

Panel to focus on leadership

Contemporary Native American leadership and administration will be the subject of a panel at the national convention of the American Society for Public Administration next spring in Boston, Mass.

The panel, "The Sovereign Journey: Native American Administration into the 21st Century," will be chaired by Gregg Brelsford, executive director of the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association and Aleutian Housing Authority from 1980-85.

"Native American peoples throughout the U.S. are developing powerfully creative approaches to the dilemma of maintaining meaningful tribal sovereignty and cultural wholeness while interacting effectively with the external culture and governmental systems," Brelsford said.

He said the NANA Spirit Program, the North Slope and Northwest Arctic Boroughs and the tribal sovereignty movement are dramatic examples of such approaches in Alaska.

The purpose of the panel is to identify and expand the range of approaches to the dilemma and to share them with interested Native American leaders, Brelsford said.

The panel will focus on a number of questions, such as:

- What are the critical issues and how are they being addressed?
- What works and doesn't work and why?
- What further directions should be explored and how should this be done?

The members of the panel will be drawn from representative leaders of all sectors of the Native American community and all geographic regions of the United States.

Four panel members will make oral presentations of about 25 minutes each at the convention, March 28-April 1, 1987. Written papers are desired, and they may be published. They are not necessary, however, Brelsford said.

Those interested in participating on the panel should send a proposal or presentation outline to Brelsford by Nov. 15, 1986. His address is Gregg Brelsford, Harvard Law School, 2 Peabody Terrace No. 413, Cambridge, Mass. 02128.