

SpencerStuart

President University of Michigan Leadership Profile

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GO BLUE

The nation's top public research university



TOP RESEARCH AND TEACHING UNIVERSITY

100+ graduate programs ranked in the top ten

\$2.04 billion annual research expenditures

Prominent medical system with **13** adult specialties and **10** children's specialties ranked nationally

Three distinctive and aligned institutions: Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint

SIGNIFICANT SCALE AND IMPACT

\$14.9 billion annual operating budget and a **\$19.2 billion** endowment

52K+ students representing all 83 Michigan counties, 50 states, and 99 countries

8K+ full-time faculty teaching **275+** undergraduate majors in **19** academic colleges

VIBRANT & ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Go Blue Guarantee ensures the most ambitious, high-achieving students in Michigan attend

Diverse student body with **55 percent** students of color and **20 percent** first-generation college students

27 NCAA Division I teams and **419** All-time Big 10 athletic championships

ACTIVE ALUMNI NETWORK

Over **660K+** living alumni in 180 countries across the globe

Recently announced a record-breaking **\$5.28 billion** capital campaign

One of the state's **Top 5** employers with a **\$12.1 billion** economic impact on the State of Michigan

The University of Michigan....

Strong Values

The U-M mission is to “serve the people of Michigan and the world through preeminence in creating, communicating, preserving and applying knowledge, art, and academic values, and in developing leaders and citizens who will challenge the present and enrich the future.” U-M carries its mission across its three campuses (UM-Ann Arbor, UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint).

Formidable Research Profile

U-M academic breadth is advanced and supported by its significant research profile. With research spending above \$2 billion for FY 2024, U-M research has been responsible for major breakthroughs across its 19 schools and colleges, with strength in healthcare, sustainability, and social impact, among others.

Reputation for Excellence

The University of Michigan is highly regarded among top universities for excellence in academics, scholarship, and teaching. With consistently top ranked programs across hundreds of academic disciplines, U-M is home to talented students and faculty who are pioneers in their fields. Additionally, the Go Blue Guarantee ensures access to excellence.



Significant Impact in Michigan

As one of the largest and most multi-faceted universities in the country, U-M's significant contributions to Michigan include billions of dollars in economic activity. U-M is a driver of employment, healthcare, startups and new businesses, education and services for residents, and much more.

Michigan Medicine

Michigan Medicine is home to one of the largest health care complexes in Michigan. It has been the site of many groundbreaking medical and technological advancements since the Medical School first opened in 1850. Today, Michigan Medicine continues to deliver the Michigan Difference through cutting-edge research and premier patient care.

Dynamic Athletics

U-M has long been regarded as one of the leading athletics programs in the country with an astounding 59 team national championships. U-M is also well known for the high levels of academic success and career development support provided to student athletes. The Wolverines compete in 29 varsity sports across NCAA's Division I and in the Big Ten Conference.

The Opportunity

The mission of the University of Michigan is to serve the people of Michigan and the world through preeminence in creating, communicating, preserving and applying knowledge, art, and academic values, and in developing leaders and citizens who will challenge the present and enrich the future.

The regents of the University of Michigan have launched a search for an ambitious, engaging, collaborative leader to serve as its next president. At a critical moment in the institution's history and in the state of higher education in the country, the next president of the University of Michigan will set a strategic direction that capitalizes on the university's extensive assets and charts the path for one of the nation's great research institutions. With an unwavering commitment to excellence in research and teaching and a dedication to the health and vibrancy of the campus communities, the next president will partner with the regents to enhance the impact and stature of the university within the global academic community and ensure that the people of Michigan are well-served by the institution.

The president of the University of Michigan serves as its chief executive officer responsible for the development and execution of a strategy and broad range of institutional initiatives that deliver on the institution's bold mission and drive for excellence in research, teaching, health delivery, and community.

Priorities for U-M's Next President

- Position the University of Michigan as the defining public university of the future by uniting its students, faculty and staff in education, research, health, sustainability, and civic engagement to expand access, foster belonging, and generate impact for the state, nation, and world. Continue to expand strategic priorities and initiatives that advance the university's academic excellence, capitalizing on its teaching and research strength, the breadth of its programs, and the exceptional faculty and student body.
- Foster collaboration, integration, and partnerships across the three university campuses, with Michigan Health, the State of Michigan, and the private sector. Build a culture of innovation and interdisciplinarity that advances research, better prepares students for an ever-evolving world, serves as an engine of economic and social mobility, and meets local, state and global needs.
- Drive the ambitious \$7 billion "Look to Michigan" campaign, ensuring investments align with student success, health, democratic engagement, and sustainability goals. Embed transparency and performance metrics to prove impact.
- Champion campus climate, well-being and inclusion. Cultivate relationships with students and build robust systems, practices, policies and infrastructure that support their success. Elevate mental health and campus community wellness initiatives. Support the Go Blue Guarantee, to ensure U-M is the destination for all ambitious students in Michigan.
- Be energized by and committed to Michigan athletics, recognizing the importance that scholarship athletics are to the community.
- Continue to steward the exceptional fiscal health of the institution, looking for ways to drive revenue, streamline expenses, and ensure that the university's facilities and physical plant support the needs and aspirations of a world-class faculty.
- Build trust and strong, authentic relationships with all members of the U-M community and deep appreciation of the university, its mission and core values.

With a Broad Range of Ideal Experiences...

The next president will ideally have experience:

- Leading an organization of significant scale and complexity, with a deep appreciation for and commitment to research, scholarship, instruction and the ability to convey this appreciation and commitment with credibility and integrity.
- Developing a bold strategic vision and then executing with sound financial and operational acumen and judgement.
- Leading within a complex political climate while maintaining a focus on a strategic vision grounded in the university's mission and core values.
- Establishing priorities, making difficult decisions, and delivering measurable results.
- Attracting philanthropic support for the university's ambitions; forging relationships and inspiring donors and alums.
- Navigating challenging dynamics and embracing opportunities for growth, change, innovation, and discussion.
- Building and empowering high-performance leadership teams.
- Serving as an inspiring, transparent and compelling spokesperson who furthers the reputation, stature, and resources of an organization.
- Bringing strong experience and understanding of the role and challenges of academic medicine and health.

...Attributes and Characteristics

The next president will ideally have:

- A leadership style that builds trust and inspires collaboration across the institution.
- Intellectual curiosity and depth, combined with a proclivity toward action, accomplishment, and thoughtful pragmatism.
- Wisdom and sound judgment; a deep listener; compassion and empathy.
- Enthusiasm and passion for developing authentic relationships across the community.
- Values-based, non-partisan approach to leadership and issues.
- Energy, resilience, and stamina for the pressures of the role. The ability to accept criticism graciously and respond with empathy, clarity, and confidence.
- A global citizen with an international perspective, a deep appreciation for Michigan, and an awareness of the interconnected wider world.
- Energy, passion, and commitment for the mission of higher education in all areas – scholarship, arts, athletics, community.
- A servant leader with genuine enthusiasm and care for the University of Michigan and a deep investment in its purpose.

About the University of Michigan

More than any other university, U-M has the potential to be so much more than the sum of its many excellent parts. It's this potential to have a positive impact on the society it serves that represents its greatest value as a university.

Overview

Founded in 1817, the University of Michigan is one of the nation's oldest public universities and a pioneer in higher education, research, and public service. With a mission rooted in the advancement of knowledge and the betterment of society, Michigan fosters innovation, inclusion, and impact across disciplines. The university partners with industry, government, and communities to address complex global challenges, while cultivating a vibrant academic environment that prepares students to lead and serve in a rapidly changing world.

The University of Michigan is a comprehensive, globally engaged institution with a \$14.9 billion annual budget and a \$19.2 billion endowment. It operates across three campuses—Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint—and supports more than 65,000 students and 50,000 faculty and staff. The Ann Arbor campus alone spans over 3,000 acres and includes a world-class academic medical center, museums, libraries, and performance venues. Michigan offers more than 275-degree programs and is consistently ranked among the top public universities in the United States. Committed to access and affordability, the university provides robust financial aid and support services with nearly 20percent of undergraduates being first-generation college students.

At its flagship Ann Arbor campus academic programs are housed within 19 schools and colleges, including highly regarded units such as the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; the College of Engineering; the Ross School of Business; the School of Public Health; and the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. The university is also home to the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, Michigan Law, and Michigan Medicine. With a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration, Michigan fosters a dynamic learning environment that empowers students and faculty to pursue excellence in teaching, research, and service.

About the University of Michigan, cont.

The University of Michigan's regional campuses in Dearborn and Flint serve as vital engines of educational access and economic mobility in Michigan. UM-Dearborn, established in 1959, offers a practice-based, affordable education with a strong emphasis on access and inclusion. With more than 8,000 students, it boasts small class sizes, a 1:16 faculty-to-student ratio, and a high percentage of first-generation and Pell-eligible students. UM-Flint, guided by its Project 2020 strategic plan, has launched initiatives like the College of Innovation and Technology to meet regional workforce needs. All three campuses offer the Go Blue Guarantee, which provides free tuition for in-state students from families earning up to \$125,000, and they maintain distinct missions while collaborating with Ann Arbor to enhance student success and operational efficiency.

Michigan Medicine, the university's academic medical center, is a cornerstone of U-M's research enterprise and clinical excellence. Encompassing the U-M Medical School, University of Michigan Health, and a vast network of hospitals and clinics across the state, it has grown into one of the nation's premier institutions for medical education, patient care, and biomedical research. In fiscal year 2024, the University of Michigan reported a record-breaking \$2.04 billion in research expenditures, marking a 9.9 percent increase from the previous year. Of this, the Medical School alone accounted for \$889 million, reflecting its leadership in biomedical discovery and innovation. These efforts underscore U-M's role as a national leader in research that drives scientific advancement, economic growth, and public health.

Beyond academics and research, the University of Michigan fosters a vibrant culture of community engagement and athletic excellence. Through the "Academic Success Program," Michigan Athletics empowers its 900+ student-athletes to lead through service, civic engagement, and global awareness. U-M's vibrant and engaged alumni community of over 668,000 living alumni worldwide support the Wolverines' 29 varsity sports across NCAA's Division I and in the Big Ten Conference. Additionally, with over 1,700 student organizations the University of Michigan offers a rich array of opportunities for student engagement. Whether through service, scholarship, or social connection, U-M's community engagement ecosystem ensures that every student can find their place and make a meaningful impact.

The Search Process

To submit confidential comments, nominations, or expressions of interest, please send an email with any supporting materials to: UofMPres@spencerstuart.com

Find more information about the University of Michigan presidential search here: [UM Presidential Search](#)

The University of Michigan, including the Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Flint campuses as well as Michigan Medicine complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. The University of Michigan is an equal employment opportunity employer.



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