A Crossroads for Innovation: The Transformation of the Center for Engineering Education and Research (CEER)
The Center for Engineering Education and Research (CEER) expansion project will usher in a new era for the College of Engineering. A 150,000-square-foot building will be artfully added to CEER, more than doubling its overall size and creating a new home for the entire Engineering community. For the first time in decades, all of the College’s faculty and students—now in classrooms and labs across campus—will come together in a single building to teach, learn and discover.

The expansion will elevate every aspect of the College’s mission: the academic and student experience it provides, its research capacity and its ability to help solve some of the world’s most pressing problems. This project will also set in motion key elements of Villanova’s Strategic Plan, bringing new energy to the heart of campus, while freeing up much-needed classroom space across the University.

In a time of remarkable campus transformation, the CEER expansion will be one of Villanova’s most significant capital projects.
THE CEER TRANSFORMATION WILL

Create a true home for Engineering students and a more dynamic student experience.

By unifying Engineering’s people and spaces in a central building, the expansion will create a crossroads for innovation among faculty and students.

Instructional spaces, labs, gathering spaces and faculty offices will all be integrated. Proximity will open opportunities for informal and formal collaborations. Inviting spaces designed for life beyond the classroom—from the light-filled Learning Commons, to team meeting rooms, to the expanded café—will further enhance and energize the Villanova Engineering experience.

Inspire a sense of pride and belonging in students and faculty.

The building, including its public-facing maker and innovation spaces, labs and displays, will showcase the impressive technology and projects that occur there. These accessible spaces will allow students, faculty, alumni and visitors to see cutting-edge teaching and research in action.

Catalyze collaboration across departments.

Research neighborhoods organized around 15 high-impact themes—from Water and Smart Health to Robotics and Biomedical Engineering—will bring faculty and students from different departments together to tackle problems in need of interdisciplinary solutions.

Create spaces designed for active learning—learning that is hands-on, problem-oriented and team-based.

Maker spaces and flexible instruction spaces that can adapt to small discussions and larger lecture formats, labs that can be easily reconfigured to meet evolving needs, and spaces to accommodate group work will facilitate 21st-century engineering education.
**THE CEER TRANSFORMATION WILL**

**Add significantly more lab space, which will fuel research.**

The expansion will add 11 flexible laboratory spaces, designed to provide multidisciplinary open laboratories to facilitate creativity around topical areas of research. Increased and cutting-edge research opportunities will attract and retain top faculty and students who will discover and innovate, enhancing Villanova's reputation as a national research institution.

**Create dedicated space for graduate students.**

Growing Engineering’s graduate program is a priority. The expansion will create office and communal space for this expanding segment of students. These centrally located spaces will weave master’s and doctoral students into the broader College community, enhancing their experience and strengthening the entire academic environment, including undergraduate learning.

**Establish a student-centered gathering space.**

The Learning Commons, a study and gathering space; an adjacent café; and a Student Support Services hub, including a Career Services office, will create a central nexus for Villanova Engineering students. Here, students, as well as faculty, other members of the Villanova community, prospective students and their families, and other visitors will be able to gather, study and learn.
CEER TRANSFORMATION BY THE NUMBERS

150,000-square-foot
ADDITION TO THE EXISTING BUILDING

1
OUTDOOR ENTRANCE PATIO (TECH DECK)

2-story
INNOVATION LABORATORY

3-story
GLASS ATRIUM HOUSING THE LEARNING COMMONS

3
INSTRUMENTED GREEN ROOFS

10th
BUILDING ON VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS TO ACHIEVE SILVER LEED CERTIFICATION

15
INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH NEIGHBORHOODS

63%
INCREASE IN OVERALL LAB SPACE