

Pat Pitney  
Interim President

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January 11, 2021

Dear UAA Community -

As we begin Spring semester, I want to update you on our search for the next Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). Our search will be national in scope, and it is my intent to hire a chancellor who is deeply committed to and interested in the future of Alaska. I expect to make the appointment no later than the end of April, with that person starting over the summer.

Our process will be transparent, participative, and deliberate with ample opportunity for input. We initially posted the position on our online job search tool on December 23, 2020, and have already received 17 applications from international, national, and local candidates.

I have appointed a search committee that will be tri-chaired by Aleesha Towns-Bain, Executive Director of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation Education Foundation; Kelly Smith, UAA Faculty Senate President; and Preston Simmons, Chief Executive Providence Alaska Region. Other participants on the search committee as recommended by governance groups include:

Christi Bell, Administrator  
Leslie Byrd, Staff  
Matt Cullin, Faculty  
Robin Dalhman, Faculty  
Gokhan Karahan, Faculty  
John Moore, Staff  
Arlene Schmuland, Faculty  
Hilary Seitz, Faculty  
Sharyl Toscano, Faculty  
Toby Widdicombe, Faculty  
Tuan Graziano, Student

CHRO Steve Patin will consult with the committee, which will be supported by the UA and UAA communications teams. Immediate tasks of the committee will be to:

- Propose a search process
- Develop and publish a position profile
- Advertise locally and nationally
- Communicate progress broadly and transparently

Updates on the process and timeline can be found at [www.alaska.edu/pres/uaa-chancellor](http://www.alaska.edu/pres/uaa-chancellor). Additionally, I will update the Board of Regents on our progress at the board meeting this Friday, Jan. 15, on this important and exciting search for UAA's next chancellor.

Sincerely,

Pat Pitney  
Interim President