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Larry Dennis, Vincent Haneman and Christine Ehlig-Economides talk about the increase in enrollment and incoming students in their programs.

Stephen Lay

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Series: University focus

University of Alaska campus in Fairbanks, Alaska

Stephen Lay said record enrollment this fall has resulted in substantial increased demand for career oriented course work. Larry Dennis examines the preliminary enrollment figures. Dennis said it appears the enrollment growth is in their professional areas. He found that compared with the end of the total registration period last year they are already over those figures in business administration, engineering and in the school of mineral industry with the new petroleum engineering program. In addition he noted increases in English, History, Philosophy, Sociology, the Language Program, Theater and the Chemistry Department. Dr. Vincent Haneman with the School of Engineering believes students are coming to the university for a quality education in high demand employment fields. Haneman said he thinks the enrollment in the School of Engineering is up significantly because there is such a demand for engineers in the whole United States and in Alaska particularly. There are too few faculty. There is reduced enrollment in the lower forty eight schools and the students who are coming to UAF are pointing out the student faculty ratios Outside are extreme and UAF has the ability and the capability to provide a better education for the students. Dr. Christine Ehlig-Economides, Chairman of the Petroleum Engineering Department, detects a change where her students are coming from. More Alaskan students are staying home to go to school. She said last year most of their students are transfers. This year there are many freshman from Alaska. Overall the faculty are impressed with the quality of students coming to the university this year. Both Haneman and Ehlig-Economides say their incoming freshman are well prepared academically and well-motivated students

Stephen Lay talks about the upcoming Equinox Race registration.