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## Breaking Ground On New Engineering Building

The University of Akron's College of Engineering broke ground for a new, 39,000-squarefoot research building scheduled to open its first laboratories in winter 2011-12.

During the May 9 groundbreaking ceremony, U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton (OH-13), announced that the U.S Department of Defense is entering into contracting processes to award an additional \$11 million to UA to continue the development of the National Center for Education and Research in Corrosion and Materials Performance.

The Center was launched with initial funding in fiscal year 2010.

"The new facility will support delivery of the nation's first baccalaureate degree in corrosion engineering and engage faculty and students in research activities that will produce technologies and processes for reducing the \$400 billion dollar annual cost of corrosion to the U.S.," said Dr. George Haritos, dean of the UA College of Engineering.

Likewise, the Center will provide innovative discoveries that will support growth of Northeast Ohio industries engaged in corrosion prevention and mitigation products and services, and assist them with launching new products, according to Sue Louscher, UA College of Engineering executive director of strategic partnerships and government programs.

And, already, the up-and-coming facility is putting to use the talents of UA College of Engineering graduates.

Engineering alumnus Scott Holmer '85, who will serve as project superintendent of the building's construction along with two fellow alumni, said, "It makes me proud to think that we are all graduates and now entrusted with the task of building [this facility] for the University."

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