

UAA RECIEVES NATIONAL GRANT

Dr. Margery Walker, Dean of Rural Education for the University of Alaska, announced that the National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the university a \$9,274 consulting grant.

The grant provides for the planning of a project titled Design of "Alaskan Option" Interdisciplinary Core Curriculum. The project will aid Rural Education's continuing efforts to address the educational needs of rural Alaskans; an educational program utilizing Alaska learning resources and studies for rural students throughout the state will be developed.

Outcomes of the program are the same as those for traditional curriculum with reliance placed on resources immediately available to the student — the family, village, region, and state resources of rural Alaska.

"This educational program will provide the student with a sense of place — geographically, historically, and socially," said

Walker.

A consultant, Gladys Jackson from Northland College in Wisconsin, was hired through the National Endowment for the Humanities to assist with the design of curriculum and preparation of materials. Follow-up meetings will be held two to three times during the coming year.

The team is comprised of specialists in various disciplines from Rural Education centers, Community Colleges, and other University of Alaska units. Curriculum plans will be reviewed by the Alaska Native Education Association and Alaska Leadership Development Project.

"Dr. Charles A. Blood, Coordinator for the Bristol Bay Rural Education Center located in Dillingham, is the project director," said Walker.

varied disciplines of team specialists reportedly range from Alaskan geographers, geologists, historians, folklorists, political scientists, to general humanists.