

Sample Questions for Alumnus

(These are only sample questions. Interviewers can develop their own questions or use these. These questions are a starting point. It is expected that additional questions will develop as the interview progresses.)

Part 1 – Details

1. Make an introduction at the beginning of the interview. This should include the name of the interviewer and date and location of the interview. The interviewer should identify their institutional affiliation or relationship with interviewee. Anyone else in the room should also be identified.
2. The interviewee should introduce themselves with full name (including maiden name if appropriate), birth date, birth place, age today and where they currently live.
3. Where did you attend college? (*Mankato State Normal School, Mankato State Teachers College, Mankato State College, Mankato State University, Minnesota State University, Mankato*) What years did you attend? What was your major/minor? What degree(s) did you complete?

Part 2 – Background

1. Where did you attend high school and in what year did you graduate?
2. Why did you decide to attend college?
3. Where you the first person in your family to attend college? If no, how many other generations had attended college? If yes, how did you family respond to your plans to continue your education?
4. Why did you choose to attend MSU? Was there a previous family affiliation w/MSU?
5. Do you remember coming to MSU to register for the first time? Please describe.

Part 3 – Life at MSU

1. What are some of your earliest memories about MSU? (People, places, campus, activities, etc.)
2. Where did you live while attending MSU? Please describe.
3. Did you receive financial aid or scholarships?
4. What types of jobs did you have while at school?
5. What was your major when you began attending MSU? Did it ever change? Why did you decide to change?
6. Where did you meet your closest friends at MSU? (Dorms, classes, organizations, etc.)
7. What student organizations, fraternities, sororities, and student government groups did you participate in? Did you stay active with the groups throughout your college experience? Did you have any leadership opportunities in these

- organizations? What are some of your favorite memories about these organizations?
8. Were you an athlete? Please provide details about your experience.
 9. Did you attend campus activities as a student? (Athletic, music, theater, art events, and student organization sponsored activities, speakers, etc.) What were some of the most memorable?
 10. What do you remember about the campus at MSU?
 11. What did you do for fun while at MSU?
 12. What was a normal school week like for you?
 13. How would you describe your academic career?
 14. What were some of the hardest things about attending college?

Part 3 - Experiences

1. What do you remember about your classes and academic program? Was it easier or harder than you expected? Did you do well?
2. Are there any faculty or staff members who stand out in your memory? (names, specific stories)
3. Did you receive any honors/awards during college?
4. How long did it take you to complete your degree?
5. Did you ever take any big trips while at MSU? (Study abroad, Spring Break, etc.) Please describe.
6. Do you remember any significant world, state, or campus events or issues while you attended MSU? How did you respond? How did the campus respond?
7. Is there anything you regret not doing in college?
8. Please share your fondest memories from MSU.
9. Overall how would you describe your experience at MSU?

Part 4 - After MSU

1. What did you do after leaving MSU? (Started work, pursued additional education, etc.)
2. What are some of your professional achievements/career highlights?
3. Did you ever get married, have a family? Describe.
4. Have you been active in your community/organizations/church? What sort of activities have you done?
5. Did you make close friendships while at MSU? Did you continue any of those relationships? Do you still communicate or get together with anyone from college?
6. Are you currently involved with MSU? Or have you been involved since graduation? If so, how?
7. Anything else you would like to say about your MSU Experience?

Thank you very much for your time.