

ORAL HISTORY 01-81-01 PT. 2

State of the University message by Jay Barton on October 28, 1980 in Fairbanks, Alaska

Jay Barton talked about seven percent of the population taking classes through the university system. He was impressed with that number when he first heard it. He said they hope to manage it better in the future. They do need community college bases to serve the state.

A question about the lack of commitment to the upper division level classes and the graduate levels. Jay Barton said he wasn't aware of the problem at the upper division levels. He said he would look into the problem. He said he hasn't talked about moving the engineering programs from the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. Another person commented about the smaller sized classes at the upper levels. Jay Barton said they don't play the numbers game. They have made a commitment as a state to providing education at a cost that provides for sufficient number of upper level faculty to give a reasonably rich discipline in spite of low numbers. At some point this will have to be defended.