

# UA Annual Science Conference to Focus Arctic Development Effect on Natives

COLLEGE—The 20th annual Alaska Science Conference this summer will focus on arctic development and its effect on Alaska natives.

The meeting is scheduled for Aug. 24-25 at the University of Alaska, according to Victor Fischer, conference chairman, who is director of the university's Institute of Social, Economic, and Government Research.

Fischer said the conference will attract both social and physical scientists to examine the position of Alaska natives, arctic development, and the impact of development on environment.

He said representatives of government and industry and interested citizens will be invited to participate. The conference will include persons from Alaska and Canada and other persons concerned with northern resources, environment, and people.

The conference will be a series of three symposia with panel discussions for each symposium.

In the symposium on the impact of change on natives, there will be panels on how natives live, the affect of change and welfare programs, and education programs for natives.

A symposium on the economics of petroleum development in Alaska and Canada and policies for conservation in the arctic.

Fischer said the focus of the conference will be on needs, effects, and implications of petroleum development on the North Slope of the arctic.

Key issues involved are what kind of development in relation to conservation, the economic and political basis for decisions on resource development, settlement of the native land claims, and integration of natives into the socio-economic structure of the state.

Fischer said, "Now is the time to explore what we know and what we need to know about the north, its resources, its environment, and its people."

"The pace of heightened economic activity in the north has brought a new urgency to the resolution of the problems of the indigenous people of the north," he said.

Further information is available from Victor Fischer, Conference Chairman, 20th Alaska

Science Conference, University of Alaska, College, Alaska 99701.