

Microsoft Update to the College

We've had a lot of excitement this month of May, with graduation and the big announcement from Microsoft that took place during President Biden's visit to Gateway's SC Johnson iMET Center.

As I mentioned, the Microsoft investment will be a major game-changer for our region and our communities. Here are some key talking points so all of us are knowledgeable about what Microsoft's presence means to Gateway and to Southeast Wisconsin. I have divided these by sub-topic.

Impact for Gateway

- **First Datacenter Academy in Wisconsin:** Microsoft has indicated that they will partner with us to build the data center academy to train and certify more than 1,000 students in five years to work in the new data center and information technology sector jobs created in the area. Here is a link to Microsoft's webpage about the Datacenter Academy concept:
<https://careers.microsoft.com/v2/global/en/datacenteracademy.html>
- **Microsoft also pledged a \$150,000 donation to Gateway Technical College to benefit students through Data Center Academy Scholarships.** The grant will provide scholarships for students enrolled – or enrolling in – several different Gateway Information Technology, Facilities Maintenance and Refrigeration, Air Conditioning & Heating programs.
- **Microsoft is committed to training faculty** through the Microsoft AI Bootcamp for Educators. The first train-the-trainer event will be held at our SC Johnson iMET Center on 11 July for selected faculty members from across our 16 technical colleges.

Impact on Jobs

- Adds 2,300 union construction jobs to the area by 2025
- Data Center Academy to train and certify more than 1,000 students in five years to work in the new data center and IT sector jobs created in the area
- Other data centers/companies will be attracted to the region
- Increase in demand for goods and services

Impact on the Community

- \$4.2 million to restore approximately 1.5 miles of Lamparek Creek

- \$500,000 to support local community projects including Root Pike WIN and United Way of Racine
- Creation of the country's first manufacturing-focused AI co-innovation lab at UW Milwaukee with collaboration from Gateway. This lab will aim to serve 270 Wisconsin companies by 2030, including 135 manufacturing businesses.

Useful links

- Construction progress updates:

<https://local.microsoft.com/blog/mount-pleasant-datacenter-project-update/>

- Press Release from Microsoft after the big announcement on 8 May:

<https://news.microsoft.com/2024/05/08/microsoft-announces-3-3-billion-investment-in-wisconsin-to-spur-artificial-intelligence-innovation-and-economic-growth/>

Gateway's future looks bright moving into this partnership, and we are working to strengthen it as much as we can. We are so appreciative of Microsoft's trust in Gateway and our ability to deliver quality education to help them meet their goals.

Again, I just wanted to pass this along to keep everyone in the loop on what's happening. Thank you for all you do to make a difference in the lives of our students, and the quality work that you bring everyday to the college which has helped us to make this partnership possible.