Work Completed:

This week we concentrated on finishing the fabrication of the easel. Frank and I spent the laboratory time putting the frame for the easel together. Last week, he cut the pieces for the frame. We made measurements and fit the pieces together the best was for the easel. We used a piece of 80/20 track cut in half and laid back to back. At first we used duct tape to hold the pieces together in order to get the side bars aligned. We drilled holes in the side channels. After spending quite some time finding flat head bolts and nuts to match we could affix the side bars. Below is a picture of some of the bolts and nuts that I used to affix the frame.

The next task we had to complete was to drill holes into the track to keep them together. This was a little difficult because the opening on the track is very small. I had to file down the bolts that we were using so that they would spin correctly once inserted into the
track. It was a tough job to try and get the nuts attached to the ends of the bolts because of the sizing of the track. The next part of the fabrication was to attach the top of the side bars onto the tracking. The tops were slightly bent so that they would fit more snugly on the side of the track. We tried to put in self turning screws, but the ones that we got from the lab were too big and didn’t hold the side bars tight enough. For now we just put in temporary screws until we can buy some for permanent use. Below is a picture of the easel’s frame.

Future Work:

Since the power supply and the encasing box arrived this week a lot of time will be spent getting that placed into the easel’s design. Below is a picture of the power supply.
This will move the project forward since these are the biggest components that we were waiting to receive. The wiring can all be completed this week and ultimately the easel will be working according to plan. This will allow us to do some of the field testing work within our group to be sure that the easel is going to work the way that we planned.

**Project Review:**

The project is in its final steps. Since we now received the power supply and the remaining large portions of the easel it is time to look toward painting and making final touches before we test it. I think the project is moving along right on schedule we just have to make sure to stay on track and be conscious of our deadlines.

**Hours Worked:**

The hours worked this week were 10 - 11.