



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



Agenda

Competitiveness Conversations Across America: Maryland — Existential New Technologies of the Next Decade: AI and Quantum

Monday, March 23, 2026

Morgan State University
Student Center Ballroom
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, MD

10:00 AM – Registration and Networking
10:30 AM – Conversation Programming
12:15 PM – Lunch
1:15 PM – Conversation Programming
5:15 PM – President’s Reception
6:00 PM – President’s Dinner
8:00 PM – Adjourn

Complimentary shuttle service will be provided on the morning of March 23 between [The Hotel at The University of Maryland](#) and Morgan State University, returning to The Hotel following the dinner.

Note, attendees are encouraged to stay at The Hotel at The University of Maryland. For a discounted rate, Conversation attendees should [register here](#).

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

University of Maryland, College Park
The Hotel at The University of Maryland
7777 Baltimore Ave
College Park, MD 20740

8:30 AM – Registration
9:00 AM – Conversation Programming
11:50 PM – Lunch
12:30 PM – Conversation Programming and Strategic Exploration of Discovery District Maryland
5:00 PM – President’s Reception
6:00 PM – Adjourn



Maryland — Existential New Technologies of the Next Decade: AI and Quantum

Monday, March 23, 2026

Morgan State University
Student Center Ballroom
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, MD

9:00 AM SHUTTLE SERVICE TO MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

For those interested, a complimentary shuttle service will be provided on from [The Hotel at The University of Maryland](#) to Morgan State University (with a return trip provided after dinner on March 23).

10:00 AM REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, AND NETWORKING

10:30 AM OPEN REMARKS AND WELCOME

10:40 AM FIRESIDE CHAT: SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR THE MARYLAND EDITION OF THE COMPETITIVENESS CONVERSATIONS ACROSS AMERICA SERIES

11:00 AM KEYNOTE: LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVE FROM THE STATEHOUSE

11:30 AM PANEL: MARYLAND'S ANCHOR UNIVERSITIES — CATALYSTS FOR PLACE-BASED INNOVATION

This stage-setting panel highlights the state's innovation ecosystem underpinning leadership in AI and quantum science and technology. The session will explore how coordinated regional action — anchored by the region's premier universities and deep, multi-sector partnerships — translates breakthrough science into enduring regional and national competitiveness.

12:10 PM LUNCH

12:50 PM THE OPPORTUNITY AND IMPACT OF GOOGLE REACH

REACH (Representation, Evaluation, and Cultural Heuristics) is a collaborative research initiative between Google and a consortium of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The program focuses on advancing methods to evaluate generative AI systems for cultural relevance, representational fidelity, and contextual appropriateness.

1:15 PM PANEL: HARNESSING AI TO POWER U.S. COMPETITIVENESS

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the foundations of economic growth, national security, and technological leadership. This leadership panel will dive into the rapid advancement and deployment of AI is strengthening U.S. competitiveness across industries, accelerating scientific discovery, and reinforcing America's position as a global innovation leader. Drawing on Maryland's distinctive innovation ecosystem, panelists will explore how regional hubs can translate AI breakthroughs into national advantage.

2:00 PM FIRESIDE CHAT: THE ROLE OF DIGITAL TWINS IN DRIVING INNOVATION

Step inside the future of state innovation. Discover Maryland's bold plans to harness digital twins and statewide AI infrastructure — turning data into real-time, actionable insights that could transform how government, education, and industry operate. Learn how cutting-edge technology and strategic partnerships are helping Maryland lead the charge in smart, connected, AI-driven systems.

2:30 PM PANEL: GOVERNANCE AND GUARDRAILS FOR THE POST-TURING ERA

The future is arriving fast — and with it, questions about how to harness AI, quantum, and frontier technologies safely and strategically. Top leaders from government, national security, and frontier-tech business will tackle the tough questions like — *How do we set standards without stifling innovation? How do we manage risk while staying globally competitive?* — As they debate how to shape the rules, ethics, and opportunities of the post-Turing era.

3:15 PM LIGHTNING TALKS: AI SHAPING THE FUTURE

- **3:15 PM — Strengthening AI Infrastructure for Greater National Security**

This session will explore the need for more robust AI infrastructure to safeguard our information future and maintain technological leadership.

- **3:30 PM — Building Smarter Cities with Responsible AI**

From traffic to optimizing utility operations, AI is transforming cities — but only when it is trustworthy and responsibly deployed. Learn how smart city technologies are evolving high-risk sectors with ethics and safety at the forefront.

- **3:45 PM — Growing AI Talent Pipelines and America’s Future Workforce**

The future of competitiveness depends on people. This session highlights the distinctive role of HBCUs and MSIs in developing the “missing millions” of AI talent essential for national and global leadership.

- **4:00 PM — Advancing Resilient AI at Scale**

This session will explore how AI technologies can deliver resilient solutions for existential challenges.

- **4:15 PM — Morgan State’s Plan for Implementing Enterprise AI**

An overview of how Morgan State University will leverage its own data to develop a fully self-contained enterprise AI system.

4:35 PM PANEL DISCUSSION: BALTIMORE’S MOMENT — LEADING THE NEXT WAVE OF INNOVATION-LED GROWTH

The discussion will explore how alignment among Baltimore and state leadership, universities, and the business community is unlocking investment, developing talent, scaling emerging technologies, and positioning Baltimore as a cornerstone of Maryland’s — and the nation’s — innovation competitiveness.

5:15 PM PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION

6:00 PM PRESIDENTIAL DINNER AND PANEL DISCUSSION

DINNER WELCOME

SELECTIONS: MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CHOIR

PANEL: WHAT THE MID-ATLANTIC TEACHES THE UNITED STATES ABOUT THE FUTURE OF COMPETITIVENESS

This Day 1 concluding session reflects on the region’s approach to place-making innovation, offering lessons and best practices for fostering collaborative ecosystems, anchored by institutions of higher education, to drive the region’s competitiveness. The session will explore how targeted strategy, talent development, and investment position regions — and the nation — for leadership in next-generation technologies.

CLOSING REMARKS

8:00 PM SHUTTLE SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

A complimentary shuttle service will be provided following dinner from Morgan State University to [The Hotel at The University of Maryland](#).

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

University of Maryland, College Park
[The Hotel at The University of Maryland](#)
7777 Baltimore Ave
College Park, MD 20740

8:30 AM REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, AND NETWORKING

9:00 AM OPEN REMARKS AND WELCOME

9:05 AM FIRESIDE CHAT: ADVANCING AI AND QUANTUM TO UNLEASH U.S. INNOVATION AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

9:30 AM FIRESIDE CHAT: CAPITAL OF QUANTUM

Discover Capital of Quantum (CoQ), Maryland's bold initiative to position the state as a national hub for quantum research, education, and innovation. This session will explore how CoQ fits into the national quantum landscape, highlight Maryland's significant contributions, and set the stage for a day of insights into the future of quantum science and technology — both in the state and beyond.

9:50 AM FIRESIDE CHAT: PLACE-MAKING INNOVATION — DISCOVERY DISTRICT AND IONQ'S COLLEGE PARK HEADQUARTERS

A focused conversation on how strategic place-making and innovation district design are driving technology growth in College Park, featuring IonQ's CEO on why the company chose to build its headquarters in the Discovery District and how proximity to talent, research, and ecosystem partners shapes competitive advantage.

10:15 AM PANEL: INTEGRATION AND SCALING QUANTUM — INDUSTRY'S PERSPECTIVE

Industry leaders examine how Maryland can convert its quantum research strengths into commercial scale. The discussion will focus on integrating the state's assets — universities, federal labs, startups, and industry — and the policies, partnerships, and infrastructure needed to position Maryland as a leader in the quantum marketplace.

11:00 AM FIRESIDE CHAT: FEDERAL LEADERSHIP, PARTNERSHIPS, AND INNOVATION DRIVING QUANTUM

11:30 AM KEYNOTE: ADDRESS FROM CONGRESS ON WINNING THE GLOBAL QUANTUM RACE

11:50 AM LUNCH AND KEYNOTE

12:30 PM TECH TALK: QLAB

The National Quantum Laboratory (QLab) at the University of Maryland is a quantum user facility that provides access to state-of-the-art quantum computers

for researchers, educators, and entrepreneurs. Originally established in collaboration with IonQ, QLab now has a broad range of national and international collaborators, accelerating practical quantum applications, fostering cross-disciplinary research, and developing the next generation of quantum talent.

12:45 PM FIRESIDE CHAT: THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITY-AFFILIATED RESEARCH IN QUANTUM INNOVATION

The Capital of Quantum (CoQ) is positioned to connect quantum technologies with real-world applications in national defense and intelligence. Leaders from the Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS) at the University of Maryland, College Park and the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory will share how their labs are advancing quantum innovation, bridging research and operational use, and accelerating solutions that strengthen national security.

1:10 PM RAPID-FIRE CASE STUDIES: GENERATING THE KNOWLEDGE AND TALENT TO LEAD THE WORLD IN QUANTUM

2:00 PM PANEL: FROM CAMPUS TO MARKET — THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN FUELING QUANTUM SPINOUTS

Universities are hotbeds of breakthrough research, but turning that science into profitable companies requires vision, support, and strategic partnerships. This panel will explore how academic institutions help researchers launch startups, navigate venture funding, and bring transformative technologies to market.

2:45 PM PANEL: APPLYING QUANTUM AND ADVANCED COMPUTING TO SOLVE GRAND CHALLENGES

What does a future powered by quantum and advanced computing hold for productivity and prosperity for all Americans? Leaders from industry, academia, national security, and nonprofit R&D will explore how these technologies are moving from frontier research to real-world applications. The discussion will highlight emerging use cases, remaining barriers to scale, and the partnerships and policies needed to translate computational breakthroughs into broad economic and societal impact.

**3:30 PM PLACE-MAKING INNOVATION – HERE AND NOW:
EXPLORING THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND’S INNOVATION
ECOSYSTEM**

Join us on a tour of the Discovery District Maryland to see the unique, world-class quantum tech facilities within the Capital of Quantum.

5:00 PM FINAL REFLECTIONS AND PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION

After two days of exceptional discussions, tours, and insights, we leave with a deeper appreciation of both the opportunities and challenges ahead. As we take a moment to network over a concluding reception, the Cohosts will also share their reflections on what we’ve learned, what’s next, and where we go from here.

6:00 PM ADJOURN