



Dear Board of Regents,

Over the summer UAA completed the first phase of the prioritization process, with all academic and administrative functions assessed in terms of alignment with mission and Shaping Alaska's Future. This fall UAA will conduct the post-prioritization process, to assess all academic programs and administrative functions that have been placed in the "transform" and "further review" categories. Those responsible for the programs in these categories will be asked to provide additional input and recommendations in light of the prioritization report. Chancellor's Cabinet will hold a series of meetings and make final recommendations, which will be available by the end of Fall 2014. Implementation of the recommendations will coincide with the development of FY17 budget priorities and PBAC.

Although the prioritization process has caused a sense of uncertainty in some quarters, this across-the-board effort is giving UAA an opportunity to focus future efforts and become a stronger institution. The alignment between prioritization and Shaping Alaska's Future will also provide a good foundation for moving forward in alignment with the University of Alaska's strategic direction.

I am saddened by Provost and Executive Chancellor for Academic Affairs Elisha "Bear" Baker's decision to retire at the end of this year. Bear has provided exemplary leadership during his many years at UAA and I have benefited greatly from his counsel. I am pleased he will continue to see the post-prioritization process through.

As we begin the 2014-2015 academic year, there is much to be proud of at UAA. The Alaska Airlines Center (AAC) opens in early September, the Engineering & Industry Building is on schedule and on budget, our alumni chapters and involvement are growing and UAA faculty and staff are providing customer service that is truly remarkable. As one parent remarked to me: "I want you to know that all of the staff that I dealt with at UAA were exemplary in all of their communications. . . . If these individuals represent the level of professionalism at UAA, I am very grateful my daughters have chosen this university to pursue their higher education."

Best regards,

Tom Case, Chancellor



Campus Kick-Off 2014 was a great success; the excitement of a new year beginning was everywhere.



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate selected UAA and the Stevens Institute of Technology as co-leads for a new Center for Excellence for Maritime Research. Each partner will receive an initial \$1 million cooperative agreement for operations through June 2015.



Green & Gold Gala Sept. 27
This year UAA honors Alumni of Distinction Ted Trueblood, president of Tryck Nyman Hayes Inc. (Ret.), M.S. Engineering '80; Cristy Hickel, program director of Sports Programs for Youth Development, Education & Recreation, B.Ed. Physical Education '86, M.S. Interdisciplinary Studies '80; and Virginia Groeschel, aviation design engineer, B.S. Civil Engineering '06.

Title IX and collegiality

More than 1,000 UAA faculty and staff have completed Title IX training since June. UAA has also provided Title IX training to UAS.

UAA Shaping Alaska's Future

Law School partnership with Willamette

The official signing of the MOU between Willamette School of Law and UAA establishing a 3 + 3 law school takes place Sept. 11.

Leadership transitions



Bart Quimby is the interim dean for the College of Engineering. Bart was also awarded emeritus professor status in May.



Bonnie Nygard is the interim dean for the Community & Technical College. Bonnie has served as associate and interim dean for CTC and assistant provost for Workforce Development & Career Pathway Planning.



John Mouracade, Ph.D., is interim dean for the University Honors College. John has been a faculty member in the Department of Philosophy since arriving at UAA in 2005.



Dan O'Connor is the new college director for Prince William Sound Community College.

Jim MacKenzie is the new assistant vice chancellor for Development. Jim has more than 20 years in non profit, public and private sector management and leadership experience in Alaska.

Dr. John R. Nofsinger holds the William H. Seward Endowed Chair in Finance.

Mark Trahan will return to UAA for a second year as the Atwood Chair of Journalism.

Student Achievement and Success

UAA's Office of Student Affairs developed an online One-Stop Advising page that reduces 38 different banner screens to one screen and 23 clicks to two clicks, to aid advisors and students.

Beginning in fall 2014, advising and orientation are mandatory for all first- and second-year degree-seeking students.

UAA students in kinesiology-related majors placed fifth in the American College of Sports Medicine Student Bowl.

Matt Ostrander won the 2014 Global Debate and Public Policy Challenge in Budapest, Hungary.

Partnerships with K-12

The Anchorage School District held the 2014 Elementary Cross-District In-Service at UAA during which ASD and UAA leadership emphasized their partnership.

UAA signed an MOU with the Anchorage School District paving the way for students enrolled in high school to receive dual credit (high school and college) for college courses at UAA.

UAA's 2014 Summer Engineering Academies, sponsored by BP, served 362 middle and high school students, with waiting lists of more than 50.

Prince William Sound Community College expanded its dual credit program with the Copper River School District.

Public and private partnerships

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation awarded a three-year, \$2.4-million grant to a network of universities (including UAA and UAF), to increase the number of American Indian and Alaska Native students obtaining advanced degrees in STEM disciplines.

Kenai Peninsula College provided support to firefighters and support personnel during the Funny River Horse Trail Fire, including housing, classroom and IT support.

Mary Jane and Ed Phelps established the Frank and Jennie (Kalkman) Clark Scholarship with a gift of \$26,000, to support local students at Mat-Su College.

Mat-Su College celebrated the establishment of a new Mat-Su area alumni chapter with a barbecue in July.

Research supporting Alaska

Dr. Betty Monsour served as executive chair, and UAA researchers presented work at the 20th International Epidemiological Association's World Congress, held in Anchorage in August.

UAA briefed the incoming chair of the Arctic Research Council, Admiral Robert Papp, on social, economic, health and biological Arctic research at UAA as well as work being done by ANSEP.

Accountability to the state of Alaska

The College of Business and Public Policy's experimental economics program has been ranked in the top 10 percent of programs of its kind worldwide.

Savvy \$eawolf- Financial Literacy@UAA provides workshops about student loans.

The UAA/APU Consortium Library received grants to make library resources and tutoring services available to all residents of Alaska.