

The Proposed Alliance:

The International Space Station US National Lab has been designated by Congress to work in partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to manage the U.S. National Laboratory on the International Space Station (ISS). Our mission is to foster scientific discovery and technological innovation in space, to expand U.S. leadership in commercial space, and to inspire the next generation.

We propose an expanded arrangement with the University of Chicago Pritzker School for Molecular Engineering that will capitalize upon the combined assets and capabilities of our organizations.

- The program will include projects originating at the University of Chicago (or that have been spun out by the University) where the endeavors need access to space to: 1) prove the technology, 2) produce something, 3) test something or 4) develop technology.
- Together we will: 1) approve projects to come into the collaboration, 2) develop plans to find funding for the projects that come into the portfolio to cover the University of Chicago costs, as well as the costs of paying a NASA approved vendor to develop the experiment. The University will not need to pay the US National Lab for ISS related efforts. The US National Lab program is funded by the Federal Government to do this work. It is hoped that the US National Lab and the University of Chicago will work together to get support from local, state and federal government to accomplish the goals of our program and together, approach potential industrial partners who could help support the projects and potentially take the projects forward to develop a viable commercial opportunity.
- The National Lab will work to arrange for and cover the costs of getting the experiments/projects manifested on flights to the space station, get the experiments deployed on station, to get the astronauts trained to run the experiments and to return the experiments and associated data to the investigators.
- The members of the collaboration will focus on projects that fit into the following categories:
 - Materials Research
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Quantum Computing

The ISS US National Laboratory will not take possession of or own any Intellectual Property and we will work to protect the value of the assets of The University of Chicago (both physical and intellectual). It is our mission to help researchers develop value for their own programs and for the people of the United States. We will work to make that happen and expect the University of Chicago to work with us to support that mission.

As part of this program we will both search out other partners to bring into the collaboration. These will possibly include other National Laboratories, Institutes, Academic and Industrial organizations. The plan around who is brought in and how that is done will be developed as we work through the details of the plan.