Rowan D. Frandson: Oh, I'm not... I don't think so. I don't know of anything too spectacular to say.

Dennis Maguire: What has the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education done for the vet college?

Rowan Frandson: Well, I think one thing, it has supplied a pretty good backup of relatively high-quality students, is probably the best thing that it's done. And then of course the obvious thing is that it's provided quite a bit of money for the college.

Dennis Maguire: What efforts did this college make to obtain WICHE funds?

Rowan Frandson: I really don't know any of the mechanics or the details on that.

Dennis Maguire: All right. What about the proliferation of contracts and grants? What it do for the anatomy department?

Rowan Frandson: Oh. I guess it probably got some equipment for it and changed the direction of priorities. Whether that's necessarily good or bad, I don't know. But...

Dennis Maguire: Sophisticated equipment?

Rowan Frandson: Oh yeah, that had relatively little relevance to teaching.

Dennis Maguire: Oh. Okay.

Rowan Frandson: Except graduate teaching, which is obviously big... I don't know. Its main impact is in the graduate area, obviously, not in the... I don't think it has much effect in the undergraduate area, as far as improvement anyway.

Dennis Maguire: Do you do any teaching on the graduate level?

Rowan Frandson: Oh, some. I have taught some of the graduate courses and I've had a few graduate students, but not very extensively. I've had, oh, probably more special problem type graduate students, and courses of that sort, for the one to one approach, and then some of the other courses that are accepted for graduate credit.

Dennis Maguire: I was wondering if you... Have any of your students, graduate students, done particularly significant work?
Rowan Frandson: Oh, I don't know that I can give any specific examples. I think they've gone on to doing reasonably acceptable work and so on. I haven't had too many that I was major professor for them. So... And undoubtedly a lot of them that went on... That I've been on committees and taught courses to have probably done very well. Haven't had any invitations to Sweden. So...

Dennis Maguire: Have you had anything to do with the electron microscopy training center?

Rowan Frandson: Not a lot. I took a course or two in it. I was not involved in the administration or teaching in that area.

Dennis Maguire: I'm having a problem pinpointing the time when that center was established. Can you help me?

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. I don't know if I can give you the exact time, but I think you can find out. Glen Epling took a... went on a sabbatical and... When was Bob Davis was head of the department, and he went to California and studied some of the techniques on electron microscopy and then wrote a grant and got, I believe it was the first electron microscope in. As far as I know, it was the first one at CSU, but I'm not positive about that. And there were some... I think some training grants developed later than that.

I'm not sure about the... I suppose that was early '50s about when that started. But there was a training program that was put on here that Glen Epling was one of the prime movers on and they brought in a number of authorities from different areas. And again, I'm sure that was in the '50s, and you might be able to find the record on that. And that was leading up to the development of the EM program or center or whatever you want to call it. But Epling was the main driving force on that.

Dennis Maguire: Did he direct the center afterwards?

Rowan Frandson: Yeah, I'm sure he did when it... And he taught quite a bit of the courses, and... Oh, if you check the records on employment, probably when Donnie Dunham and Mike Stringer and... Who's the photographer with the clinic now? Do you know him?

Dennis Maguire: I've heard his name.

Rowan Frandson: Al Kilminster.

Dennis Maguire: Kilminster.

Rowan Frandson: Okay it was-

Dennis Maguire: Kilminster.

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. When those three were were hired, they worked on that grant. And then they also were kept in... Both Dunham and Stringer did essentially all the laboratory
teaching in that area. So I think you could pinpoint the time pretty well if you just checked Al's employment record.

Dennis Maguire: Also, can you help me to pinpoint the year when the minor in Anatomical Sciences was developed, first was offered?

Rowan Frandson: Oh, I think that's relatively recent. I'm a tell you who might be able to help you on that would be Gordon Solomon, because he was sort of in charge of it at least for part of the time. And I don't know whether... I think maybe Dee Billenstein was listed on that, but I would guess like five or six years ago, something like that. I don't think it's much more than that.

The tie-in with the art department was quite a bit earlier than that, with a major in... I guess it's still a major in Anatomy, but it was for the illustration. And I'm not sure just what the title is, but there again, you could check Denny Giddings. When he got his master's, I think he was the first graduate in that... Getting a master's in the illustration and the anatomy master's degree.

Dennis Maguire: So, the art department and the anatomy department had a-

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. They kind of combined on that. We'd talked about it for a long time before that, but I think that was the first formal arrangement on it.

Dennis Maguire: Was there an amount of give and take on that? I mean, did the anatomy department benefit in any way, as the art department obviously did?

Rowan Frandson: I think there's a benefit in that... Particularly now with the media department or media portion of the college being located here. It's a source of good art, artists and artwork and so on for teaching and for... They use for many course production, slide production, that kind of stuff. So, I think that that's an advantage and, whether it would have occurred without the graduate approach, I don't know. But it gives it a little more stature I guess.

Dennis Maguire: There have been any more recent developments, large or small that have changed the profile of the anatomy department? Say since a...

Rowan Frandson: Since a new curriculum?

Dennis Maguire: Yeah. This one's Tietz.

Rowan Frandson: That's a good question.

Dennis Maguire: Okay.

Rowan Frandson: I don't know any for real. I don't think of any specific instances. I think there's been a gradual change from the DVM type of teacher to more of the PhD, biology approach or molecular biology or whatever you want to call it. That...
Dennis Maguire: Okay. How would you assess the veterinary deans since... Well, let's see. Since Isaac Newsom...

Rowan Frandson: Him. Not including him? Or...

Dennis Maguire: Well, whoever you feel qualified to evaluate.

Rowan Frandson: Well, I think when I was going to school, Newsom was a dean and... I think he was competent for the time. Of course, that was the one year of pretty much static situations. And... Let's see. Then Cross was next I guess. I think I already mentioned I think he was the best politician that was ever in the area and probably had the best relations with other groups. And again this was pre-research funding, you know, federal funding era so that they could give priorities to teaching and care and nurturing of students and faculty and so on. It wasn't quite as much of an adversary relationship. I don't think as developed later. Then I suppose Jensen was next and I think he's a pretty good scientist, but he was... Well, he was responsible for the dissemination of the various departments all over the area. And there would have been a possibility of putting everything together in one location.

Dennis Maguire: Which one would you have favored?

Rowan Frandson: All the location, everything together would have been...

Dennis Maguire: Centralization.

Rowan Frandson: So much better. Yeah. And he was a person there at the beginning of the funding and the graduate education, which was not much graduate education prior to that, which I guess went along hand in hand with the federal projects and so on. And he was... I think he marked the change in attitude to where teaching became a secondary activity for the college. And research and money became the number one priority. Not in that order necessarily.

Dennis Maguire: Okay. What are-

Rowan Frandson: Well then Nick Booth was probably too nice a guy to be a dean. And... I think he maintained the status quo pretty well. But there were too many... I think there were too many sharpshooters getting at him but... Either. And I don't know whether he left voluntarily or... But I'm sure there was a lot of pressure that got him replaced by Tietz. And he had a very good front and was pretty good PR person.

Dennis Maguire: He's a little bit controversial, isn't he?

Rowan Frandson: I don't know about the "little bit." And I don't know about the controversy either. Oh, he was all right. He made some changes and so on, which I guess is what a dean's supposed to do. But it was a pretty much of a ramrod railroad job. However, I think you should blame the faculty for that since they-
Dennis Maguire: You mean he would-

Rowan Frandson: Since they stood still for him.

Dennis Maguire: He was railroaded out of here?

Rowan Frandson: No, he railroaded his ideas with very little input from... only from the people he wanted input from.

Dennis Maguire: Oh, I see. Was the faculty apathetic?

Rowan Frandson: Oh, I think pretty much, yeah. When we just had this change, I talked to a department head from another school and he asked when the faculty voted to approve the change. I said, "Well, they didn't" and he said, "Oh, boy. The faculty where he was with certainly never stand for something like that." And I'm not saying that the changes were all bad, but I think they...

Dennis Maguire: There was no faculty council activity then?

Rowan Frandson: No, that is... I think, as I recall and I mentioned this to Bob Phemister, that the only vote that I remember ever being taken was at a faculty meeting. They said, "Do you think there are changes needed in the curriculum?" And, of course, that's very obvious that there are always changes needed in the curriculum. And the faculty agreed that there were. From there it went full speed ahead.

Dennis Maguire: Guess that brings us down to... Bob Phemister.

Rowan Frandson: Bob Phemister. Yeah, I think he's... I guess you say it's past tense now. Is that right? I sort of...

Dennis Maguire: We don't know yet, I guess.

Rowan Frandson: Yeah, but... Oh, I think he's been a pretty good dean. He was a good contrast to Tietz anyway, and a different approach. So... I think he's a pretty good administrator.

Dennis Maguire: We may have covered some of this already incidentally, but can you think of any memorable personalities in the Department of Anatomy that are gone? Or that are even still here?

Rowan Frandson: Yeah, I think we went over that pretty much from the standpoint of, as from the student, the university or the college rather. Yeah. Well, of course, Bob Davis is still around. He's retired, but he was undoubtedly an outstanding anatomist. He was pro and still is. It would be very hard to find anyone that's any more knowledgeable in gross anatomy than Bob Davis. And he was always very, very dedicated, somewhat controversial sometimes, because he was quite demanding of the students. Most of them appreciated it. Some disliked it completely.
Dennis Maguire: He's not a Farquharson-type then-

Rowan Frandson: No. No. Definitely not. No, he was... I've always thought that he had the... Probably one of the best-hearted individuals that I've ever known. I think his motivation was always excellent and he wasn't really on ego trips, any more than anybody else is. And, of course, Glen Epling was in the department and he was an excellent teacher. And then he became chairman and there was some question about it, which you've probably heard about.

Dennis Maguire: No, I-

Rowan Frandson: Oh, you haven't? But he was asked to resign.

Dennis Maguire: Did he leave the college then?

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. And that was evidently, and this is sort of an impression, I guess, that Tietz supported him in return for a resignation from the university at the end of his tenure, his five-year tenure as chairman. So...

Dennis Maguire: Would I be treading on sensitive ground if I asked what was the nature of the problem?

Rowan Frandson: I think the main thing was a lack of evenhandedness and his treatment of faculty members, and I...

Dennis Maguire: Favoritism.

Rowan Frandson: I think so, yeah. And representing the administration more than the department. He represented the administration, the department, and apparently, the impression at least was that he did not represent the department to the administration very much.

Dennis Maguire: So there's a lot of pressure from the other anatomists.

Rowan Frandson: Oh yeah. There was a... I think with two exceptions, yes.

Dennis Maguire: Okay. Any other notable at all?

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. Bob Bay was a faculty member for a while, and he was a competent teacher, but he got knocked... He wasn't here long enough to become really expert at teaching, but he worked, related very well with the students. Probably too well. And where's your mountaintop? Maintained probably partly on that, on that basis.

Dennis Maguire: Do you see any people in the college as a whole that stand out as being memorable or notable?

Rowan Frandson: In the College of the...
Dennis Maguire: The veterinary college. Outside of this Department of Anatomy.

Rowan Frandson: Well, of course, Harry Gorman had a lot of national recognition. He was AVMA President. He was involved in the early space program. They developed prostheses, all for animals, that were adapted for humans. So he was great. Very well known.

Dennis Maguire: Had an interesting interview with him.


Dennis Maguire: How would you assess the... Let me check this.

Rowan Frandson: Okay.

Dennis Maguire: How would you assess the Department of Anatomy?

Rowan Frandson: On what basis?

Dennis Maguire: On its quality? So... Well, that's a good question, too.

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. Oh, I think it's probably adequate in most respects. I think that the undergraduate program and the veterinary professional program are not too bad and the graduate program is pretty fair.

Dennis Maguire: Does it compare well with other schools?

Rowan Frandson: Oh, I think it depends on what schools you compare it. I don't think it's a Harvard or a Princeton particularly but.. Of course, somebody said the reason they're good is because they say they are. So...

Dennis Maguire: Dr Gorman said something about one of those Ivy League schools. Since someone... Oh, Dr. Phemister is from Cornell-

Rowan Frandson: Yeah, he's from Cornell. That's right.

Dennis Maguire: And although Dr. Gorman has a very high regard for Dr. Phemister and doesn't put him in this class that I'm going to say. He said, "You can always tell a Cornell man, but you can't tell him much."

Rowan Frandson: Yeah. Yeah. I know.

Dennis Maguire: Do you have any strong views on the subject of veterinary ethics and the animal rights movement?

Rowan Frandson: Oh, I suppose to put it in a little bit of context, I was on the Humane Society board for a while and I guess a couple terms. And I think there's no reason to be cruel to animals or unnecessarily rough, that sort of thing. However, I do think sometimes a
professional perhaps can determine a little better of what is cruel and what isn't than some of the little old ladies in tennis shoes. But...

Dennis Maguire: What about animal rights in the field of research? Oh, I shouldn't use that phrase [inaudible 00:29:44].

Rowan Frandson: Animal care and that sort of thing? Huh-uh (affirmative). Yeah, I think there's certainly room for a lot of enforcement of, well, even the rules that are presently on the books and I think there's no excuse for some of the things that do happen in research areas. And I think probably some of the so-called humanities people do more, like particularly psychology, you do some of the maybe less important and more devastating experiments on animals and it's a... I think there's obviously a place for animal experimentation. But doing the 150th experiment to see how painful something is not necessarily the greatest idea.

Dennis Maguire: This is my own personal interest, though. Is there an alternative to the Draves test?

Rowan Frandson: Well, at Tufts, they had a fairly hefty research grant to work on that and they were trying to develop a tissue culture of cornea tissue to use as a substitute. As I understood it, from some of the people there, that actually that test is not all that good anyway. But it's just required by the industry if nothing else to... And I guess maybe FDA requires it, I'm not sure, on cosmetics and so on. And I think something that should be explored more is the work that has been done over here in physiology. Jay Best with his Planaria which probably can respond just as well to many of these toxins as the cornea of a rabbit.

Dennis Maguire: What are your thoughts on the future of veterinary medicine?

Rowan Frandson: Again, I suppose it's just one of the broadest fields and there probably are areas that can be developed. And I guess the Little report was a little bit pessimistic on it. And I have trouble seeing where these students at Tufts, for example, can afford to pay 20000 dollars a year for four years and then maybe take a job that pays 12 or 15000 and pay back their loans or whatever. So I would guess that it may be being a little oversupplied with the number of schools that there are and the size of classes and so on. But that's... So, I really don't have the basis to make a really informed judgment.

Dennis Maguire: Yeah. Do you see any directions that the profession will take, besides economic?

Rowan Frandson: Well, I suppose the obvious answer is more research and more... And that could tie in probably with your animal rights problem of, if there were more veterinarians associated with research institutions, that they could do a better job and they could probably assist in better research. Because I think there's an awful lot of research done on nonstandard, non-healthy animals that is really not very meaningful. That might be one of the ways of establishing some animal rights, would be a little better review or preview systems to determine how the problem's being approached, how the animals
are being cared for or what. That sort of thing. Not just for the cutting down the pain of the animal, which is important, but also to improve the quality of the results.

Dennis Maguire: And some of your colleagues mentioned the possibility of the use of insurance in veterinary services.

Rowan Frandson: Yeah, I guess. Well that's been tried and it might be that it's a possibility. I think it's one of the things that mitigates against that being too much used as it's... When you start looking at economics, it... By the time you get a... You know, if it's a real big bill or a potential bill that's going to be real high, why the owner has the option of not going in for the operation, of scheduling it. Where with people it's a little more difficult to not follow through. So I don't know. It's a possibility, but it's... Might be with very expensive animals, that it might work out pretty well. All right. A little skeptical in the average pet owner.

Dennis Maguire: All right. Guess that about wraps it up.

Rowan Frandson: Is that it? Okay. Well, it wasn't too painful.

Dennis Maguire: Well, thanks very much.

Rowan Frandson: Oh, you're welcome. Yeah. I think there should be a little research done into the validity of the claim that there was no teaching of ethics or jurisprudence prior to a certain individual who's gotten a lot of publicity and found an area for himself that seems to be pretty productive. But that has been a routine course from the very first, of the beginning of this, of the college. And it was not necessarily taught under the title of ethics, but it was covered under jurisprudence.

Dennis Maguire: Jurisprudence.

Rowan Frandson: And was included in ethics. And, just as an example, Gus Cholas taught an ethics course for many years before it was blown up into a...

Dennis Maguire: An issue.

Rowan Frandson: Production.

Dennis Maguire: Glover taught jurisprudence.

Rowan Frandson: Glover taught jurisprudence. I had him as a teacher in jurisprudence. So, it's not something that... It's like the hippies in the '60s discovering sex. It's been done before and maybe even better, but. So... Okay. That's...