

# BIA gives \$25,000 to OSU for Indian programs

STILLWATER, Okla.—The William Randolph Hearst Foundation of San Francisco and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have given \$25,000 each to Oklahoma State University's School of Technology to assist in establishing a new program for American Indians, Dr. Ken Anderson, project director, announced this week.

BIA funding was contributed by the Oklahoma offices at Anadarko and Muskogee, where

each committed \$12,500.

The program, to begin with the 1976 summer session, is aimed at providing a four-year education in any of 10 different fields of engineering technology for 25 Indian students per year, Dr. James Bose, OSU School of Technology director, said.

"It will be the first of its type in the country," Anderson said. "We have been working on getting this project established

for more than a year and eventually hope to make it nationwide."

When fully implemented, the plan calls for the students to spend eight weeks at OSU between their high school graduation and first full freshman semester becoming acclimated to the university community and receiving a general introduction to technology.

Once it is fully funded, the program will provide scholarships to cover the participants' room, board, books and tuition during the school year.

In succeeding summers between regular semesters the students will work off campus at various industries getting on the job experience in their future career fields.

New technology graduates, Anderson points out, are now averaging more than \$12,000 a year in salary on their first job after graduation and that trained technologists are currently in heavy demand by industry.

OSU's school offers degrees in aeronautical, electrical power, electronics, construction management, fire protection and safety, mechanical power, mechanical design, petroleum, radiation and nuclear and general technologies.

The program will be governed by an advisory council consisting of Indian leaders in Oklahoma who will advise the faculty on policy matters. Students from anywhere in the United States are eligible to apply.

Some vacancies for participation this summer still

exist. Those interested should contact Anderson at 215 Crutchfield Hall, School of Technology, OSU, Stillwater, 74074.

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## Kenai range project

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management will again cooperate on a research project this spring to evaluate various methods of producing high quality moose forage on the Kenai National Moose Range.

Refuge Manager James Monnie says one portion of the proposed project will consist of a controlled burn of 350 acres in the area of a wild fire that burned in 1947.

Vegetation in this 1947 burn is not presently providing suitable forage for the moose population.

This same project was scheduled for last spring or summer. A small two-acre test fire was started but due to the severity of the burning conditions, the fire was put out.

Later weather information indicated prolonged undesirable weather. For these reasons and upcoming commitments of the BLM fire crews the project was cancelled.

"The exact date of the experiment should be the last week in May but will be determined by the burning prescription. The prescription will set out the conditions which must occur for the fire to burn in a safe and controlled manner," says Monnie.

It included requirements for fuel moisture, humidity, temperature and wind velocity and direction.

"Whether we actually conduct the burn will depend on these conditions occurring," he says. "We expect the most favorable time will be in late May or early June. This is also the time when the BLM fire crews are available to do this training exercise," he added.

Al Johnson, Refuge Forester, will direct ignition of the fire and BLM fire control personnel will monitor its progress and be ready to suppress if need be.

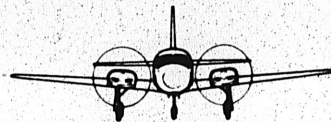
The primary objective of the project, according to Mr. Monnie, is to study and evaluate

various methods of forest manipulation in creating abundant high quality moose forage.

Both the burned area itself and one-mile wide area crushed around the burned area will be measured for vegetation production. Ten study sites are located in each treatment area for the purpose of long term monitoring of the soil and minerals, vegetation, water quality, and erosion.

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