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Acting President

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Dear UAS Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to announce that I have appointed Dr. Karen Carey to serve as Interim Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast (UAS). Dr. Carey will begin July 1, succeeding outgoing UAS Chancellor Rick Caulfield.

Dr. Carey's extensive experience with UAS, her distinguished career as an academic leader and her love for the university makes me confident that she will be a strong leader and will do an outstanding job as Interim Chancellor.

As you are aware, earlier this month the Board of Regents commenced a process to evaluate options for UAS' future. As a result, the search for a permanent replacement for Chancellor Caulfield was suspended and nominations were solicited from the Southeast community for an interim chancellor. Dr. Carey's name stood out as a great candidate for leading UAS during this interim period.

Carey joined the University of Alaska Southeast as Provost four years ago this week. She earned her Ph.D. in School Psychology from University of Cincinnati, and came to UAS from the California State University Channel Islands, in Ventura, California, where she served as the Dean of Arts & Sciences. In that role she was responsible for strategic planning and student learning as well as managing academic programs with more than 200 faculty.

As UAS Provost, Carey collaborates with faculty to support the teaching, research, and service missions of UAS. She maintains strong working relationships with deans, campus directors in Sitka and Ketchikan, department chairs, and other faculty and staff to ensure high-quality academic performance and institutional effectiveness of the university. Dr. Carey also serves as the academic liaison with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and University to maintain UAS' accreditation, and is responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable standards and reporting expectations.

I have enjoyed the opportunities that I have had to work with Dr. Carey, and look forward to continuing that collaboration throughout this transition period.

Finally, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Rick Caulfield for his unwavering devotion to this university demonstrated through more than 35 years of dedicated and distinctive service. Rick will leave his post as UAS chancellor on June 30, but he will never be far from our university or our hearts and shall forever be recognized with the honor of Chancellor Emeritus.

Congratulations to interim chancellor Karen Carey and best wishes to Rick Caulfield in retirement.

Michelle Rizk
Acting UA President