The University of Michigan

Board of Regents Meeting

June 25, 2026, Ann Arbor

The regents met at 3:30 p.m. at the Alexander Ruthven Building, University Hall, Ann Arbor, and via a livestream link on the university gateway. Participating were Regents Acker, Behm, Bernstein, Brown, Hubbard, Ilitch, Meyers and White. Also attending were Chancellor Alexander, Vice President Baird, Interim Executive Vice President Hewlett, Vice President Harmon, Interim Vice President Kettenbeil, Vice President Kinsey, Vice President Kolb, Vice President Lupia, Vice President Lynch, Provost McCauley, Executive Vice President Miller, and Vice President Pendse. Chancellor Scarlatta was absent.

Call to Order and President's Opening Remarks

President Grasso called the meeting to order and called the roll.

Budget Presentations:

Go Blue Guarantee

President Grasso began the meeting with a presentation on the Go Blue Guarantee over the years. He introduced the proposed 2026–27 budgets for U-M's Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn campuses, emphasizing affordability, access, and social mobility. The Go Blue Guarantee is a national model, now providing tuition-free education for qualifying Michigan families earning up to $125,000, covering roughly 75% of Michigan households.

He noted that UM meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for eligible in-state students, provides over half a billion dollars in undergraduate support, and enables one in three in-state students to pay no tuition. The speaker frames the budgets as investments in students, Michigan families, public service professions, and the university's broader mission of service to society.

Ann Arbor Budget

The Ann Arbor campus's proposed 2027 budget included a 0% increase in net tuition costs for Michigan resident undergraduates with financial need for the 18th consecutive year, supported by $12.3 million in new financial aid and $335 million total in undergraduate grant aid. The plan proposed a 3.0% tuition and fee increase for resident undergraduates, 4.9% for nonresident undergraduates and most graduate programs, and a 6% housing rate increase to support long-term housing improvements.

The budget prioritized human health and well-being, student mental health services, housing and recreation investments, research support, academic infrastructure, classroom and lab upgrades, and interdisciplinary curricular innovation. It also addressed challenges including flat state funding, reduced federal research revenue, softening international graduate enrollment, and rising costs for benefits, utilities, insurance, and compensation. Overall, the budget was presented as balanced, disciplined, and focused on protecting vulnerable students while sustaining U-M's academic and research excellence.

UM-Health Budget

Dr. Julie Ishak, UM-Health Chief Nurse and Operations Executive presented the UM-Health Budget. She emphasized the mission to improve health through patient care, research, and education. She highlighted progress under the "Strong Base and Bold Future" framework, including improved quality and safety outcomes, expanded access to care, reduced disparities, growth in community health services, and the opening of the Betty Kahn Healthcare Pavilion.

Anticipated continued growth continues, with more than 90,000 inpatient admissions and about 5 million outpatient visits expected in FY 2027. Also noted were financial pressures, including healthcare cost challenges and reduced federal discount eligibility, while committing to disciplined expense management and strategic investments in behavioral health, ambulatory growth, technology modernization, and statewide access to care.

UM-Dearborn Budget

Vice Chancellor Dadey presented the UM-Dearborn budget for FY 2027 budget that emphasized affordability, access, student success, and financial stewardship. The campus reported that 41% of first-year students paid no tuition, 30% of students were eligible for the Go Blue Guarantee, and the six-year graduation rate exceeded 60% for the first time.

The budget faced pressures from declining international enrollment, stagnant state support, research funding challenges, aging facilities, and rising costs. Proposed is a 2.8% increase in undergraduate tuition and fees for residents, 3.8% for nonresident undergraduates, and 3.9% for graduate programs, while keeping recurring student fees flat. To balance the budget, Dearborn enacted $5 million in reductions but continued investments in research, marketing, academic programs, capital improvements, and one-time payments for most faculty and staff.

UM-Flint Budget

Chancellor Alexander presented the UM-Flint budget for FY 2027, and highlighted the campus's continued growth, affordability, and role in workforce development, social mobility, and regional economic development. Flint reported three consecutive years of enrollment growth, making it the fastest-growing university in Michigan, supported in part by a $5 million annual UM investment for new programs, faculty support, marketing, and maintenance.

The budget emphasized student success, retention, the impact of the Go Blue Guarantee, and major investments in the Innovation and Technology Complex, including labs and spaces for cybersecurity, data science, clean energy, advanced manufacturing, AI, biotechnology, and related fields. It also noted plans to explore collegiate athletics by 2028.

The proposal included a 4.1% tuition and fee increase for resident undergraduates, 4.0% for resident graduate programs, 4.2% for nonresident undergraduates and most graduate programs, and a 5% housing increase while keeping rates among the lowest in Michigan. It also included expected research revenue growth and a 3% merit program for most employees.

Interim EVP Hewlett presented the Athletics budget, and the University's Revenue and Expenditure Operating budget. The FY 2027 Athletic Department projected a balanced budget, with both revenues and expenses at $297.3 million. Revenues were expected to rise by $15.3 million and expenses by $15.5 million from FY 2026, mainly due to more events, including eight home football games and two concerts, student-athlete revenue sharing, and inflation. The budget supported continued athletic success and new revenue-generation efforts, including a search for a chief revenue officer.

The university's FY 2027 consolidated operating budget projected $16.8 billion in revenues and $16.6 billion in expenses, with excess funds directed toward long-term strategic priorities. The budget emphasized financial discipline, student aid, workforce investment, core missions, and major initiatives such as Wolverine Village and the Eisenberg Troy Center for Specialty Care. UM's financial stability was reinforced by its reaffirmed AAA bond rating with a stable outlook.

Comments from Regents:

Regent Ilitch emphasized three priorities for future budgets: expanding student mental health resources in response to recent student deaths, addressing growing student food insecurity so no Michigan student goes hungry, and improving residence hall conditions, especially resolving reported concerns. She urged the administration to devote more resources to these areas and invited students to reach out directly with concerns.

She announced that the Board would discuss the future of athletics in July, including women's hockey, which has been under review for two years by a dedicated committee. The regent highlighted the rapid growth of women's sports nationally, including strong interest in women's hockey and the new Detroit team's sale of 3,400 season tickets in its first 24 hours. She expressed hope that a future budget would include the establishment of a UM women's hockey team.

On a motion by Regent White, seconded by Regent Bernstein, the regents approved the FY 2026-2027 Revenue and Expenditure Operating Budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Grasso said, "Today's meeting includes a transition in our Board's leadership. I would like to thank Regent Bernstein for his service and dedication as Board chair. Mark, I am grateful for your leadership and the conversations we've had. All of us appreciate your commitment to

Michigan. Regent Behm will begin serving as chair at our July meeting. We will look to him for his guidance and insight as the Board recruits and appoints the next president.

“Earlier this week, we were surprised and saddened to learn that Dusty May, head coach of our men’s basketball team, is leaving Michigan for the NBA. Dusty restored our program to greatness and led this year’s team to the national championship. Two nights ago, three members of that team were selected in the first round of the NBA draft – including one Wolverine who will continue to play for Dusty.

“Moving to the NBA is an opportunity for Dusty to further elevate his career, and we wish him all the best. His departure, however, is a bellwether for college athletics. Our current system is in dire need of clarity and equitable reform.

“Coach May told me that among his reasons for leaving were uncertainties and pressures involving the transfer portal and NIL support for student athletes. He and I agreed that the future of college sports is headed in the wrong direction.

“Congress is currently considering the Protect College Sports Act to provide greater stability, clearer national standards, and more consistent rules governing athlete compensation and competition. It includes many positive features that we support.

“However, this legislation contains deeply concerning provisions. Rather than looking to conferences such as the Big Ten as models of athletic and academic excellence, it imposes restrictions that disproportionately affect the institutions and conferences that have been most successful in serving student athletes and building nationally competitive programs.

“Among the most troubling provisions are targeted limits on conference expansion and realignment, as well as harmful restrictions on student athletes' ability to benefit from additional NIL opportunities. These measures would reduce universities' and conferences' flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and pursue innovative opportunities.

“We want what’s best for the Big Ten and Michigan. We are not going to sacrifice the competitive advantage we have built for more than a century. We stand ready to work with legislators on a bill that establishes a system in which every university can compete and thrive for generations to come.

“Since we last met, Michigan Medicine and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan have reached a contract framework that ensures coverage and care for thousands of Michigan residents. I want to thank Dr. David Miller, Dr. Julie Ishak, and their team for their dedication to seeing that Blue Cross patients throughout our state continue to have access to exceptional health care. I know the negotiations were intense, and we are all grateful for this new, long-term contract and for our continued partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

“Our meeting next month will be in Traverse City, continuing the recent trend of gathering outside Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint. The Board has convened in Grand Rapids, St. Ignace, and Petoskey. We will meet on July 16.

Regent Ilitch thanked Regent Bernstein for his outstanding leadership over the past year.

President Grasso called on Regent Acker who asked to share some remarks.

Regent Acker said, “Mr. Chair and colleagues, President Grasso, members of the university community, I wanted to begin today with something I should've said sooner. I'm sorry. I'm sorry to my colleagues on this board. I'm sorry to our students, our faculty, our staff, alumni and everyone who cares deeply about this university. I'm sorry for the distraction, the disappointment, and the pain that the situation has caused.

“Over the last two months, much has been said and written about me. Some of it I believe has been unfair. Some of it has felt like a deliberate attempt to define me by my worst moments and mistakes but today is not about that. Today is about accountability.

“A faculty member whom I deeply respect said something to me recently that has stayed with me. They said that one thing our society needs more of is a sense of accountability. That humiliation, not destruction, not permanent condemnation, but accountability. The ability to recognize when we have failed our own standards and to feel the weight of that failure.

“The observation hit me hard because regardless of legal outcomes, regardless of investigations, regardless of what anyone else concludes, I know that I failed my own standards. There is a tendency in public life to treat every issue as a legal question. Was a law broken? Was a rule violated? Was there enough evidence, and -- did someone technically do something wrong?

But legal standards are not the same as ethical standards. I've spent much of my life advocating for accountability for leaders and institutions, I've demanded that others live up to high expectations. It would be hypocritical of me not to hold myself to that same standard.

“Regardless of what anyone else says or does, the fact is that I made choices that fell short of the standards I expect of myself. It does not erase the disappointment I have caused people who believe in me. It doesn't erase the investment that this has brought an institution that deserves better. For that, I am genuinely sorry.

“I'm also sorry it has taken me this long to say these words publicly. Part of the delay came with the difficulty of living for the last two months. Part of it came from listening to lawyers and advisers and part of it came from my own instinct to defend myself. But an apology delayed is still delayed. And for that, I am sorry as well. For those that have been hurt, disappointed, frustrated, or angry, I do not ask for sympathy. I do not ask anyone to excuse my mistakes. I only ask that my apology be heard as sincere.

“The question that always follows an apology is what happens next? I was elected to serve a term by voters that were relying on me. I intend to fulfill that obligation, by adding free counseling sessions, by making more investments in Flint and Dearborn, by working on carbon neutrality for our campuses, providing for union brothers and sisters and doing whatever I can for our LGBTQ family. It has reinforced it. I'm going to continue fighting attempts by politicians in Washington to dictate medical decisions and undermine academic freedom. I'm going to continue confronting anti-Semitism and hatred wherever it appears on our campus. I'm going to continue working to help this university navigate the rapidly changing landscape of college athletics and I'm going to continue advocating for students, faculty, staff, patients, and families who depend on this university. Now, I do not expect everyone to agree with that decision but I believe that when we fail, our responsibility is not always to disappear.

“Sometimes, our responsibility is to acknowledge our failure, accept the consequences, learn from it, and continue doing the work we were elected to do. I made mistakes. I’ve fallen short of my own values. I'm ashamed of that but I'm not defeated by it. I love this university. I believe in this university and I remain committed to serving it with humility, honesty and renewed understanding that public trust is not something we are entitled to. It is something we earn -- earned every day. Today I ask for no special treatment. I ask only for the opportunity to continue earning that trust.

Regent Brown, said “Jordan, we were first running mates. Now colleagues and friends. And although we condemn your momentary lapse of judgment, I think it's important that you appreciate what I feel about the work you've done here, and that everyone understands that you been an ally for workers, students, especially LGBTQ family members, affordability, and Flint and Dearborn and many other things that are critical to our students, faculty, staff, and the citizens of the state of Michigan, and I for one am glad and lucky you will be here throughout the remainder of your term.”

Regent Ilitch, said “I accept your apology, and it is sincere, because I know you. I think it's really a teachable moment for our students to be able to see that when you make a mistake, you own it, you are accountable. You apologize. And you carry on with the work. So thank you for that.”

Regents’ Committee Reports

Finance, Audit and Investment Committee - Committee member and chair Regent White said that the committee, including Regents Bernstein, Hubbard and Meyers met with Interim Executive Vice President Hewlett, and Interim VP Smith, for discussions on Enterprise Resource Planning, Audit Services, and the Investment Advisory Committee. The committee also received a financial update.

Health Affairs Committee - Committee member and chair Regent Brown said that he and committee chair Regent Behm, met with Executive Vice President Miller, Michigan Medicine CFO Eric Strucko, and other UM-Health leaders for a financial update, clinical updates and other reports.

Personnel, Compensation and Governance Committee - Committee member and chair Regent Ilitch reported that the committee, including Regents Acker and White and Bernstein, met with Provost McCauley, Vice President Lupia, and Special Advisor to the President, Tami Strickman, for a discussion on campus antisemitism.

Nomination of Officers

Regent Bernstein said, "The Regents' Bylaws state that the positions of chair and vice chair rotate annually based on seniority until all members of the board have had the opportunity to serve as chair or vice chair. Following this provision, I move the nomination of Regent Michael Behm as chair, and Regent Carl Meyers as vice chair of the Board of Regents, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027."

The motion was seconded by Regent Ilitch, and approved unanimously.

Vote on Conflicts of Interest

On a motion by Regent White, seconded by Regent Behm, the regents unanimously approved Finance and Property items 1-7, with a show of hands vote in favor 8-0.

Consent agenda

Minutes. Vice President Kinsey submitted for approval the minutes of the meetings of May 21, 2026.

Reports. Interim Executive Vice President Hewlett submitted the Investment Report, the Plant Extension Report, and the University Human Resources Report.

Research Report. Vice President Lupia had no additional report.

UM Health System Report. Executive Vice President Miller had no report.

Student Life Report. Vice President Harmon had no report.

University of Michigan-Dearborn. Chancellor Scarlatta had no report.

University of Michigan-Flint. Chancellor Alexander highlighted several community-engaged initiatives: a performing arts collaboration led by Professor Emma Davis involving student dancers, Detroit Dance Collective, and youth from the Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center; a psychology department mental health wellness day for 85 Girl Scouts; and the return of the Summer Bridge Program, which welcomed 29 Flint-area high school students for a residential college-readiness experience focused on academic skills, financial literacy, campus resources, and career exploration.

Voluntary Support. Vice President Baird had no additional report.

Personnel Actions/Personnel Reports. Provost McCauley presented a number of personnel actions. She spoke to the appointment of Charles B. Holmes, dean, School of Public Health, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031, and professor of epidemiology, with tenure, School of Public Health.

Retirement Memoirs. Vice President Kinsey submitted a number of retirement memoirs. Executive Vice President Miller spoke to the retirement of Gregory W. Dalack, M.D., professor of psychiatry in the Medical School, who will retire from active faculty status on June 30, 2026.

Memorial statements. No deaths of active faculty members were reported to the regents this month.

Degrees. Recommendations for Honorary Degrees were submitted.

On a motion by Regent Meyers, seconded by Regent Bernstein, the regents unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Finance and Property

Authorization to name a new behavioral health building

President Grasso said, "I'm pleased to introduce a supplemental item naming *The Janice M. Granger Behavioral Health Building* in recognition of the Granger's exceptional generosity to UM Health - Sparrow."

Executive Vice President Miller said, "I would like to take a moment to recognize a truly visionary gift that invokes the best of philanthropy, and commitment to the people of Michigan. First, I would like to recognize Dr. Margaret Dimond, President of our UM Health System for her leadership in bringing this transformational gift to fruition. I also want to express our deepest gratitude to Alton L., Janice M. and the entire Granger family for their generosity, and long-standing commitment to the Lansing and mid-Michigan communities.

The Janice M. Granger Behavioral Health Building will be transformative for the region. As behavioral health needs continue to grow across our state this new facility at the UM-Health campus will expand healthcare for adults, and for the first time in the region, for children and adolescents. To the Granger family, Margaret, and Yvonne who helped bring this vision to life, thank you for your partnership and your unwavering commitment to advancing health for communities across Michigan.

On a motion by Regent White, seconded by Regent Behm the regents unanimously approved the naming of the Janice M. Granger Behavioral Health Building, effective immediately.

Conflicts of Interest

Earlier in the meeting, the regents approved the following conflict of interest items that fall under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute. The following information is provided in compliance with statutory requirements:

Authorization for the University to transact with Vander Detroit - Station 626, LLC

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the transaction are the Regents of the University of Michigan, its A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Vander Detroit - Station 626, LLC.
2. The transaction is for event space for one day at a total cost not to exceed $1,800. Vander Detroit - Station 626, LLC will supply the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this transaction. The remaining terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar transactions entered into by the Regents.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Elizabeth (Lisa) Sauve, is the owner of Vander Detroit - Station 626, LLC.

Authorization for the University to enter into a contract with Honey Locust Productions dba Honey Locust Health

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Department of Health Management and Policy and Honey Locust Health.
2. The contract is from January 1, 2026, to September 30, 2027, at a total cost not to Exceed $3,000,000. Honey Locust Health will supply the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that UM employee, Michael Rubyan, is a partner of Honey Locust Health.

Authorization for the University to enter into a contract with Design4Collaboration LLC

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Institute for Social Research (ISR) and Design4Collaboration LLC
2. The contract is for consulting and facilitation services for the Institute for Social Research (ISR) tenure process from March 12, 2026, through April 30, 2026, at a total cost not to exceed $25,000. Design4Collaboration LLC will supply the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee Ann M. Verhey-Henke is the owner of Design4Collaboration LLC.

Authorization for the University to enter into an agreement with Heat2Power Inc.

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the agreement are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Department of Aerospace Engineering and Heat2Power Inc.
2. The agreement is for the purpose of collaboration under a sponsored project funded by the Department of Defense titled "Space Power and Propulsion for Agility, Responsiveness, and Resilience (SPAR)." The agreement is for a duration of four years at a total cost not to exceed $636,000. Heat2Power Inc. will be supplying all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this agreement. The remaining base agreement terms and conditions will comply with appropriate University requirements and are typical for other similar agreements entered into by the Regents. Since projects are often amended, the agreement will include provisions for changes in time, amount and scope.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that UM Employees Andrej Lenert, Stephen Forrest, and Trystan Elliott are partial owners, officers of the Board of Directors, employees, CEO, president, and/or consultants at Heat2Power Inc.

Authorize Execution of Investment Agreements Under the Accelerate Blue Fund or similar funds managed by Innovation Partnerships for Post Rock, Inc., a Delaware corporation

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the agreement are the Regents of the University of Michigan and Post Rock, Inc.
2. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreement. If the transaction proceeds, the parties to the Agreements would include the University and the Company, and the University would receive an equity interest or future equity interest in the Company in return for its investment(s). The Agreements would reflect typical venture capital investing documentation. Innovation Partnerships is seeking approval for financing agreements up to a total of no more than 10% of the total assets under management in the respective Innovation Partnerships Managed Funds in potential investments (through one or more rounds of financing) in the Company. It is understood that, upon approval of this item, Innovation Partnerships Managed Funds will have no obligation to enter into the Agreements or proceed with any investment in the company.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that UM Employees Meredith Miller, and Thom Moran, are partial owners of the company, and/or undertake a senior company officer or board role.

Approval of Commercialization Agreements

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and the companies described in Attachment A.

2. The University will retain ownership of the optioned, licensed, or reassigned technologies and may continue to further develop and use them internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreements. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreements may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technology. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate. Terms specific to each Agreement are described in Attachment A.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that UM employees described in Attachment A, have outside activities, relationships, or interests in the companies described in Attachment A.

Authorization to enter into or amend Agreements

The agreements were approved.

1. The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and the Companies described in Attachment A.
2. The terms of the Agreements and/or Amendments conform to University policy. The Funding support will not exceed the amount reported in Attachment A for each Agreement and/or Amendment. Since projects are often amended, these Agreements and/or Amendments include provisions for changes in time and scope. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.
3. The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that UM employees described in Attachment A, have outside activities, relationships, or interests in the companies described in Attachment A.

Henry Russel Lecturer and Awards for 2027

The Henry Russel Lectureship and Awards are included in this month’s agenda as information items. The Henry Russel Lectureship is the highest honor that the University bestows upon a senior member of its faculty.

The Henry Russel Lecturer for 2027 will be John Jonides, the Edward E. Smith Distinguished University Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, Acting Co-Director, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Facility, Professor of Radiology, Medical School and Professor of Psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Dissolution of Sparrow Health System Corporate Entity and FY27 Michigan Health Corporation (MHC) Business Plan

On a motion by Regent White, seconded by Regent Brown, the regents approved of the Dissolution of Sparrow Health System Corporate Entity, and the FY27 Michigan Health Corporation Business Plan.

Approval of Academic Calendar for 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 for the University of Michigan-Flint

On a motion by Regent White, seconded by Regent Meyers, the regents approved Academic Calendars for 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 for the University of Michigan-Flint.

Student Government Report

Central Student Government President Summit Louth emphasized rebuilding trust between students and the Board of Regents through listening and dialogue, noting that activism often arises when students feel unheard. He offered to serve as a bridge between students and regents and expressed excitement to work together over the next year.

Public Comment

The regents heard public comments from: Juan Cole, faculty member, on geothermal for the university; Julia Claire Blough, alumni, on gender-affirming care; Stephen C. Taylor, alumni, on advocating for academic freedom and institutional independence at UM; Rebecka Woodell, staff, Hijab wearing for two workers; Kentaro Toyama, faculty, request for regular Faculty Senate slot during academic year; and Jeremy Haley, community member, on privacy with and the change in how records are obtained.

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm. The next meeting will be on July 16, 2026.