Tulane to expand engineering offerings with new certificate program

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Barri Bronston
bbronst@tulane.edu
504-314-7444

Physics grad student Henry Fitzhugh, center, helps Siyang Hu, left, and Celeste White as they work together to construct a relay circuit in the electronics lab on the fifth floor of Boggs Center for Energy and Biotechnology building. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

The Tulane School of Science and Engineering is embarking on a new curriculum that will include certificate programs in electrical, mechanical, materials, and computational engineering.

Under the program, students majoring in engineering physics may choose one of the four concentrations, enabling them to graduate with both a bachelor’s degree in engineering physics and a certificate in their specialty area.

“We are very excited about the newly approved certificates, which will allow students to combine the broad foundation of the existing Engineering Physics major with a concentration in a more focused area of engineering,” said Lev Kaplan, chair of the physics and engineering physics
A professor at Tulane University has expressed excitement about the introduction of new certificate programs. According to Professor Lev Kaplan, the new certificates will help students plan their elective coursework and market their abilities for internships, jobs, and graduate programs. Kaplan noted that many of the university's graduates are already pursuing master's or PhD degrees in these areas or entering industry jobs, and the new certificates will further assist them in these endeavors. Tulane began offering these concentrations at the start of the 2016-17 academic year, and each certificate has a pre-approved set of coursework that meets the program's requirements.

Nick Altiero, dean of the School of Science and Engineering, highlighted the new certificate program as an expansion of engineering that will give students an advantage when applying to graduate school or entering the job market. "I firmly believe that our integrated School of Science and Engineering is something special," Altiero said, "and I want us to build engineering programs that take full advantage of our strengths in the sciences."