**Even the President has Boundaries!**

Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) Geomatics students Matt Kenny, Tommy Burden, and Jeff Covington have chosen the task of re-locating the property line boundaries for OIT president Chris Maples. The students have chosen this to be their senior project, the final class taken before graduation for geomatics students.

The president’s property is located in Klamath Falls, Oregon; no more than 2 miles from the OIT campus. This is convenient for the students since they must load needed equipment to and from the property. The three students are completing the boundary survey within OIT’s spring term timeline of March 29 – June 11.

To complete this task the students must use the knowledge gained from previous classes and apply them to this real world project. The idea behind the senior project is to give students the experience of completing an entire survey from start to finish. The class is geared to prepare students for what they may experience when employed.

So what exactly is a boundary survey? According to Matt, Tommy and Jeff, a boundary survey is the process of locating and mapping original property corners which are usually marked with buried iron pipe, or iron rod. Boundary surveys are done for various reasons, but mainly so that people know exactly where their property starts, and ends.

To complete such a survey the students will be using various measuring devices, one of which is called a total station. These instruments use lasers and reflectors to measure distances and angles to a high degree of accuracy. This instrument combined with computer drafting technology will provide the tools needed for the students to complete their project.

The students have been working diligently, and as the term ends are nearing completion of the project. They were able to find all but one of the property corners. The missing corner was re-set by the students using county records and original maps of the property. According to the students, a long piece of rebar set six inches underground was used to mark the corner.

They have also completed a map of the property which has been sent to the Klamath County Surveyor for review. Once reviewed, the students will be able to make any requested changes and submit a final map for county record.

Matt, Tommy, and Jeff were glad to have the opportunity to take part in this project. The team of students said they had a good time performing the survey and seemed even more excited about their soon to be OIT alumni title.