we can add more depth to the last paragraph!

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