



UAA FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE



15 Interviews



7 First-Year
8 Second-Year



7 took GUID150 Creating
Success in College.



7 were recipients of the Alaska
Performance Scholarship or
UAA Scholarship.



10 attended New Student
Orientation.



14 said with confidence that
they will continue at UAA.



15 met with an academic
advisor at least once.

Reasons for Choosing UAA



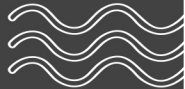
Affordability

Scholarships Bring
High Performing
High School
Students to UAA



Proximity to Family
Support

ALASKA



Cost & Location

Ability to Stay in Anchorage





APPLYING TO UAA

EASY TO APPLY – LONG WAIT FOR ACCEPTANCE
LETTER – REGISTERED FOR CLASSES WITHOUT
MEETING WITH ADVISOR – CHALLENGE
CONNECTING WITH APPROPRIATE ADVISOR



First Year Success



FACULTY & STAFF WILLINGNESS TO HELP – SURPRISED BY
NICE PEOPLE – NEW FRIENDS – FLEXIBILITY IN
SCHEDULING – ABILITY TO SELECT CLASSES OF INTEREST



FIRST YEAR BARRIERS

POOR FOOD QUALITY & LIMITED AVAILABILITY
- HIGH PARKING COST & LIMITED ACCESS -
WEBSITE HARD TO NAVIGATE



DIFFICULTY
CONNECTING
WITH
OTHERS

SLOW TO MAKE
FRIENDS

MORE
CHALLENGING
FOR STUDENTS
NOT FROM
ANCHORAGE TO
CONNECT AT
UAA

New Student Orientation



Attended Orientation

See the Potential
Value of Information

Remembered very
little



Varying degrees of
college
preparedness

Want more practical
advice

Highlights



Student Speakers

Remarks from Professors

Scholarship & Financial Info

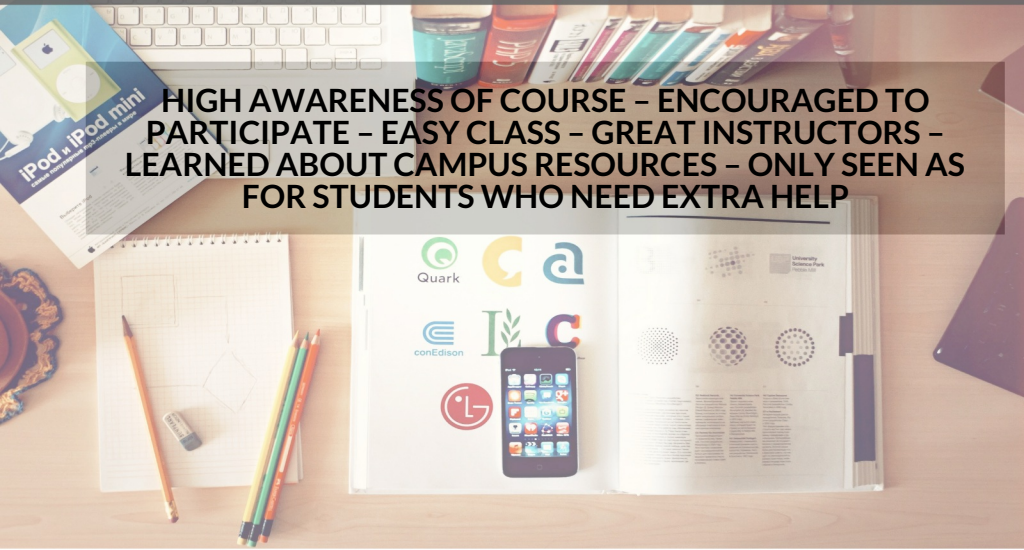
Practical Guidance

Free Stuff



GUID 150 - Creating Success in College

**HIGH AWARENESS OF COURSE – ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE – EASY CLASS – GREAT INSTRUCTORS –
LEARNED ABOUT CAMPUS RESOURCES – ONLY SEEN AS
FOR STUDENTS WHO NEED EXTRA HELP**



ACADEMIC ADVISING

MET ADVISOR AT LEAST ONCE – POSITIVE EXPERIENCE
WITH ADVISORS – MULTIPLE CHANGES IN ADVISOR –
PREFERENCE FOR SELF-SERVICE TOOLS –
INCONSISTENCY IN EXPERIENCES – ADVISOR VERSUS
COUNSELOR



Outside the Classroom Involvement



Narrow view of involvement



How are we defining involvement to students?

Focus



Academic & Career Oriented

Jobs & Internships

Community Affiliations Outside off UAA

Family Balance & Time Commitments

CONNECTEDNESS TO UAA

MILD SENSE OF CONNECTEDNESS – STRONGEST
CONNECTION WITH CLASSMATES & STUDY GROUPS –
CONDUCTIVE SPACES – SAFE, BUT
NOT OPENLY WELCOME – PERSONAL CHALLENGES TO
CONNECT – ENGAGED ADMINISTRATORS



Comparing Expectations to Realities

**EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS –
MISPERCEPTIONS DRAWN
FROM MOVIES – NOT AS BIG
& SCARY – POSITIVE
EXPERIENCE WITH PEOPLE –
POSITIVELY CHANGED
ATTITUDE ABOUT UAA**



Student Recommendations for Student Affairs



Keep it up!



Build Community

Emphasize Learning
Resource Center

More School Spirit

Advice for Students



What is student
affairs?

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATION TO STUDENTS

EMAIL – PHONE CALLS – PERSONAL CONNECTIONS –
OPTIONAL TEXTS – CLUNKY WEBSITE



Continuing at UAA



Finishing at
UAA



Cost

Personal Connections

Ability to Stay in Alaska

Changed Perceptions