

# ***UA Journalism***

**FAIRBANKS**—University of Alaska President Dr. Robert W. Hiatt announced recently the receipt of a special \$4,000 grant from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation to the university's journalism department.

The foundation desires to help the journalism department obtain national accreditation by the American Council on Education for Journalism (ACEJ), said W.R. Hearst, Jr., president and editor-in-chief of the Hearst Newspapers. Hearst, a long-time friend of the university, was awarded an honorary doctorate here in 1974.

The ACEJ represents educational and professional media organizations, and is the only independent and formally recognized agency for the accreditation of programs for professional education in journalism and mass communications in the United States.

It accredits professional programs in advertising; broadcast journalism; magazine writing and editing; newspaper reporting, writing and editing; public relations; and radio-television-film.

Of the 205 universities offering degrees in journalism in the United States, 61 have one or more sequences accredited by ACEJ.

The University of Alaska journalism department has 62 majors, and graduated 13 students with bachelor's degrees this spring, said Dr. Hiatt. The department is already accredited by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools and recognized by the Society of Professional Journalists and accreditation by ACEJ, he said, is "an extra professional honor."

The accrediting process takes a year or more of self-evaluation by the department and a team of professional educators and journalists from ACEJ.