

Alaska senators sign memorandum on U.S. cultural exchange with Soviet Union

Alaska Sens. Frank Murkowski and Ted Stevens have signed a "memorandum of understanding" as witnesses to plans for a major academic exchange based on health issues between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The agreement was signed in Murkowski's office by Dr. Ted Mala, associate professor at the University of Alaska; Dr. Ivan Nikitin, counselor in the Foreign Relations Section, Ministry of Health, U.S.S.R.; and Mr. Vyacheslav Kaydash, assistant for Cultural Relations Office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U.S.S.R.

Ambassador Stephen Rhinesmith, President Reagan's coordinator for U.S.-Soviet exchange initiative, facilitated the signing of the agreement.

Mala, who wrote the proposal for the agreement between the University of Alaska and the Siberian Academy of Medical Sciences, represented Chancellor David Outcalt of the University of Alaska-Anchorage at the signing ceremony.

Once implemented, Mala said the agreement will include an exchange of information, specialists and data from coordinated research programs, as well as conferences and lectures.