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Nov. 25, 2025

Dear UA Community,

I'm writing to share an update on the search for UA's next permanent president.

### **Listening Sessions with Search Firm Scheduled for the Week of Dec. 8**

As President Pitney shared a couple of weeks ago, the Board of Regents has retained [WittKieffer](#), an executive search firm, to assist in the search for UA's next president.

As we prepare for the search, WittKieffer would greatly value your input. To that end, we have scheduled several engagement sessions for students, staff, and faculty across the UA System to provide feedback. You can find the complete schedule of listening sessions and register for yours [here](#).

**While WittKieffer will be prepared to answer your questions about the search, the main purpose of these conversations is to listen to you and your colleagues.** Below are the questions WittKieffer plans to pose:

- What are the things you would like for the new president to accomplish?
- What are the qualifications and qualities a president needs to achieve the above, and to thrive in the role?
- What makes you proud to be part of the Alaska community, and excited about the future?

We have also created an anonymous feedback survey for those unable to attend in person or via Zoom that will be available beginning December 8 through the close of business on December 12.

The feedback from the survey and listening sessions will help the Board and WittKieffer finalize the president position profile and description so applications can be accepted, likely beginning in January.

A few additional notes about the listening sessions:

- **These sessions are for UA students, staff, and faculty.** WittKieffer will also seek additional feedback through separate, in-person listening sessions open to the general public in Juneau, Fairbanks, and Anchorage during their visit.
- **All sessions will be both in-person and available via Zoom.** If you choose to attend via Zoom, register with your UA email, as that will be required for you to log in and view the session.

- **The listening sessions will not be livestreamed or recorded.**
- **Please attend or register for the sessions based on the University where you work or are enrolled.** Community Campus students and employees should attend or register for the session at their main campus: Juneau, Fairbanks, or Anchorage.

WittKieffer will be represented by search consultants [Melody Rose, Ph.D.](#), [Shelley Arakawa, J.D.](#) and [Maya E. Holt-Brockenbrough, Ph.D.](#)

Should you have any candidate nominations or other thoughts to share, please email the WittKieffer team at: [UAlaskaPresident@wittkieffer.com](mailto:UAlaskaPresident@wittkieffer.com).

We thank you in advance for your engagement in this important search!

Sincerely,



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