Soboleff to offer AFN keynote

Dr. Walter Soboleff, well known Tlingit elder and education consultant will deliver the keynote address, to the 1989 Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, opening Thursday.

The theme of this year's convention, scheduled for Thursday-Saturday, is "Restrengthening Native Families and Communities."

"Dr. Soboleff has dedicated much of his life to serving Alaska and Alaska Native people and has remained committed to teaching traditional Native values," said Janie Leask, AFN president.

"This year's convention theme and activities focus on ways to restrengthen and celebrate traditional Native beliefs and values," Leask A veterans memorial service will be conducted as part of the opening ceremonies of the AFN Convention. Also, a veterans table will be set up in the Egan Center.

said. "Dr. Soboleff's experience makes him an ideal speaker. We are honored by his willingness to share with us."

Soboleff, a Native of Killisnoo in Southeast Alaska, was the first director of the Native Studies Department at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks from 1970 to 1974 and has served as chairman of the State Board of Education. He has served six terms as grand president of the Alaska Native Brotherhood between 1966 and 1978 and grand camp secretary for two terms.

Soboleff was minister at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Juneau from 1940 to 1962 and was minister at large for Southeast Alaska from 1962 to 1970. Currently, Soboleff sits on the Sealaska Regional Corp. board, and he is a member of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Strategic Planning Committee.

He is president and chief executive officer of Kootznoowoo Inc., the village corporation of Angoon.

Soboleff was married to Genevieve Evangeline Ross, now deceased, and has four children.