The Horvath Professorship funding has been critical to the growth of Professor Sanders’ Alloy Research Central (ARC) team. Over the last 2 calendar years, funding was used to support staff, students, and to leverage equipment acquisitions. In addition, significant additional funds were borrowed and repaid when planned funding did not arrive in time for student and staff support.

- Staff expenditures were primarily to help prepare proposals and publications. Over the last 4 years, the ARC team has averaged 7.5 publications per year. Most of the staff loan was for a professor to do specialized measurements for an industry sponsor, who wanted the extra work done quickly to contribute to a student’s MS project.

- MS students are usually budgeted for one year but sometimes take a bit longer. PhD students are usually budgeted for 3 years even though they typically take 4. Faculty members never have enough funding upfront when agreeing to support PhD students. Five (5) students were supported in part by the Horvath fund through stipend, tuition, and supplies/services.

- ARC staff are adept at buying and refurbishing equipment. In addition, ARC supports improving the ACMAL. Through the Horvath Professorship fund, funds were invested and leveraged over 8 times with other university funds to buy used equipment and to upgrade existing equipment. Efficiently acquiring equipment that differentiates Michigan Tech and enables future project funding helps build the future of our program.

- Finally, travel funds supported attendance at AISTech in Nashville where Prof. Sanders received the AIST Presidential Citation on behalf of his work to make students more aware of steel, the steel industry, and AIST.