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**This is Your University: Steve Sherman interviews William Gregory, the resident director of the Kodiak Community College**

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**Series: This is Your University**

Full transcript:

SHERMAN: From the University of Alaska at College, This is your University with your host Steve Sherman. The University of Alaska is truly unique among institutions of higher education, the scope of its resources. The university serves all the public educational needs beyond high school of an entire state: a state of 586,400 square miles! To facilitate this service, to make its resources available to all in Alaska., the university has established 7 community colleges that operate in cooperation with local school districts. It also provides evening class academic offerings at area military bases. Through this system, the University of Alaska now reaches 1 in 20 of all Alaskans. Of our entire population, one person in 20 has enrolled with the university this year in either degree courses or non-degree course. It is a little known fact that nearly one half the academic effort of the University of Alaska is conducted elsewhere than on its main campus at College. This is another in a series of programs designed to acquaint you with the university's statewide program. With us is Bill Gregory, resident director of the Kodiak Community College. Mr. Gregory, would you give us some of the activities out at Kodiak?

GREGORY: Yes, Steve. Kodiak is the smallest of the community colleges in the state. We are this fall offering eight classes, enrolling a total of ninety-six student and we make the use of 6 part time instructors.

SHERMAN: How did the community college come into effect?

GREGORY: Well, I think the local school district felt the need for some training beyond the high school level and petitioned the Board of Regents to establish the community college program in Kodiak.

SHERMAN: And with this now in effect, what are some of the particular courses that are offered? What are the titles of the courses?

GREGORY: Well, in a beginning operation like this, it is usually whatever you can find enough interest in and find instructors for. This particular semester interests our interests seem to be primarily in business education fields. We are teaching shorthand, typewriting, accounting, this type of thing. And then we

are also offering some of the basic courses that beginning freshman enroll in such as English, psychology and so on.

SHERMAN: And where are you getting your faculty members?

GREGORY: For the most part we are drawing our faculty members from the existing high school staff and taking advantage particularly talented people in the community who have a background that is appropriate to college instruction.

SHERMAN: Will you be enlarging your program in the future much or will it go along at the same level for awhile?

GREGORY: We anticipate gradual growth. Nothing succeeds like success. We have 8 classes this year, hopeful we can have 10 next semester and perhaps 12 or more the following year.

SHERMAN: Are there any particular programs that you would like to see the college develop into?

GREGORY: Well, we have a big interest in fisheries, of course, on Kodiak Island and we hope to be able to do something in this area. This perhaps would be more along the lines of vocational training rather than college credit courses, short courses, this time of thing.

SHERMAN: What is your particular background yourself, Mr. Gregory?

GREGORY: Well, I have been with the Kodiak public schools for 10 years and with the opportunity that came up with the community college, I thought perhaps I'd just try my hand at university work. And I work half time with the community college program and devote the other half of my energies to the rural schools that are on Kodiak Island.

SHERMAN: Thank you, Bill Gregory. Our guest has been Bill Gregory, resident director of Kodiak Community College. I'm Steve Sherman.

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