The College of Engineering at Utah State University is debuting its brand new Idea Factory, a state-of-the-art design and fabrication facility on the Logan campus.

As part of the grand opening, USU President Noelle Cockett will tour the new complex Thursday, Oct. 5 at 10:30 a.m. Media are welcome to attend and tour the facility.

The space includes an array of high-tech equipment, including a laser cutter and engraver, CNC router and the latest design and engineering software.

"The goal of this new lab is to make engineering and prototyping come to life," said Leo Alfonseca, Idea Factory manager. "We want students to experience what they learn in class in a practical and real way. We want to provide tools and training for our students to change the future by innovating."

The Idea Factory, located in the David G. Sant Innovation Building, has more than 1,600 square feet of space designed for students to use while designing and prototyping projects.

"This exciting new space offers students a state-of-the-art facility to turn ideas into reality," said Jagath Kaluarachchi, interim dean for the College of Engineering. "The Idea Factory helps students interact with peers about senior capstone projects, design competitions, outreach missions and more. Equipping our future engineers with hands-on design and industry collaboration experience will prepare them for tomorrow’s top engineering and computer science careers."

The new lab is open to all students in the College of Engineering.

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**Expert Contacts:**

Leo Alfonseca – Idea Factory Manager, USU College of Engineering | leonardo.alfonseca@usu.edu | office: (435) 757-7968

Dr. Jake Gunther – Department Head and Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering |
jake.gunther@usu.edu | office: (435) 797-7229

Additional Media Contact:

Grace Michaelson – USU College of Engineering | grace.michaelson@usu.edu | office: (435) 797-8170 | cell: (702) 524-1070 | @EngineeringUSU | engineering.usu.edu