

FROM THE PROVOST: August 11, 2014

- **WELCOME BACK FACULTY!**

Most UAS faculty are back on contract today, Monday, August 11, for the new academic year. Welcome back! I look forward to working with you, our staff, and our deans and directors in making the 2014-15 year highly productive and enriching for students and the entire UAS community.

- **UAS FALL CONVOCATION PLANNED FOR AUGUST 19-20**

The UAS Fall Convocation takes place on the Juneau Auke Lake Campus on August 19 and 20. You'll find the draft Fall Convocation agenda on the web at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/docs/convocation/2014%20Convocation/DRAFT%20UAS%202014%20Convocation.pdf>

This is a shared governance activity designed to provide time for faculty from our three campuses to meet and to plan for the coming academic year. A major focus of this year's Convocation will be on academic excellence, accreditation, and student learning outcomes.

- **TITLE IX WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED FOR FACULTY AND STAFF—Week of August 18**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. The legislation covers all educational activities, including complaints alleging sex discrimination in fields such as science or math education or in other aspects of academic life such as access to health care and housing. The University of Alaska system is redoubling its efforts to ensure that all employees and students are aware of their rights and responsibilities under Title IX. Workshops for faculty on Title IX will be available during Fall Convocation (Wednesday, August 20) and for staff on Thursday, August 21. In addition, all employees have access to training about Title IX via UAOnline's Skillsoft training; look for "Employee eLearning" under "Employee Services." A self-paced training module took me only 20 minutes to complete and provided a very useful overview of Title IX compliance in higher education.

- **UAS SITKA CAMPUS DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT NOW OPEN**

The opportunity to apply for the UAS Sitka Campus Director position is now open on UAKJobs. You'll find the recruitment announcement at <https://www.uakjobs.com>; select "Executive Jobs." The position is open until filled with a first review of applications after September 21, 2014. I've asked Sitka faculty member Leslie Gordon to serve as chair of the search committee. Please share this information with any individuals who you think might be interested, and distribute the announcement via professional networks, as appropriate.

- **CHANCELLOR SUBMITS UAS FY16 BUDGET PROPOSALS**

I joined Chancellor Pugh at a UA Statewide meeting on August 7 in Fairbanks where he presented our UAS FY16 operating and capital budget proposals. The three operating budget proposals include: 1) Disabilities Services Coordinator, 2) First Year Experience Advisor, and 3) Assistant Professor of Biology/Fisheries. These proposals emerged from the SPBAC (Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee) process over the past year, where a number of possible proposals from Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka campuses were considered. In the end, the Chancellor narrowed the number of proposals to align with direction from UA Statewide and from the Governor's Office. For more about the SPBAC planning and budget process, see <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/vicechancellor/spbac.html>

- **SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT CELEBRATES MASTERS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION GRADUATES**

On Saturday, August 9, I joined faculty and SOM Interim Dean Vickie Williams to celebrate the graduation of 24 MPA graduates. Six graduates were in Juneau for the event (including two from Canada) while others joined online for the ceremony. The event highlighted the character and value of the online MPA program: service to non-traditional, place-bound students; use of innovative instructional technologies; program availability throughout Alaska and western Canada; and enthusiastic faculty and staff. More about the MPA program at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/som/mpa/>

- **APPLY NOW FOR FACULTY AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

UAS faculty and staff have an opportunity to apply for the upcoming **UAS Academic Leadership Seminar** series that will take place from September 2014 through February 2015. The deadline to apply is September 5, 2014. Employees from all three campuses are eligible. For more information, see <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/docs/FacProfDev-Awards/AY14-15%20UAS%20Leadership%20Seminar%20announcement%207.31.14.pdf>

Juneau faculty may apply for a special **August 22 cross-cultural orientation** sponsored by School of Education, the PITAAS program, and Sealaska Heritage Institute. The day-long workshop provides an orientation to the indigenous peoples of Southeast Alaska. New faculty are especially encouraged to apply. Details: <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/docs/fac-dev-semnars/PITAAS%20cultural%20orientation%20opportunity.pdf>

****PROVOST READS****

Interdisciplinary Strategies as Transformative Change in Higher Education

http://www.academia.edu/239951/Interdisciplinary_strategies_as_transformative_change_in_higher_education

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 11	Faculty back on contract—AY14-15
August 12-13	Academic Affairs deans and directors retreat, Juneau
August 15	Retirement event for Carol Hedlin, Juneau Campus, 3:30-5:00pm, Glacier View Rm
August 19-20	UAS Fall Convocation for all fulltime faculty, Juneau Campus
August 20 & 21	Title IX workshops for faculty and staff