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: THEN & NOW

**THEN**
- $2.7 million in funding for defense projects in 1953
- Located in the attic of the old Laboratory of Physics (now the Materials Science & Engineering building) and dubbed the Physics “penthouse”
- Eight physics professors founded CSL
- Classified, with primary funding from the Department of Defense
- Classified, with funding from the Department of Defense

**NOW**
- $57.5 million in total expenditures in FY16
- 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.
- 132 faculty members from 14 departments are advancing CSL research
- 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**
- Intel • MARCO • Honda • Samsung • Motorola • AMD • Futurewei • NVIDIA • Futurewei • Oracle • Adapa • IBM • Qualcomm • National Semiconductor • Personify

**1951**
- Named the Control Systems Laboratory, founded in 1951 to conduct military research
- Physics luminary Frederick Seitz was director from 1951-1953
- Director: Frederick Seitz

**2013**
- Director: Klara Nahrstedt
- Director: Klara Nahrstedt

**2015**
- Name changed to Coordinated Science Laboratory
- Name changed to Coordinated Science Laboratory

**CSL: COORDINATED SCIENCE LAB**

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