

Great Lakes Research Center

What it means to be a Member

The Great Lakes Research Center (GLRC) at Michigan Technological University is a multidisciplinary collaborative of faculty, students, and staff dedicated to solving challenges facing freshwater and freshwater ecosystems with some coastal ocean and Arctic mixed in as well. The Great Lakes Research Center serves as a focal for graduate students, faculty and staff actively engaged in externally sponsored projects who reside, and work, in offices and laboratories within the facility or occupy spaces within their home departments but share our common goals. The GLRC also serves as a non-academic department to a small core staff who provide leadership and technical and administrative support to facility, people and water-focused programs. In the broadest sense, the GLRC is a recognized research institute charged with strategically investing university resources to strengthen and grow the University's role in addressing regional and global challenges by a community of people who share the mission and vision of the GLRC.

Vision: The Great Lakes Research Center will lead as a global research institute that inspires and advances knowledge and innovation in interdisciplinary science, engineering, technology, and policy, focused on the Laurentian Great Lakes Basin.

Mission: The Great Lakes Research Center delivers action-based education and discovery of new knowledge through community and partnership in interdisciplinary water research and outreach.

Members collectively support the vision and mission through cultivation of the community's intellect, inspiration and innovation.

Intellect

- Cultivate a community of research inspiration to solve problems, address challenges, and develop new knowledge
- Strategically invest in people and facilities to develop depth in programming

Inspire

- Promote sustainable and ecological solutions to regional and global challenges through sound science, engineering, technology, and policy
- Strengthen relationships that foster community and partnerships to develop and implement innovative solutions

Innovate

- Increase research and the development of new knowledge to address the world's water challenges
- Build year-round programming to promote learning and innovation through efficient management and administration of externally funded activities

Eligibility

Membership in the Great Lakes Research Center is open to any faculty or staff member conducting and supporting research activities aligned with the mission and vision of the GLRC who also meets the University's standard for leading sponsored activities. Research activities include proposal development and submission and the active conduct of sponsored research and other sponsored activities including education, outreach and K-12 engagement.

Period of Membership

Membership begins with the submission of a membership application (located on the GLRC Website) and self-identification of constituency in up to two areas of interest. Active membership will continue until the member requests to be removed from active membership, or a time when the member's relationship with the University does not meet the above eligibility.

Benefits of Membership

Members are eligible to receive strategically invested resources that support revenue and scholarly growth of the GLRC Institute.

1. Access to faculty, students and resources dedicated to a multidisciplinary, multi-investigator research environment, seeking efforts larger than typically undertaken by a single investigator within an academic department.
2. Access to a wide range of oceanographic and limnological research tools including research and survey vessels, underwater vehicles, advanced sensing and monitoring equipment and trained and available technical staff.
3. Communications related to funding opportunities and recognition of professional accomplishments that increase greater awareness for Michigan Tech and the GLRC community.
4. Participation in the annual GLRC Executive Committee election process and input of strategic investments made by the institute for students, faculty, equipment, enhanced capabilities and personnel.
5. Faculty, staff and graduate student office and shared use laboratory space in the GLRC.
6. Invitation to GLRC member only functions – social, scholarly and learning.
7. Annual student travel funds to provide opportunities for member-advised graduate students to present at conferences and professional meetings.
8. Annual student competition awards to further undergraduate and graduate student development.
9. Annual seed research funds to advance proposal development towards externally funded proposals / collaborations and longer-term institute growth.
10. Annual technical support grants to advance proposal development towards externally funded proposals with data collection and pay as you go access to the technical staff for advanced research support.
11. Pre-award proposal development support, including transmittal processing, budgeting support, proposal writing and application development, on multidisciplinary, collaborative proposals.
12. Faculty and staff professional development funds to support research competency enhancement and/or outreach and awareness of broader GLRC capabilities.
13. Support for hosting visiting speaker/guests that highlight the intersection of disciplinary research, and/or instruction/learning for the research community (i.e. expert on communicating the broader impacts of research.)