

Ramos organizes staff . . .

Rural Educational Affairs Program

FAIRBANKS—A central support office has been established in Anchorage for the University of Alaska's new Rural Educational Affairs (REA) Program, and Vice President Elaine Ramos has begun organizing a staff to implement the program.

The program is designed to provide greater educational opportunities in rural Alaska and the vice presidency was created to give direction and emphasis to it.

The central support office is located in Room 19 of Alaska Methodist University's Grant Hall, Ramos announced. Dr. Robert Hage, appointed dean of academic affairs for the program, is in charge of the



UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENT ELAINE RAMOS confers with Dr. Sam Rogers, left, and Fred Bigjim. (UA PHOTO)

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office. Hage was dean of regional instruction for the state university's Southcentral Region, which no longer exists.

Hage's duties will include developing degree programs for the rural areas and reviewing credentials of prospective instructors. Cordelia Sterling, has administrative assistant in his former position, has joined him in the new office.

Fred Bigjim, who joined the REA program last October as coordinator and liaison officer, has been named the program's executive officer by Ramos. He will be her representative in Anchorage. Bigjim, former teacher at AMU and Alaska Federation of Natives executive, will also assist with program development.

The vice president's office is on the Fairbanks campus, where the university's statewide administration is located. Laurie McNicholas, currently a publications assistant in Anchorage with the university's Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center,

will shortly join Ramos in Fairbanks as her administrative assistant.

Dr. Sam Rogers, involved with vocational programming in the former Southcentral Region, will now be developing such programs for the broader area of the REA program, working out of the Anchorage office.

Another new member of Ramos' staff is Rosaire Kennedy who has developed the curriculum for an associate degree (two-year) program for the training of community health practitioners. She will administer this program—to be funded by a private foundation—from the Anchorage office.

Secretary in the Anchorage office is Nanacy Wilchinsky.

Ramos was appointed vice president for rural educational affairs by Dr. Robert W. Hiatt, president of the university, last November. She came to the university Jan. 5 from Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka where she was vice president for institutional development.