

FROM THE PROVOST: May 2, 2014

- **UAS CELEBRATES STUDENT SUCCESS—CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**

This weekend is a time to celebrate the success of our students. Commencement takes place today in Sitka, tomorrow (Saturday) in Ketchikan, and Sunday in Juneau. There is also a School of Education hooding ceremony taking place today in Anchorage with over 100 participants—graduates, faculty, and families. In total, UAS is awarding some 787 degrees, certificates, occupational endorsements, and workforce credentials. Please join me and Chancellor Pugh in congratulating all of our successful students! We hope you'll attend the commencement ceremonies and wish our students well. Thanks to all faculty and staff who've contributed to the success of our graduates!

- **CELEBRATION OF FACULTY EXCELLENCE—MONDAY, MAY 5**

Following campus commencements we'll celebrate faculty excellence at an event on Monday, May 5 on the Juneau Auke Lake Campus (Glacier View Room, 3-4:30pm). This year's recipients for Faculty Excellence Awards are: TEACHING-Kitty LaBounty (Sitka Campus), RESEARCH-Amanda Sesko (Juneau), SERVICE-Mike Stekoll (Juneau), ADJUNCT INSTRUCTION-Zach Jones (Juneau), and FACULTY ADVISING-Jeff Loftus (Juneau). Videoconferencing will be provided to Sitka Campus so that faculty and staff there can help celebrate Kitty LaBounty's award.

- **UAS STUDENTS AND FACULTY INSTRUMENTAL IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGES**

UAS students, staff, and faculty were instrumental in the passage of HB216 by the Alaska State Legislature—recognizing Alaska Native languages as official languages of the State of Alaska. Several students have told me in recent days that the experience of educating legislators, sitting in legislative galleries, and 'sitting in' the corridors of the Alaska State Capitol to ensure passage was a profound experience of active, engaged learning. Congratulations to those who worked to achieve this result, and to those who regularly provide our students with such opportunities.

- **DEAN OF ARTS & SCIENCES RECRUITMENT MOVING TOWARD COMPLETION**

Two of four finalists for the position of Dean, Arts and Sciences have visited UAS, including both Juneau and either Ketchikan or Sitka campuses. The two remaining finalists will visit next week. The search committee, chaired by David Tallmon, will then make a recommendation to me and to the Chancellor. Please share any comments about the candidates directly with David, whose email is david.tallmon@uas.alaska.edu

A lunch event is planned on Thursday, May 8, to honor the accomplishments of Dean Marsha Sousa who will depart UAS on Friday, May 23. For details contact Anita Parrish in the School of Arts and Sciences.

- **LEADERSHIP TRANSITION PLANNED IN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

School of Management Dean John Blanchard has informed me of his intention to return fully to his tenure-track faculty position as Assistant Professor of Accounting, effective with the 2014-15 academic year. With regret, Chancellor Pugh and I have accepted his decision and have expressed our gratitude for his service as dean. I will be working with faculty and staff to develop a transition plan for recruitment of a new dean.

- **CHANGES IN UAS OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

Dr. Diane Meador, Director of UAS Institutional Effectiveness office, is retiring today. She has done an extraordinary job of working with the UAS community to develop and manage data systems that enable us to meet accreditation obligations, complete timely and meaningful program reviews, and present data essential to meeting our UAS mission and core themes. We will miss her talents, her responsiveness, and her good cheer. The good news is that she's has time to work with our incoming Director, Brad Ewing, who brings strong technical skills and experience to this position. We wish Diane well with her retirement and look forward to working with Brad.

- **PLAN NOW FOR FALL CONVOCATION—AUGUST 19-20**

I met recently with Faculty Senate President Virgil Fredenberg and incoming President Kevin Krein to initiate plans for our UAS Fall Convocation, which will be August 19-20 in Juneau. Please send any suggestions for desired sessions or convocation topics to me, Virgil, and Kevin.

PROVOST READS: ** (a new feature citing academic publications & topics of interest...)

THE ESSENTIAL COLLEGE PROFESSOR: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO AN ACADEMIC CAREER

(Jeffrey L. Buller, 2009, Wiley)

The Essential College Professor is about the "how" and "why" of being a faculty member today. Each chapter deals with the most important information college professors need at their fingertips when confronted by a particular challenge or faced with an exciting opportunity. Written both as a comprehensive guide to an academic career and as a ready reference to be consulted whenever needed, *The Essential College Professor* emphasizes proven solutions over untested theories and stresses what faculty members have to know now in order to be successful in their careers.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 2	UAS Faculty Senate
May 2-4	Commencement activities: Sitka, Ketchikan, Juneau
May 5	Juneau: Master Plan Implementation Committee
May 5	Celebration of Faculty Excellence, 3-4:30pm, Juneau Auke Lake Campus & video
May 5-9	A&S Dean candidates: final visits