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This Is Your University: ASUA - Student Government, 1965-1966; Cost of Education at the University Of Alaska; Drama Workshop on Tour; What is a Modern University?; Study of Sea Ice; Beginnings at the University of Alaska Archives and Documents.

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Series: This is Your University series tapes

FIRST EPISODE: ASUA - Student Government, 1965-1966

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Phil Holland(?) is president of the Associated Students of the University of Alaska, the governing body for students on campus. He became president last year after the president resigned and Phil, as vice president, was promoted to the position. Phil ran on his own when his first term expired and was reelected. From Colorado, he chose the University of Alaska "primarily because it is different. You can be several different people in Alaska. You can live in a log cabin and rough it or put on a tie and play executive." He thinks that in many ways, students at the University of Alaska feel more aware and apart than students in other states, though not any less a part of the union.

Last year, as president of the Associated Students, Phil spearheaded a drive and personally participated in a complete overhaul of the organization of the student government organization on campus. Phil feels that student government in the past dwelt too exclusively on inane or needless projects and ideas. He said "I wanted to get us moving again. You can't have an expanding institution with part of that institution stagnant."

Phil has ideas for the university and the state. He wants to institute a program that will create more general student interest in student government, modeled after the federal government's VISTA program which is often referred to as the domestic Peace Corps. He wants groups of students that go to bush communities and help citizens with community projects and civic problems. He wants to increase student interest in the planning of the academic curriculum at the university. He thinks that someday Alaska will become a gigantic tourist ski haven.

Phil's main concern still resides in increasing student interest in student government, however.

He realizes that the student government must show tangible and constructive returns before it can expect a better foundation. He got into student government because he felt they were not getting enough done. And he feels he should listen as strongly to the most vicious opponent as the most gracious supporter. When people don't care enough to oppose, he says, you are in trouble.

SECOND EPISODE: Cost of Education at the University Of Alaska

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Each year, most institutions are raising their tuition costs, commensurate with their enrollment. Of 280 state universities and land grant colleges throughout the US, only a dozen avoided raising student costs this year. One of these universities is the University of Alaska. For Alaskans, total fees and room and board for an entire school year is only \$1,225 at the University of Alaska, down \$20 from last year. The average annual cost for one student to attend a private college in the US is about \$2,400 per year, and about \$1,600 per year to attend a public college or university.

Based on the national average, which will undoubtedly rise, parents may look forward to a minimum expense of \$64,000 for each child to acquire a college education, not including incidental expenses.

At the University of Alaska, student financial aid takes the form of various scholarships, grants, loans and part time employment. Last year, \$309,795 went to more than 400 students as financial aid: 23 students received Alaska Native scholarships; 40, the State Room scholarship; 73, scholarships from state income willed to the university; and 109 students qualified for special earthquake scholarships from the Ford Foundation. Student loans amounted to more than \$67,000 during the last academic year. Alaska high school students may apply for scholarships through their high school guidance offices. Currently enrolled students may apply through the Office of Student Affairs.

Few loans were available to incoming freshmen or transfer students due to a shortage of loan funds. President Wood expressed regret that there are not enough funds available to assist all the qualified and deserving students.

THIRD EPISODE: Drama Workshop on Tour

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Under the direction of Professor Lee Salisbury, the head of the department of speech, radio and drama, The University of Alaska drama workshop is on tour. The workshop receives more requests from far more communities than it can visit to present a production locally. The company travels to Nome, Ketchikan, and Juneau. In fact, the drama workshop was the first group to present a stage play in that Nome. The university's drama workshop enters the Whitehorse International Drama Festival every year.

Soon, the company will take "Little Mary Sunshine" to Juneau for two performances. Professor Salisbury wished there was enough time and money available to take the company to each Alaskan city. All of the actors are students, however, so time on tour means time away from classes.

There may be more opportunity as the university expands for the drama workshop to travel to more and more communities, including bush communities where most of the people have never seen a stage play.

FOURTH EPISODE: What is a Modern University?

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

The university is responsible under Alaska's state constitution for extending educational opportunities to all who qualify and are capable and is responsible for training technicians, professional practitioners, and providing a general education beyond high school. To fulfill this mission, the university must continually reevaluate its role.

More than a decade ago, the university's Board of Regents adopted the concept of expanding university activities into the areas of the state with the greatest need while, at the same time, expanding the main campus and the state's higher educational center. From this concept has evolved the evening and correspondence programs including military on-base classes in 6 locations, research stations, the cooperative extension service, and special programs like the mining extension and fisheries extension. Community colleges have been established in 6 locations to augment these services and supply lower division academic courses, occupational courses, and general adult studies at a low cost. Anchorage community college, established in 1953, is the oldest and largest in the state. The demand for technical and occupational education is great at the Anchorage Community College. Perhaps surprisingly, serving many higher educational needs locally throughout the state does not decrease, but rather increases, enrollment at the main campus.

FIFTH EPISODE: Study of Sea Ice

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

The Office of Naval Research recently awarded the University of Alaska a \$10,000 grant to continue a research program already in its fifth year to study the structural and mechanical properties of sea ice. This research is giving aid to Alaska's growing oil industry.

In 1961, Harold Peyton, a University of Alaska faculty member and consultant to the Artic Environmental Engineering Laboratory began studying sea ice. He knew that if Alaska was ever to be fully developed, the construction industry would need to know a great deal more about building in the icy conditions of the arctic and sub-arctic

When shell oil decided to build drilling and pumping platforms in the Cook Inlet near Anchorage 2 years ago, the firm's engineers where faced with 30' tides and movements of massive ice floes that choked the inlet while moving in and out with the tide. This was part of the problem that Harold Peyton had been studying for the past 5 years. Shell asked Peyton to calculate how strong the platforms would have to be to withstand the force of the ice. Working together, Peyton and Shell's engineers developed criteria to guide construction and design of the platform. The first platform went up in 1964.

In this situation, research that was done by a civilian scientist, under a military grant, benefited efforts by a private firm to develop a new industry in a still-infant state.

Peyton splits his time between labs at the main campus, the arctic research laboratory at Barrow, and the Shell project at Cook Inlet. Also benefitting from this research grant will be research assistant at the Geophysical Institute, Phillip R. Johnson.

Since Shell built their first off-shore drill rig, one more has been erected and both are now in operation, while six more are planned for building next summer. Each platform will produce about 30,000 barrels of crude oil each day, which is tankerload. This will be 8 shiploads, per day, within the next year.

SIXTH EPISODE: Beginnings at the University of Alaska Archives and Documents

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Last year, the university's main library obtained an extra room just large enough to begin a concerted effort in the area of preserving private and public papers and documents important or relevant to Alaska's history as well as papers that reflect on the university's history.

Paul McCarthy is responsible for the University of Alaska's archives. Paul and his secretary work at sorting, filing and storing the hundreds of books, pamphlets, letters, magazines, encyclopedias, newspapers and myriad other articles that flow in as donations. Important documents and letters are stored in special folders made of anti-acid paper. The folders are placed in vermin resistant boxes, which are constructed without using glue. Ordinary glue attracts silverfish, which the archives are bothered with from time to time, but not to a serious degree.

Paul's office contains the late Judge Wickersham's desk and chairs, mountains of dusty law books which are for the university's law school, number 4 of 100 signed copies of Alaska's constitution, a gavel made of ivory used by the Alaska Constitutional Convention in 1955, boxes of partially burned letters of the Northern Commercial Company, letters from Anthony J. Dimond, in one huge volume there rests a letter and authentic signature from each president, Washington through Lyndon B. Johnson.