

# CSL: YEAR IN REVIEW



The Coordinated Science Lab, which is believed to be the oldest multidisciplinary research laboratory at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, celebrated its 65th anniversary in 2016. As we reflect on our history, we highlight some key differences, as CSL has grown dramatically in size, funding, and research areas. But our core mission has remained the same: to provide a vibrant space for faculty, students, and staff to advance both fundamental and interdisciplinary research that creates the technological and scientific advances that shape our future.



[csl.illinois.edu](http://csl.illinois.edu)



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# CSL: THEN & NOW



**THEN** Physics luminary Frederick Seitz was director from 1951-1953



**NOW** CS Professor Klara Nahrstedt has been director since 2013, the first woman to lead an engineering lab at Illinois

**THEN** Classified, with primary funding from the Department of Defense



**NOW** Unclassified, with funding from 8 federal agencies and 37 private companies and organizations

## FUNDING AGENCIES

HHS • Navy • Air Force • NSF  
DOE • DHS • NIH • DTRA • Army  
DARPA • NSA

## PRIVATE PARTNERS



**THEN** \$2.7 million in funding for defense projects in 1953



**NOW** \$57.5 million in total expenditures in FY16



**THEN** Named the Control Systems Laboratory, founded in 1951 to conduct military research

# 1951

**NOW** Named the Coordinated Science Laboratory, a change that happened in 1959 to reflect an expansion of research areas



**THEN**

Eight physics professors founded CSL

**NOW**

132 faculty members from 14 departments are advancing CSL research

AEROSPACE ENG. BIOENGINEERING  
SPEECH & HEARING SCIENCE  
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG.  
INDUSTRIAL & ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS ENG.  
MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENG.  
MATHEMATICS  
LAW  
ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENG.  
LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE  
MECHANICAL SCIENCE & ENG.  
BUSINESS  
COMPUTER SCIENCE



**THEN** Located in the attic of the old Laboratory of Physics (now the Materials Science & Engineering building) and dubbed the Physics "penthouse"

**NOW** Housed in our current free-standing building, which was dedicated in 1993, as well as the new CSL Studio, which opened in 2015 at 1205 W. Clark St.