

# JACKSON TO FILL HIGHER EDUCATION POST

## Effective, Responsive Educational System Called For By AFN

Gordon Jackson, Executive Vice-President, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. received word from Governor Jay Hammond of his appointment recently to the Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education to fill a term ending March 1, 1978.

"The appointment is timely," said Jackson after receiving his letter of appointment. "We, in the Alaska Federation of Natives, have been strongly advocating a more effective and responsive State education delivery system in Alaska.

"This advocacy includes elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. I intend to continue seeking input and proposals from my Board and feed our proposals and concerns into this Commission.

"Hopefully the result will be some strategy and action to make the higher education delivery system more responsive to the higher education needs of Alaska's Native people."

The State law creating this Commission passed during the 8th Alaska Legislature and was signed by the Governor on May 9, 1974.

The Commission functions in an advisory capacity to the governing boards of institutions of public and private higher education in Alaska, to the Governor, the Legislature, and to other appropriate State and Federal officials. Other functions include:

- Coordinating the development of comprehensive plans for the orderly, systematic growth of public and private postsecondary education, including community colleges and occupational education in the State and submit recommendations on the need for, and location of, new facilities and programs;

- Advise as to the functions and purposes of the colleges and universities, both public and private, in the State and counsel as to the programs appropriate to each;

- Review the annual budgets and capital outlay requests of the University of Alaska and of each of the private colleges and



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universities in the State, and present comments on the general level of support sought;

- Review and advise as to the workings of all consortia and other cooperative agreements between the institutions of higher education in the State that are parties to them;

- And, submit to the Governor and to the Legislature within 10 days after the beginning of each regular session of the Legislature, a report which recommends necessary or desirable changes, if any, in the functions and programs of the several segments of the total complex of both public and private postsecondary education in Alaska. "I'm naturally pleased and excited about the appointment," said Jackson, "and am anxiously awaiting word regarding the initial meeting so we can organize and begin the enormous task of carrying out the charge of this Commission."

When asked about the controversial Conflict of Interest forms, Jackson said, "It's no hassle or problem. Besides, I don't mind disclosing to the public how poor I am."