

# UA Board of Regents refines restructuring of university

FAIRBANKS — Firm in their conviction that the higher education needs of all Alaskans can best be served by a restructured University of Alaska, the members of the Board of Regents passed motions and issued directives recently aimed at refining their plan for restructuring the university.

The board met in Juneau earlier this month.

Regents endorsed skeletal organizational charts for the three new institutions currently provided by existing community colleges.

In response to concern expressed from some of the communities where community colleges currently exist, the regents asked UA President Donald O'Dowd to have his staff prepare within the next few weeks guidelines for the level of funding and support required for a community to maintain an independently accredited community college.

Citing the university's strong commitment to accessibility of education to students throughout the state, O'Dowd introduced a proposed new schedule for tuition which would decrease tui-

tion for 45 percent of the students — largely lower division students. It would create no change in tuition charges for 35 percent of the students, and it would increase costs for 20 percent of the students, primarily those qualified for the state student loan program.

The tuition schedule which has been in effect during the 1986-87 academic year will remain in place for the 1987 fall semester.

The earliest a new tuition schedule might be instituted would be January 1988.

A Fiscal Year 1988 operating budget request of \$140.8 million was approved the regents. The governor's request for the university of FY88 is \$132.8 million. The university's FY 87 revised general fund level is \$143.7 million.

For the purpose of selecting a student regent, the regents defined "campus" as a university institution in Anchorage, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, Palmer, Sitka, Soldotna and Valdez.