



The PPI Fund for Survey Instruction

Portland, Oregon (Spring 2007) - The PPI Group announces a new charitable program "The PPI Fund for Survey Instruction." Public Relations Manager Paul Rydell says, "As you are aware there is a shortage of students going through higher education specializing in survey education. At the same time instructors for survey programs are working with decreasing budgets. PPI feels there is a mission here that needs a leader. While there are already ways for people to donate to a scholarship fund for students we feel that we need to step forward and help the instructors and institutions they teach for. So PPI is creating a charitable fund which is called The PPI Fund for Surveying Instruction and is a program which will annually award grants to higher education programs dedicated to instructing the next generation of surveyors. Both the LSAW and PLSO are on board with us in our efforts."

The way it will work is that PPI is donating the seed money to start the process. We are working with the Oregon Community Foundation to manage the fund. PPI with the help of the LSAW and PLSO has assembled a board of members and PPI representatives.

The Board of The PPI Fund for Survey Instruction is:

Gary Anderson - Westlake Consultants
Rich Waltrip - David Evans & Associates
Rob Johnston - Johnston Land Surveying
Ken Shersty - The PPI Group
Paul Rydell - The PPI Group

Tigue Howe, the president of The PPI Group says, "The grant funds can be used for any purpose that the program proposes, provided that the reviewing committee approves the program's proposal and that the funds are spent pursuant to said proposal. Uses such as instructor training, including travel, office supplies, computers,

software, survey supplies and survey instruments (regardless of manufacturer) are all acceptable uses of grant funds.”

PPI will act as a facilitator in hosting events and soliciting funds from manufacturers and members of the survey community to grow the fund.

In Oregon our main fund raising event is a golf tournament, “The PPI Fund for Surveying Instruction Golf Tournament.” It is held at the beautiful Langdon Farms in Aurora, Oregon in early September. Tigue says, “We feel an annual golf event is an excellent way to raise revenues to grow the fund.”

We also host an informational billboard in each issue of both the Oregon Surveyor and the Evergreen State Surveyor magazines. This billboard posts information on upcoming events and celebrates the generosity of our surveying community.

“We hope that everyone will be join in supporting the schools that train the future surveying professional,” says Rydell.