

FROM THE PROVOST: May 30, 2014

- **DR. KAREN SCHMITT REJOINS UAS AS DEAN, ARTS AND SCIENCES AND VICE-PROVOST**

Dr. Karen Schmitt, currently serving as Dean of the Community and Technical College at the University of Alaska Anchorage, will begin her new role as UAS Dean, Arts and Sciences and Vice Provost for Research and Sponsored Programs—effective August 4, 2014. Karen previously was employed at UAS as Dean of the School of Management and Career Education. We welcome Karen back to the UAS family! Dr. Jill Dumesnil is currently serving in the Interim Dean/Vice Provost-Research until Karen's arrival.

- **UAS SUMMER ENROLLMENTS SHOW MODEST DECLINE/FALL APPLICATIONS UP**

UAS summer semester enrollment data from May 26 show a modest decline to date in overall UAS headcount and credit hours. The data show a .9% decline in headcount and a 2.1% decline in credit hours. School of Management data show increases in both headcount and credit hours. Juneau and Ketchikan campuses both show increases in summer headcount. Fall semester applications to date appear to be up somewhat, so we'll continue to focus on locking in registrations associated with those applications.

- **PROFESSOR VICKIE WILLIAMS TO SERVE AS INTERIM DEAN, SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

Professor Vickie Williams, SOM faculty member in Accounting, will begin serving as Interim Dean, School of Management effective July 1. She will serve in that capacity until a new dean is recruited. Our current dean, John Blanchard, will return to his regular faculty role as Assistant Professor of Accounting on July 1.

- **UA BOARD OF REGENTS AND STATEWIDE ACADEMIC COUNCIL TO MEET**

The UA Board of Regents will meet in Anchorage next week on June 5-6. The UA Statewide Academic Council, which includes provosts and Faculty Alliance representatives, meets Wednesday, June 4. For the Board agenda, see <https://www.alaska.edu/bor/agendas/2014/jun-5-6/>. In addition, the UA Summit Team (President plus chancellors and provosts) will be meeting with community campus directors from across the state on Tuesday, June 3. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the mission and functions of community campuses within the larger accredited institutions of which they are a part. Drs. Priscilla Schulte, Ketchikan Campus Director, and Jeff Johnston, Sitka Campus Director, will join Chancellor Pugh and me in the meeting along with other Summit Team members.

- **ALASKA MARITIME WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN NOW AVAILABLE**

The new Plan is available at http://www.alaska.edu/files/fsmi/AK-Maritime-Workforce-Dev-Plan_High-Res_5-22-14.pdf. The Plan provides strategic direction for education and training relating to fisheries, seafood processing, and maritime sectors in Alaska's economy. It is a guide for university programs, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, regional training centers, and other providers in the coming years. It was developed with active engagement from industry partners across Alaska.

- **ONLINE PROGRAMS—ALASKA EMBRACES WICHE STATE AUTHORIZATION RECIPROCITY**

Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and Washington have been approved by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) as the first states in the compact's region to become members of the WICHE State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (W-SARA). SARA is a nationwide initiative of states that will make distance education courses and programs more accessible to students across state lines and make it easier for states to regulate and institutions to participate in interstate distance education. For details see <http://www.wiche.edu/news/16974>

- **SCHOOL OF EDUCATION PROPOSES NEW STATEWIDE SUPERINTENDENT ENDORSEMENT**

The UAS School of Education is proposing to offer a new Superintendent Endorsement program to meet pressing needs in Alaska for credentialed K-12 administrative leaders. The endorsement is awaiting final approval by the Alaska State Board of Education.

- **HECLA/GREENS CREEK MINE REINVESTS \$300,000 IN UAS MINE TRAINING**

I joined Chancellor Pugh recently to receive a renewed gift of \$300,000 from Hecla/Greens Creek Mine to support the UAS Center for Mine Training and our Mine Mechanic program. The renewed gift—extending the program another three years—reflects Hecla's continuing support for education and training of local Alaskans seeking good career opportunities in the mining industry. Mike Bell, Director for the Center for Mine Training, has done an excellent job of leading this effort. Also in the mining arena, UAS is participating in a separate TAACCCT grant proposal that would continue to develop UAS as a leader statewide in underground mine training.

PROVOST READS: **

IS COLLEGE WORTH IT? NEW DATA SAY IT IS...

New York Times—May 27, 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/27/upshot/is-college-worth-it-clearly-new-data-say.html?_r=0

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 3	Community campus directors meeting--Anchorage
June 4	Statewide Academic Council (SAC)
June 5-6	UA Board of Regents meeting--Anchorage
June 16-20	Provost away