

Inupiat Language Summer Workshop Held in Noorvik

Twenty-one students received certificates upon successfully completing their coursework at a two-week Inupiat Language Summer Workshop held in Noorvik, Alaska.

Those attending the workshop included Inupiat teachers, teacher aides, kindergarten, and special education teachers from Ambler, Kobuk, Shungnak, Noorvik and Kivalina.

The workshop is one of four planned for the Upper Kobuk schools of Ambler, Kobuk and Shungnak for this coming school year, and is being funded by a Johnson-O'Malley grant through the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Course emphasis is being placed upon Inupiat literacy training and learning to teach children in the classroom. The teachers practiced what they had learned in the classroom with the help of Noorvik children who were their students.

The teaching staff included Michael Travis, an education specialist who is with the Title I program of Alaska State Operated Schools based in Fairbanks, Hannah Schnare, an Inupiat language specialist with the Selawik schools and who is working toward a degree in Inupiat and

linguistics from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Pauline Harvey, a Summer Institute of Linguistics translator and instructor from Noorvik.

Coordination and support services were supervised by Dwight Schnare, workshop coordinator and Peter Machmanus, director of the Upper Kobuk Inupiat Language Project, and a teacher at Shungnak.