

UA Students To Reorganize

About 30 Native students gathered in a lounge at the University of Alaska last Thursday in an effort to organize a group that will effectively represent their interests on campus.

Acknowledging that a previous Native student group had not worked out, Nancy Gray, who chaired the meeting said, "We're trying to revive the idea because there are a lot of Native students on campus. There are about 200 of us."

The group discussed a proposed constitution and by-laws, which set forth objectives for the organization. The objectives include:

- Encouraging student involvement in activities that will interest or benefit them

- Informing students about the land claims act:

- supporting or opposing actions that relate to Native affairs;

- Engaging in fund-raising for worthwhile projects;

- Helping preserve the cultures for the Alaska Natives.

Ratification of the constitution was deferred to give students, particularly those who had not been able to attend the meeting, a chance to consider the constitution and by-laws. Several problems remain to be worked out such as whether to allow non-Native membership and what the name of the group will be.

Although the group is temporarily nameless, a contest will be held to solicit ideas for a name and an emblem. The tentative prize for the contest will be a steak dinner for two.

The group will meet again next Thursday at 4 p.m. in the SOS lounge at the University of Alaska to ratify the constitution and nominate officers.

Several people who attended the meeting were enthusiastic about the initial effort at organizing. One simply smiled and said, "This is great."