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# INTERVIEW WITH MARILYN JUDD, CLASS OF 1969

## **Jan Garey**

This is Jan Garey, Class of 1980, representing the Alumni Services, and I'm talking today with Marilyn Judd, the Class of 1969. The time is Homecoming 1979 and this bit of oral history we hope to recapture some of the moments, thoughts, and events that were important ten years ago. We hope that those of you who will listen to this conversation will find the content interesting and informative. To start off with, Illinois State University had a record enrollment of 19,576 students this fall, 1979. Miss Judd, what do you remember about the size of the student body in 1969?

## **Marilyn Judd**

In 1969, the student body was 14,687. In those days, the university was experiencing really rapid growth. For instance, in 1965 when I started college here, we had an enrollment of 8,643. That was a 70% increase in just four years. It practically doubled its size.

## **Jan Garey**

What do you feel was the major reason for this increase?

## **Marilyn Judd**

It was the Baby Boom from the war years I guess that accounted for that. The thing that I remember most about it though was that although the university was growing rapidly in size, it still managed to keep the small university atmosphere. There was still a lot of friendliness and there was a lot of student-faculty interaction.

## **Jan Garey**

Okay, today there are almost 2,600 faculty and support staff personnel working on the campus. Can you relate to or even imagine this?

## **Marilyn Judd**

I sure can. In 1969, the faculty and support staff personnel numbered 2,038. That's almost the same size as the 2600 today. But in 1965 there was only 1,056 faculty and support staff personnel so in the four years that I was here we practically doubled that also. It was a 93% increase. So over the past decade it's only been less than 500 growth.

## **Jan Garey**

Okay, thank you. Who was the president and some of the university's top administrators when you were a student, and what things do you remember about some of them?

## **Marilyn Judd**

When I started college here in 1965, the president was Robert Bone, who we fondly called "America's Most-Loved College President." He was a terrific guy, and we were all very disappointed when he kept the promise that he had made to himself. He said that after he had been president for ten years he was going to resign and we were all hoping that he'd stay on and kind of extend his term, but he kept his promise and retired. So then David Burlo took over

and I don't have nearly as happy memories of David Burlo and his reign as I did of when Robert Bone was president.

**Jan Garey**

Now, Mr. Bone, is that after the scholarship they have now? Bone Scholar?

**Marilyn Judd**

Yes. Bone Scholars were started when he retired, and I believe I was on the board to choose the Bone Scholars a couple of years after that was instituted.

**Jan Garey**

Okay, thank you. Were you ever involved in athletics, dramatics, or other out-of-class activities while you were in school?

**Marilyn Judd**

As a matter of fact, I majored in extracurricular activities. The first couple of years I studied, but after that, I got—I started getting involved in extracurricular activities and I may have overdone it. Some say that. I was involved in AWS. I'm not sure that that's around anymore. It was Associated Women Students, and that was where I got my feet wet in leadership activities. I got a chance to work with some of the administrators who... from the Student Personnel Office who were really excellent about develop--working closely with and developing student leaders. Miriam Wagenschein was in the Dean of Student Services Office at that time and I remember her most fondly as a person who really knew how to work with students and bring out the leadership qualities in them. I was also on the De Young Lecture Committee. As a result of my activities in AWS I was named as their representative to that council and I was kind of surprised to find this year, to find that the Forum Series, which is, I believe, how you say, the historical extension of the De Young Lecture Series, had Jane Fonda for their speaker. Well, back in the days when we had the De Young Lecture Series, we had really intellectual people come, they were so intellectual I could hardly understand them. And Jane Fonda is a far cry from those days.

**Jan Garey**

I've noticed that when I've talked to people, they ask, okay, they're interested in your academics, but they're also interested in your extracurricular activities, as you say, do you feel that was just as important part of your academic career as your academics?

**Marilyn Judd**

I believe it was more important than my academics. I'm sure the academics must have helped somehow. But I think I'm the person I am today because of my involvement in extracurricular activities. I'm in the business world today and in that you have to have a certain kind of self-confidence to get along and I learned that self-confidence as a result of my extracurricular activities.

**Jan Garey**

On the academic side, who are some of the professors that you like to remember?

**Marilyn Judd**

Some of the professors that I remember most clearly were the ones in the English Department, because that was my major. This was the time when SDS was getting started and events were quite tumultuous at that time. I remember Bob Sutherland, he was involved in... well, he was an English professor, so I had him in my academics. He was also very involved in this student

movement with SDS and also with, generally, he sided with the students in standing up for the idea that students should be involved on committees and in the decision-making process of the university. And it was in those days that we were just starting to get recognized as viable parts of that decision-making process.

**Jan Garey**

Are some of your professors, are they still teaching now and do you keep in touch with any of them?

**Marilyn Judd**

A lot of them are still teaching now. I'm not—I don't keep in as close of touch with them as I'd like to. Another one that I remember is Bill Linneman, he was an English Department—an English professor at the time that I was there and then he later went on to become in charge of the Honors Program and when I came back to grad school, he—I was his graduate assistant for the Honors Program. And after that he distinguished himself by being chairman of the English Department for a while. He's still around, and I guess I keep in touch with him better than I do with the others.

**Jan Garey**

Okay, thank you. What were some of the major national or world news events that occurred during your college days in the late 60s?

**Marilyn Judd**

Well, as I just touched on earlier, those were the tumultuous days of the student riots, that sort of thing. I was talking with a professor, I guess maybe a month or so ago, and we were talking about those days of the late 60s and they extended into the early 70s, when there were the riots. I guess it was a year after I graduated that the students were killed at Kent State and this professor remembers something a lot different than I remembered it. He remembers the days of the students marching on the campus and taking over the Administration Building and even threatening lives, at least they felt that they—that lives were being threatened or physical violence was the order of the day at that time. I don't remember that nearly so much as I remember the more orderly student involvement. It seems that nowadays students don't tend to be as involved in organized activities. Back there, we were involved in all sorts of organizations that were very strong and we were just trying to get our points of view across so that someone in a position of power would listen to them. Well, now that those people have... in power, have accepted students as a valid voice to listen to, maybe they don't take it so seriously. I haven't quite figured it out yet but it seems like they've relaxed now and so they don't feel it quite so important to be an active part of those processes. So they kind of let things go and don't force themselves upon the issues of the day. Back in 1969, we had a curriculum reform workshop where we involved faculty, students, and administrators and we looked over the curriculum and tried to get our voice in what we thought it was important to learn. That was an unheard of thing in those days. Students shouldn't have anything to say about it, the state decided what was necessary for a good general education, and that's what we were to take. Well, in 1969, we talked to them about it and let ourselves be heard and gave our input on what was to be included in the curriculum and they listened.

**Jan Garey**

I just want to touch up on that, I know back in the 60s, in fact one of my professors said that, more or less, a lot of the students were taking social science classes like sociology and it was more of a "we" society, whereas now in the late 70s it's more of a "me." People are more concerned about themselves and they're taking more, well, in fact the favorite class on campus

now is Beginning Accounting and that just goes to prove it's more of an individualized society than, whereas it was maybe ten years ago. Okay. What are some of the things you remember about the communities of Normal and Bloomington when you were an ISU student?

**Marilyn Judd**

I remember that there seemed to be a lot of talk about town/gown conflict. It was kind of the university versus the community and I think that maybe some of that has been overcome now so that there's more cooperation between the two entities. I believe it was when we were—when I was an undergraduate, that Carol Reitan was elected mayor of Normal and we said that the students were the ones who pushed her over the line and into the office of mayor. Actually, it was that the student precincts were the last ones counted and so those votes were the last ones that added on her side and pushed her over that. But it wasn't we alone who became the majority that pushed her into office. But she was, I think, the first one that started smoothing over the conflicts and tried to get the two to cooperate and I think that atmosphere has continued through today.

**Jan Garey**

Okay, thank you. I am on the Student Assembly here and one of the big issues on our platform was to get a voter registration in the ISU community because of the fact that students are down here nine months out of the year and what we want to do is try to get one of the students—a represented student on the Council. How would you feel about that?

**Marilyn Judd**

I think that a student sitting in on the Council would be a good thing just for open communication and understanding. I'm not sure that I would be for a student having a vote on the City Council. There aren't a whole lot of people on that City Council and one student vote on there might be more representation than would be appropriate, simply because the students, at least when I was a student, I felt like I was just passing through and didn't feel a real part of the community. I wasn't even aware of the problems of what was going on in the community and I was mostly concerned with myself and the university. And so I'm not sure that it would be appropriate because of this feeling of transitory membership in the community. I'm not sure that a student should really have a vote as a permanent member of that community.

**Jan Garey**

Okay, this is Jan Garey closing the conversation with Miss Marilyn Judd of the Illinois State University Class of 1969 as a part of the Homecoming experience for 1979. Thank you.