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Acting President

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July 1, 2020

Dear UA Colleagues –

I'd like to wish each of you a happy Independence Day, and a long, relaxing weekend. As we commemorate the anniversary of America's independence, I also am mindful that July is the start of the new fiscal year, which allows us to begin again with a renewed spirit and sense of purpose. We've faced numerous challenges this past year, but moving forward, we can forge new collaborations and opportunities as we come together to support a strong, diverse university community.

Americans came together 244 years ago when the signers of the Declaration of Independence recognized our unalienable rights including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. While we take the time to celebrate our nation's rich history, we also continually strive to become a more inclusive, respectful and caring place.

I also want to take the opportunity to say thank you to all of you for your dedication to the University of Alaska, and for making our many communities and campuses stronger and more responsive to the needs of all Alaskans.

Have a wonderful holiday,

Michelle Rizk
Acting UA President