

Program offers classes for U.S., Soviet pilots

In the USSR and the United States, airplanes fly by the same scientific principles, however, aviation technology differs.

With Anchorage being named a new entry and exit point for air traffic to the Soviet Union, the University of Alaska Anchorage Aviation Program has taken the lead in training technical aviation support for both nations.

A group of 10 Soviet aviation students and instructors from the Kiev Institute of Civil Aviation are studying American aviation technology and the English language at the University of Alaska Anchorage for six weeks this summer.

They are joined each day by a companion group of 10 UAA students and professors who study English in adjoining language labs each morning and then move to the UAA's Merrill

Field Aviation Complex each afternoon to learn aviation maintenance, aviation management, air traffic control and professional piloting.

The Anchorage and Soviet teams will leave July 3 for six weeks of training in Soviet aviation techniques and technology and Russian language skills at the Institute of Kiev.

UAA students involved in the unique cross-continental project are enrolled in one of the UAA College of Career and Vocational Education aviation programs and applied for the special Soviet project.

UAA faculty members are Ken Weyand, associate professor of aviation maintenance technology; Ron Haney, professor of aviation administration, and Mike Pannone, associate professor of air traffic control.