Sample Questions for Students

(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. Are you a current student at Minnesota State University, Mankato? What year did you begin at MSU? What is your major/minor? What degree(s) are you pursuing? What year in school are you?

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 have you lived while attending MSU? Please describe.
3. Did you or do you receive financial aid or scholarships?
4. What types of jobs have you had 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 are you involved in? Have you been active with the same groups throughout your college experience? What about the groups caused you to stick with or leave them? Did you have any leadership opportunities in these
organizations? What are some of your favorite memories about these organizations?
8. Are you an athlete? Please provide details about your experience.
9. Do you attend campus activities? (Athletic, music, theater, art events, and student organization sponsored activities, speakers, etc.) What were some of the most memorable?
10. What are your thoughts or memories about the campus at MSU?
11. What do you do for fun while at MSU?
12. What is a normal school week like for you? Has it changed since you were a freshman, how?
13. How would you describe your academic career?
14. What are some of the hardest things about attending college?

Part 3 - Experiences

1. What thoughts do you have about your classes and academic program? Has it been easier or harder than you expected? Have you done well?
2. Are there any faculty or staff members who stand out to you? (names, specific stories)
3. Have you received any honors/awards during college?
4. How long do you think it will take for you to complete your degree?
5. Have you ever taken 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 have been at 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 you plan to do after leaving MSU? (Start work, pursue additional education, etc.)
2. Anything else you would like to say about your MSU Experience?

Thank you very much for your time.