

00-00-18

Duckering Building dedication

1960s

Dr. Wood welcomed the guests and acknowledged the assistance in bringing into being the building. He welcomed Senator Bartlett and Governor Egan and their wives as well as other members of the community. The Duckering building will house the College of Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Engineering as well as the College of Business, Economics and Government. It temporarily houses a research program headed by Larry Irving and the Institute of Marine Science and Physical Oceanography section headed by Doug Dale. He talked about the site for the new library.

Lee Link and Charles Sargent are presented. Lee Link presented the key of the Duckering building to Charles Sargent. Charles Sargent said the key opens more than just doors. It is a building representing ideals of the state. Lee Link was a student of William Duckering. Dr. Sargent talked about the departments that will be housed in the Duckering building.

H. Woodrow Johansen is introduced. He talked about Dean Duckering. He was an educator and an engineer. Johansen was a civil engineering student in 1933. Duckering had been on campus since 1932. Johansen talked about Duckering's characteristics.

Duckering was a railroad engineer, designed bridges and worked in construction. He then worked at the University of Washington. In 1918 he trained wartime engineering officers. He went to Iowa State College as an engineer instruction. He taught at the University of British Columbia. He was hired to head the Department of Civil Engineering and Mathematics at the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines. He was selected as the first dean of faculty in 1935 when the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines became the University of Alaska. He helped to obtain accreditation for the university and the engineering department. He helped to design the five year engineering program. He was granted the title of dean of the university in 1940. He was given an honorary doctorate of engineering in 1949.

Bill Cashen talked about his involvement with the project and talked about Duckering's family. He read letters from Dean Duckering's family. He acknowledged some of the guests and graduates of the engineering department. He introduced Governor Egan.

Governor Egan talked about the importance of the Duckering Building to the students of the University of Alaska. Bill Cashen introduced Oliva Kukkola – 1938 civil engineering graduate.

Duckering, William E. (William Elmhirst), 1882-1950.

Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines.

University of Alaska Fairbanks History.

Duckering Building (Fairbanks, Alaska) History.

College buildings Alaska Fairbanks.