

Olga Yankulina

### Live Scientist Reflection Essay

Walking into the library I had no idea what to expect from the interview with Douglas Hallgren. All the knowledge I had of him came from one sheet of paper. Many of those facts seemed foreign to me since I had no previous knowledge concerning microscopic analysis of micrometeorites. After our quick introductions, the interview finally began.

I found Mr. Hallgren's views on education very interesting. The fact that his was the son of Swedish immigrants, who only received an eight grade education was fascinating. Although his parents encouraged him to pursue an education they never fully understood the true value of it. Also, financially they could only afford a community college for him. This did not stop Mr. Hallgren, since he later attended Union College while still working for Ernest Fullman. Mr. Hallgren's views on current education are interesting as well. He believes public schools should make twelfth grade the end point in formal education for many people because the majority of students will not pursue or complete college. This concept is very interesting, since we seem to be drifting away from it more and more.

The other part of the interview that will stay with me for ever is the advice he gave us. Mr. Hallgren dictated to us that "everything you do is important". Coming from a man with a lot of life experience, I am willing to take his advice. For you never know when the information you learned high school or college will be needed. So, next time I'm sitting in a classroom thinking, "when will I ever use this", I'll make sure to keep Mr. Hallgren's words in mind.