



## **CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS: From UAS Chancellor Rick Caulfield**

**December 19, 2018**

- **BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

As we enjoy the holiday season, I want to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication that all of you as UAS employees demonstrate in support of our students and the communities we serve. The education we provide transforms lives—providing avenues for students to learn, grow, and improve their lives and those of their families. I'm very grateful for the work you do in support of this mission. Thank you! Gunalchéesh!

The holidays are also a time to share with family and friends. I hope you'll have that opportunity. I also hope that you'll take time to think of those who are less fortunate, and to find ways to support them throughout the year.

- **UAS SHINES IN NEW UA ALUMNI SURVEY!**

Preliminary results from a new McDowell Group 2018 alumni survey show that UAS shines in nearly all major categories. A prominent part of the survey asks alumni about their level of satisfaction with five specific categories: Overall academic experience, overall education, intellectual growth, personal growth, and preparation for your career. For 2018, UAS alums responded with the highest level of satisfaction within the UA system in all five categories. Ninety-one percent of alumni said they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with their overall academic experience, and the same percentage voiced satisfaction with their overall education. And the percentage of those who were 'very satisfied' with UAS rose in all categories between 2014 (the last survey) and 2018. All in all, our recent graduates appear to be very pleased with their UAS experience!

- **BEST WISHES TO DEPARTING VICE CHANCELLOR JOE NELSON**

With the end of the year upon us, we say good-bye to Joe Nelson, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. Joe began his UAS career in 2003 as a part-time mentorship coordinator. Over his 16 year career, Joe went on to become PITAAS Program Director, Associate Vice Provost, Director of Admissions, Dean of Enrollment, and finally Vice Chancellor. Joe is taking on an expanded role with Sealaska, but expects to keep his hand in matters relating to higher education. Noting that leaving UAS is "bittersweet," Joe says "I am confident that there is no place in the world that has this combination of natural beauty and great people who enjoy student success." As Chancellor, I have greatly valued Joe's leadership, his insights to student success for Alaska Native students, and his commitment to the success of all. We wish him and his family well!

Have a restful and rewarding holiday break!