

Pat Pitney
Interim President

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of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Date December 8, 2021

To Jak Maier, Chair, UA Faculty Alliance

From Pat Pitney, Interim President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat K Pitney".

CC Sean Parnell, UAA Chancellor
Daniel White, UAF Chancellor
Karen Carey, UAS Chancellor
Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students and Research

Re Commitment to tenure and academic freedom

Thank you for the October 26 memo asking that “the administrators at the University of Alaska reiterate their commitment to supporting tenure and an intellectual climate in which the faculty are at liberty to conduct and publish their research, teach their students, and speak publicly as citizens without qualification, hindrance, or censure.”

The principles of academic freedom, freedom of speech and the institution of tenure are core to universities in the United States. Through its policies, regulations and practices the University of Alaska supports these principles.

As Interim President of the University of Alaska system, I reiterate my personal commitment to supporting the institution of tenure as well as the intellectual climate that supports the concepts of academic freedom and responsibility and that protects the constitutional rights of our employees, students and citizens of Alaska.