

Alaska to host Circumpolar Health Symposium

By George Gardner
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The sixth international symposium on circumpolar health will be held in Anchorage in 1984, according to Dr. Theodore A. Mala. The symposium, bringing together health officials from the circumpolar countries, is held every three years. The last time Alaska and the United States hosted this conference was in 1967 in Fairbanks.

Participating countries besides Alaska include Canada, Finland, Denmark, Greenland and the USSR. There will prob-

ably be some countries representing the Antarctic regions also, Mala said.

The symposium is scheduled for May 13-18, 1984 at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. Dr. Mala, a member of the national organizing committee for the symposium, indicated that the majority of coordinating to be done for the conference will be handled by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

The purpose of the international symposium of circumpolar health is to bring together medical scientists, health care delivery specialists, health

administrators and health consumers to discuss the state of the art in their respective fields; to allow national and international participants to observe and discuss the health situation in their own countries; and to relate solutions to health problems in other parts of the world to the unique health problems of the circumpolar regions, according to the announcement.

The program will cover diverse topics such as cold injury; infectious diseases; metabolic and neoplastic diseases; genetics, anthropology and de-

mography; nutrition; environmental health planning and engineering; social environment, mental health, and drug abuse; maternal and child health; dental health and health care delivery and information systems.

A full day of the symposium has been set aside for a report of the International Biomedical Expedition to the Antarctic (IBEA).

More information on the symposium can be obtained by contacting the University of Alaska, Conferences and Institutes, 117 Eielson Building, 403 Salcha Street, Fairbanks.