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University of Alaska Fairbanks students talk about what they like about the university

Interviews with students: Sybil and Dave

Unidentified interviewer

1980s

Series: University focus

University of Alaska campus in Fairbanks, Alaska

Interview with Sybil

The first unidentified student said the university has grown dramatically since the days of the Agricultural College and School of Mines. Today more than 5,000 students select from a full gamut of academic fields. Our graduates are working on every continent throughout the world using skills they learned at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Almost 1200 faculty members teach the more than 140 fields of study and some 70 disciplines offered at UAF and they advise as well as teach.

Engineer said this is Sybil number one. Unidentified person asked why you came to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Sybil said she came to the University of Alaska Fairbanks basically because she wanted an adventure. She applied to the honors program and was accepted. Alaska is a place of mystery in the Midwest and she wanted to see what was up here. The interviewer asked her what she thought were the strengths of the university. Sybil said the strengths of the university include the size and the atmosphere. It is small and you are able to interact with your professors and the administration and students on campus. She is very comfortable attending school here because people are very approachable and it is a nice atmosphere because of its size. It is a diverse student population that you get to learn about different cultures. She is minoring in Alaska Native studies. The interviewer asked about the quality of her education she is receiving from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Sybil said she is very pleased with the quality of her education. She has received a lot of personal attention from her professors and her professors know her on a first name basis. The interviewer asked her if she would recommend the university to her friends. Sybil said she did recommend it to some students when she went back home last summer. She recommended it because she recommends everyone going to a unique atmosphere.

Sybil Take two.

The interviewer asked for one reason she would recommend UAF. Sybil said she would recommend UAF because of the opportunities here. Because of the small size and other factors there is so much opportunity on campus for academics, extracurricular activities and employment. It is full of opportunities. The interviewer asked for one element that is the best part of being at the university. Sybil said the opportunities she has been able to experience here. She said she has done more here in the last two years than she could have done at any other university. The interviewer asked about the best parts of her education. Sybil said the best part of her education at UAF has been the close interaction she has had with her professors. She said she is getting a quality education.

Interview with Dave.

The unidentified interviewer explained that he will tell him the questions in advance so there will not be any surprises. He said what they are trying to do is taking his statement and put it with his picture and there will be able a dozen people involved with the project.

Dave said: Our graduates are working on every continent throughout the world using skills the learned at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Almost 400 faculty teach the more ... [recording stops]

The interviewer asked Dave why he came up from California and why did you come to UAF. Dave said he came to UAF from California for several reasons. He had a friend who told him about the setting of the university and the good programming. His friend was in the business school. Finally the tuition was fairly reasonable. The interviewer asked how long he has been at UAF. Dave said three years. The interviewer asked about of the strengths of the university. Dave said the strengths of the University of Alaska is the classroom size and it is very easy to get to know your professors. He previously attended another college. The interviewer asked him to compare UAF to his previous university. Dave said the class size for most introductory course is about fifty times smaller than the university he attended in southern California. The interviewer asked if he was getting a quality education. Dave said he feels he is getting a more one on one with a teacher than another university. The interviewer asked if he would recommend the university to a friend. No answer. The interviewer asked what the best part of attending UAF is. Dave said the campus life, the accessibility of the library and open classrooms and labs.

Dave. Take two.

The interviewer asked Dave what is the best part about attending UAF. Dave said the accessibility of the buildings particularly the laboratories and the library and the accessibility of the professors after class time. Question and answer is repeated. The interviewer asked how UAF compares to his previous college for class size. Dave said the University of Alaska Fairbanks classes are fairly small compared to his other university. The interviewer asked him if he thought he was getting a quality education. Dave said he thought he was because of the size of the classes and the availability of the professors. The interviewer asked if he was to go back home tomorrow would he recommend UAF to his friends. Dave said he would recommend UAF because the beauty of the campus and the quality of the education. The interviewer asked if he thought he was getting a quality education at UAF. Dave said he thought he was getting a quality education because a lot of the professors related the material to practical applications in life. He is a business major and many of the professors would relate information to Alaska and national problems. The interviewer asked him why he originally came to UAF. Dave said he came to UAF on a recommendation of a friend. He said he came because of the size of the classrooms, the reasonable rates for tuition and the facilities available to students.

Dave. Take three

The interviewer asked Dave about the best part of UAF. Dave said he liked the accessibility of buildings after classroom hours and the accessibility of professors.