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This Is Your University: University Summer Sessions, 1965-1966; University of Alaska Museum and its Exhibits; Class of 1969 and the Space Age; Board of Regents Story; English as a Second Language for Some

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FIRST EPISODE: University Summer Sessions

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Nearly 21,000 students, scholars, educators, government officials, teacher and tourists visited the campus this summer. Visitors included Dr. Edward Teller, "the father of the hydrogen bomb", and people from the Union of South Africa, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, France, Italy, Germany, Japan, Greece, Turkey, Canada, Mexico, Greenland, and Australia.

All conferences held on the campus are coordinated by the Department of Summer Sessions, Conferences and Short Courses which is headed by Dr. Wendell Wolfe.

Three summer institutes for teachers were conducted on the campus as part of the 1965 summer sessions. The ninth Summer Institute for Science and Mathematics Teachers was conducted under a grant from the National Science Foundation. Institutes in French and history were sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education.

The second summer orientation program, called College Orientation Program for Alaskan Natives (COPAN) was held.

A summer science training program, the seventh of its kind to be held on the university campus, enrolled 24 secondary school students of high ability in biological science.

A creative arts summer camp, focusing on creative writing, drama, dance and art was scheduled during June.

Ninety five Alaska high school students attended July's summer music camp and were instructed in voice, music theory, and music history.

In June the university entered into a contract with the Office of Economic Opportunity to train 25 men and women for the new Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program. These VISTA volunteers were placed in interior and western Alaskan communities to work on local development projects.

Classes offered during the summer sessions were equivalent to courses offered during the regular academic year. Undergraduates were able to accelerate their vocational program or were able to remove deficiencies.

For the 12th consecutive year, the popular Workshop on Alaska was presented by the university. Afterwards a special workshop was presented for the North Star Borough School District which served as a pre-service program for teachers.

Inaugurated in 1947, the summer sessions and conferences became an established part in university curriculum in 1950.

SECOND EPISODE: University of Alaska Museum and its Exhibits

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Last year, the University of Alaska Museum received nearly 30,000: 12,000 Alaskans, including almost 1,000 children, and 15,000 visitors coming from the other states.

The museum is directed by Lu (Ludwig) Rowinski.

The museum has many interesting displays: one on Alaska's three different native cultures, the Indian, the Eskimo and the Aleut; one of Interior and Arctic animals; one on Carl Benjamin Eielson. In fact, one of Eielson's aircraft is still intact, but the museum lacks space to display it.

Also displayed are a gas tank from the dirigible *Norge*; Roald Amundsen's skis from his 1925 polar expedition; five display cases of archaeological material; moose, bison, goat heads; Eskimo clothing including seal and bird skin parkas; a 36 foot umiak from Kotzebue; Russian artifacts including a trunk, copper tea kettles, a brick of tea, a padlock; a map of the state Athabaskan, Eyak, Tlingit, Haida, northern and southern Eskimo regions.

This is only a sampling of the museum's offerings. There is much more. The museum has an entire warehouse full of items that are not on display.

THIRD EPISODE: Class of 1969 and the Space Age

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Five hundred and fifty eight students, the largest freshman class in the history of the university, were accepted for admission at the University of Alaska. This is the largest class in the university's 48 year history, outnumbering last year's freshman by nearly 100 students. They represent the tiniest cities and settlements throughout Alaska, 30 other states, and five foreign nations. These students are the last of a bumper crop of war babies. They are better educated and better qualified than their predecessors. Eighty percent of the entering freshman class is better schooled in languages than were freshman entering 10 years ago and, according to university statistics, freshmen in 1955 had 7% less physical education training than the freshman of 1965.

The freshman class entering university this year represents almost a third of the institution's total full-time, on-campus enrollment. While studies in many secondary schools have remained almost constant in the "solid areas" (math, sciences and the like), percentages for students enrolled in vocational and semi-vocational has notably dropped.

Whereas in the past all little boys wanted to be fire fighters and all little girls wanted to be nurses, today, little boys want to be astronauts and little girls want to go into many different professions other than nursing. It is safe to assume that this thinking carries on into the teenage and adult years. Men outnumber women this year about 3:1, "a situation that girls find understandably pleasant."

Well over half of this year's class are Alaskans and this number includes a small percentage of military dependents. Freshman students from Anchorage and Fairbanks make up the greater number of the Alaskans in the incoming freshman class, followed by Juneau, Ketchikan, Palmer and Sitka. There are representatives from 30 other states and one from Washington D.C. California tops the list in this area with New York state second. Six students are from Canada, one from China, one from England, one from Japan and one from Yugoslavia.

This first week was filled with testing sessions, health examinations, orientation meetings, campus tours, counseling sessions and waiting in line to pay for books and tuition.

FOURTH EPISODE: Board of Regents Story

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

Elmer E. Rasmuson of Anchorage is president of the board (as well as mayor of the city of Anchorage) and has served as a member of the Board since 1950. William A. O'Neill of Anchorage is vice president. Other members of the current board are secretary Dorothy A. Wrede of Fairbanks, John J. Conway of Sitka, Ruth McLean of Nome, Robert E. McFarland of Anchorage, Dr. William Whitehead of Juneau, and Dr. Arthur Schaible of Fairbanks. Dr. William Wood, president of the university, sits on the board as an ex officio member.

Each regent is appointed by the governor of the state and confirmed by the state legislature. Terms vary in much the same way as Congressional terms.

Last week, the Regents of the University of Alaska completed their fall session. Among points discussed was the new Anchorage Community College facility, the university's West Ridge project where two new dormitories have been erected and planning campus development for an increased student body as predicted by projected student enrollment figures.

The 1966-'67 budget was approved for presentation to Governor Egan. On the final day of the three day meet, the Regents gathered in the home of President Wood with members of the North Star Borough Assembly.

Uniquely, the University of Alaska serves all of the public higher educational needs of an entire state beyond high school. It is the job of the Board of Regents to ensure that the University of Alaska effectively and efficiently serves each and every Alaskan desiring to further his education beyond the secondary level.

FIFTH EPISODE: English as a Second Language for Some

ANNOUNCER: Ken Burton

A class for students of English as a second language is now being offered at the University of Alaska. Seventeen Alaskans and students from foreign nations are enrolled in the class and are learning English through writing, speech laboratories, and individual tutoring.

Professor Auerbach(?) teaches the class. He is recently arrived from the University of Southern California, where he taught for three years in the English communications program for foreign students. He says, "This class, designed to give some of our students their second language, is

linguistically oriented, and works with the phonetic structure of English emphasizing pitch, juncture and stress – speech elements which may carry as much as 40% of meaning.”

In writing, sentence patterns are used as building blocks to build up the grammatical structure of English.

Dr. Joseph W. Meeker, head of the University’s English department, says that this class is the first concrete step that the university has taken toward a problem that the university has taken since its inception. The school is in the middle of a large non-English language culture area. It is hoped that this class will open up college education opportunities for people who had been hindered by the fact that they did not know English.

No credit service classes, such as the one just started at the University of Alaska, are needed to help the 64,000 foreign students who study yearly in United States universities and colleges. Most of these students have some knowledge of English, but not enough to really succeed in the classroom. Such classes aid student comprehension and build confidence so students can function successfully in the classroom.

The class is split into different groups: one for foreign students, another for students who know English but have difficulty in communication or what is called the suprasegmental elements of speech like juncture, pitch and stress. These students work to improve their syntax in a language lab, and their grammatical structure using transformational grammar’s sentence patterns.

Professor Auerbach(?) thinks the ideal classroom situation is to have all students of one nationality so phonetic work can proceed much faster. He hopes to see the program to expand to meet the needs of all students who need help with their English language skills and comprehension.