

NEWSROOM

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COMPUTING

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW.

by [Jim Hanchett](#) | November 11, 2024

Above: Members of the Board of Visitors and University leaders mark the launch of the School of Engineering and Computing.

Read time: about 1 min

With a goal of addressing the technical challenges of tomorrow, Christopher Newport University has launched the School of Engineering and Computing (SEC).

The new SEC, which officially opened Oct 4, 2024, builds on the strong foundation of its predecessor, the former Department of Physics, Computer Science and Engineering. It integrates physics, engineering, computer science, cybersecurity, and information science to create an inspiring, inclusive, and interdisciplinary environment of excellence in teaching and research.

“The School of Engineering and Computing is home to research that creates innovative solutions to some of the world’s greatest challenges and it is home to students who want a rigorous technical education that prepares them for careers across many fields, including some not yet imagined,” said Head of School Dr. Anton Riedl, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering. Riedl previously served as chair of the Department of Physics, Computer Science and Engineering.

SEC’s formation was approved by the University’s Board of Visitors at its April 2024 meeting. Board members noted the formation of the SEC will facilitate engagement with external industry partners and improve responsiveness to

industry educational needs.

“The newly approved School of Engineering and Computing creates new opportunities for students that leverage the strengths of CNU’s outstanding engineering and science faculty,” said Dr. Robert Hodson, chair of SEC’s Industry Advisory Board. Hodson serves as Technical Fellow for Avionics at the NASA Engineering and Safety Center.

The SEC is temporarily housed in Luter Hall, but many of the SEC’s faculty, labs and classrooms will be located in the [Science and Engineering Research Center](#) that is now under construction and is slated to open in 2026.
