

DIRECTOR — Dennis Demmert is the newly installed Director of Native Studies at the University of Alaska. He is also Director of Alaska Educational Program for Intercultural Communications.

Director of Native Studies—

Demmert Takes a Hard Look

By AGNES PETE

Dennis Demmert, director of Native Studies at the University of Alaska said that one of the objectives of the Board of Regents — "To increase and apply through research, knowledge of

value to mankind and particularly to the residents of the State" fits his idea of what the Native Studies Program should be.

Demmert interprets this objective as including Natives. "If you look at the curriculum and

ratio of Native graduates, the University is just not meeting the needs of Native people.

"Fifteen to 20 per cent of the state population is Native. According to the Board of Regents objectives, the different colleges should deal with the issues," Demmert said.

Asked what he plans to do about the problem, he said he will come up with classes and also incorporate relevant information into existing classes.

Demmert, born in Klawock and raised in Craig, attended Sheldon Jackson High School and Junior College. He lived in Ketchikan 15 years, participating in Native education committees, and was on the Ketchikan School Board from 1968 — 1971.

Based on all Demmert's education experience, Harvard University accepted him in 1971 for their graduate degree in education program.

After receiving his master's degree in education in the spring of 1972, he attended Harvard another year and Boston University his second year, working toward his doctorate in education.

With his dissertation to complete, Demmert is getting a first-hand view of University education as Native Studies Director and Director of Alaska Educational Program for Intercultural Communication (AEPIC), which deals with cross-cultural curriculum development.

Reed College To Award Scholarships

Reed College will award approximately ten Merrill Scholarships of \$2,500 each to students entering in the fall of 1975 from secondary schools in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii.

Each recipient will be granted \$1,000 in the first year and \$500 in each of the succeeding three years, regardless of any aid awarded through Reed's regular financial aid program.

"The eight Merrill Scholars who entered Reed this fall are an unusually able group, whose academic accomplishments have consistently placed them at the top of their graduating classes," said Timothy W. Scholl, dean of admissions.

"Outside the classroom these students have excelled in diverse ways, developing talents in such fields as dance, debate, music, sports, and theatre. We fully expect that next year's scholars will fulfill the high standards set by this group."

The Merrill Scholarship Program is made possible through a gift which Reed received in 1972 from the Charles E. Merrill Trust.

Applications deadline for the scholarships in March 1, 1975, and awards will be announced in mid-April. The program is administered by the Office of Admissions at Reed.

THEATA Mag

THEATA, a magazine of non-fiction articles by freshman at the University of Alaska, covers stories ranging from whaling in Barrow to an essay of Elaine Ramos, winner of a 1973 National Indian Achievement Award.

THEATA is an acronym for Tlingit, Haida, Eskimo, Aleut, Tsimshian, and Athapaskan, the names of each of the major Native groups in Alaska.

The articles were written by students enrolled in English 106 at the University of Alaska spring semester 1974. With hopes of making this an annual publication, the magazine uses articles of students from all over Alaska.

To get your THEATA magazine, visit your local bookstore or write: THEATA, Student Orientation Services, University of Alaska, College, Alaska 99701.

Each magazine is \$2.95 or \$2.10 for orders of 10 or more. Get your orders in on time for Christmas — especially for all your friends in the lower states who may be curious about Native views, written by Natives themselves!

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Can Be Improved—

Alaska Land Records

A Bureau of Land Management (BLM) evaluation team from Washington, D. C., has found that availability of land records in Alaska can be improved.

BLM State Director Curtis V. McVee said that during the recent General Management Evaluation of BLM in Alaska, the BLM evaluation team found several areas in land records which could be improved.

"The team looked closely at the present methods of handling land records in Alaska," said McVee, "then they suggested that we research and study several alternatives to improve availability of these records to the public."

"We are going to study ways to improve the situation," McVee said. "Some methods we'll examine in detail include micro-filming of all records with dup-

licate copies in Fairbanks and Anchorage, automatic data processing of records by computer, and pushbutton retrieval systems similar to those used by airlines to make reservations."

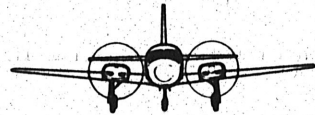
Land records for the southern half of Alaska are available in Fairbanks. McVee said that Alaska is now the only state which does not have a full set of land records continuously available to the public in one location.

McVee said that whatever method or methods are eventually used, the goal of the land records study will be to provide better public benefits through improved land records service.

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