SEARCH PROSPECTUS:

Provost Search

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE™
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THE SEARCH

The University of Alaska Anchorage invites applications and nominations for the position of Provost. Reporting directly to Chancellor Cathy Sandeen, the next provost is expected to assume office in summer 2020.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Surrounded by natural beauty in an urban environment, the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) offers a gateway to innovative thinking, learning and exploration. With a total student population of nearly 18,000, UAA is the largest of Alaska’s three public post-secondary institutions in the University of Alaska system. While the main campus is in Anchorage, UAA includes community campuses in Homer, Kodiak, Palmer, Soldotna, and Valdez, as well as Middle Colleges for high school students in Anchorage, Palmer and Eagle River. UAA is a comprehensive university whose core missions are excellence, student success, access, and workforce development. UAA offers programs leading to the associate, baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees, as well as vocational and professional certificates. UAA students experience a hands-on education, in and out of the classroom, with unique opportunities in academics, research and leadership, both locally and globally. UAA’s students and faculty come from diverse backgrounds, yet the university community is firmly rooted in Alaska. Together, the community celebrates the cultural richness of its Southcentral Alaska location, the ancestral homelands of the Dena’ina Athabascan, Ahtna Athabascan, Alutiiq/ Sugpiaq, and Eyak peoples.
MISSION

The mission of the University of Alaska Anchorage is to discover and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, engagement, and creative expression. Located in Anchorage and on community campuses in Southcentral Alaska, UAA is committed to serving the higher education needs of the state, its communities, and its diverse peoples. The University of Alaska Anchorage is an open access university with academic programs leading to occupational endorsements, undergraduate and graduate certificates, and associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in a rich, diverse, and inclusive environment.

UAA 2020: STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-20

UAA 2020 has been designed as a response to fiscal uncertainty by shortening the active timeframe to three years and focusing on a limited number of goals to advance student success. Over these three years, UAA seeks to (1) advance the culture of institutional excellence that inspires and enables student, faculty and staff success; (2) have more students persist and complete their educational goals, and (3) graduate more students to fulfill Alaska’s needs. UAA will continue to assess its progress, accomplishments, the external environment, as the community prepares for the next comprehensive, inclusive strategic planning process in which the new Provost will play a pivotal role.

ABOUT THE CHANCELLOR

Dr. Cathy Sandeen is a dynamic educational leader who is committed to providing opportunities for more Alaskans to earn degrees and credentials through strategic innovation. She began serving as chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage in September 2018.

Prior to joining the University of Alaska system, Sandeen was chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Colleges and UW-Extension for four years. As vice president for education attainment and innovation at the American Council on Education (ACE), she led ACE’s nationwide effort to increase post-secondary educational attainment.

She also held leadership positions in the University of California system including at UCLA, Santa Cruz and San Francisco.

Sandeen earned a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Utah and a Master of Business Administration degree from the UCLA Anderson School of Management. She was named an American Council on Education Fellow in 2010-11.

A prolific writer and speaker, Sandeen has published and presented widely on the issues surrounding educational innovation and nontraditional students.
ABOUT ANCHORAGE

Anchorage is the largest city in Alaska with an ethnically and culturally diverse population of about 300,000. Residents have access to world-class arts, entertainment, restaurants and recreational activities, including two planetariums, the Imaginarium Science Discovery Center, the Anchorage Museum, and the Alaska Native Heritage Center. The Anchorage School District is one of the 100 largest in the United States and one of the most diverse in the nation, with over 100 languages spoken by students.

Located between the Chugach Mountains and Cook Inlet, Anchorage has a moderate, northern maritime climate with average winter temperatures around 20 degrees F and average summer temperatures around 65 degrees F. On the summer solstice, Anchorage receives 20 hours of daylight compared to the winter solstice where it receives about five and a half hours. Anchorage offers year-round outdoor recreation and natural beauty with ready access to state and national forests and parks, as well as a network of 259 miles of hiking, biking, skiing, and dog-mushing trails, and more than 120 municipal parks.

UAA is located in the University and Medical (UMED) District, which is the second largest employment center in Alaska. The UMED District includes two of the largest hospitals in the state as well as the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, the state psychiatric hospital, the largest juvenile justice facility, and two universities. UAA maintains strong relationships with its UMED partners for community engaged teaching, research, and service, including the Consortium Library which serves both UAA and Alaska Pacific University. UAA’s main campus also maintains close connections with Anchorage-based government, business, and nonprofit employers, giving students a wide range of opportunities for internships, research and real-world experience.

The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is the largest airport in Alaska, offering flights to destinations in the lower 48 and to international destinations.
STUDENTS

UAA supports Alaska’s workforce development by educating traditional undergraduate students as well as a large number of working degree-seeking students, enrolling nearly 18,000 at the Anchorage campus and across the community campuses. Nearly 60% of students are female and 40% male, and 91% of students are Alaska residents. 33.4% identify as a racial or ethnic minority. The average age of UAA students is 28.5 years, with 53% above age 25. There is an opportunity to increase UAA’s international student population and increase the number of students served from out of state. UAA is largely a commuter community, and 59% of students in Anchorage attend part time, as do 86% of students at the community campuses.

UAA’s intercollegiate athletics program plays an integral role in engaging the community and state. The University is home to two Division I sports teams and seven Division II sports teams. UAA Athletics has routinely ranked in the top 10 percent nationally in the prestigious Learfield Director’s Cup and is headquartered in the Alaska Airlines Center, UAA’s on-campus 5,000-seat, state-of-the-art sports complex. In the last ten years, Seawolf Athletics has produced 224 All-Americans, 42 Conference Team Titles, 221 Individual Conference Champions, and 15 Individual National Championships.

Students engage in over 100 clubs and organizations on campus including academic and social, as well as five Greek organizations. UAA boasts an amazing on-campus housing community that features a variety of housing and dining options. UAA is also home to a variety of engaging student-run organizations, such as Concert Board, KRUA 88.1 FM radio station, Seawolf Debate, The Northern Light newspaper, and USUAA. The Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage (USUAA) is recognized by the University of Alaska Board of Regents as the governing body for students enrolled at UAA.

Student Affairs and Academic Affairs collaborate regularly to plan and review enrollment strategies, and to ensure supportive and developmental experiences that help students establish a deep sense of belonging, connections with the campus, and activities that synthesize curricular and co-curricular learning experiences.
THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The University of Alaska Anchorage is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (reaffirmed in Feb. 2019). Prior to 1974, UAA existed as an extension of the University of Alaska with no separate accreditation status. Since the merger of the University of Alaska and Community College systems in 1987, a single accreditation status has applied to all campuses of UAA. Following the 2018 self-study and site visit, in January 2019 the Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities reaffirmed UAA’s institutional accreditation. Planning is already underway for the next cycle, including NWCCU’s new Eligibility Requirements and Standards. In addition, more than 40 of UAA’s academic programs have been recognized for the high quality of their programs through approval and/or accreditations based on discipline or professional standards.

The UAA campus in Anchorage offers a full complement of programs and courses, including in high-demand fields such as engineering, health, business and education, as well as in the liberal arts and sciences. UAA career and technical education programs are closely aligned with Alaska’s core industries, such as tourism, aviation, geology, fisheries, oil and gas. Many courses are designed with the flexibility to accommodate students who work or have a family, and the campus houses a range of student success and support centers. A growing number of programs and courses are delivered using asynchronous and hybrid in-class/distance delivery modalities.

COMMUNITY CAMPUSES

Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) has locations throughout the Kenai Peninsula and in Anchorage. KPC is comprised of four sites: Kenai River Campus in Soldotna; Kachemak Bay Campus in Homer; Resurrection Bay Extension Site in Seward; and the Anchorage Extension Site at the University Center. KPC offers two-year Associate of Arts and Associate of Applied Science degrees, as well as providing career and technical education and programs directed at meeting Alaska’s workforce development needs. KPC also provides programs leading to baccalaureate degrees that can usually be obtained entirely at KPC, and a number of other four-year degree programs are available at KPC via distance delivery through other University of Alaska campuses.

Kodiak College offers nine academic degree programs as well as industry certificates and vocational training in high demand workforce areas. Kodiak College has state-of-the-art technology, academic support and counseling, and a dynamic, professional faculty to serve students. Classes are offered in person, by distance delivery and in compressed or hybrid formats for convenience.
Matanuska-Susitna College (Mat-Su) main campus is located on a 950-acre site about halfway between Palmer and Wasilla. A modern 102,676 square foot facility houses the majority of the educational activities. Mat-Su offers a general program for the first two years of college courses leading to the Associate of Arts degree, as well as courses leading to several associate of applied science degrees. Mat-Su College also offers vocational programs, professional development courses, and provides selected college level classes to area high school students through Tech Prep, academic concurrent enrollment, and District-wide course agreements with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District.

Prince William Sound College (PWSC) has its main campus in the historic community of Valdez with extensions in Cordova and the Copper Basin. Located in South-central Alaska, PWSC serves a geographic area of more than 44,000 square miles. PWSC provides a number of academic and training curricular tracks and a number of non-traditional special interest courses for students and community members to practice lifelong learning.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
While recent statewide discussions on the university budget and restructuring have focused attention on the academic programs and possibilities for consolidation, the University of Alaska Anchorage has continued to offer innovative and comprehensive programs, including certificates, as well as associate, baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees through six academic units: the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business and Public Policy, the College of Engineering, the College of Health, the Community & Technical College, and the School of Education. The Graduate School is home to graduate students across all academic programs at the UAA, and the Honors College is a learning community that funds experiential learning and research opportunities that take students beyond the classroom to engage in personalized programs and working in partnership with faculty.

The College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) is the largest college in the University of Alaska system, serving over 8,500 students each semester in 37 different degree programs, as well as master’s and Ph.D. programs. Among the CAS offerings are degree programs that prepare professionals to fill high demand jobs in Alaska in biology, chemistry, geology, anthropology, psychology, journalism and mass media; critical courses in science and mathematics for students preparing for careers in other high-demand areas such as engineering, nursing and other health occupations; a thriving low-residency program in creative writing, offering intensive workshops during the summer; the Confucius Institute, supported by the Chinese Ministry of Education to promote Chinese language and culture with outreach to businesses and schools in the community; and the UAA Planetarium and Visualization Theater, a cutting-edge, full-dome experience with an all-digital definition projector system made by Sky-Skan, Inc. CAS is also a growing center of research, scholarship and creativity and, with grants from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities and other funding agencies, the college has doubled its research funding approximately every seven years. CAS also takes pride in its many partnerships with agencies and institutions throughout the state, among them the Anchorage School District, National Park Service, USGS, U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Native corporations, Providence Hospital, Centers for Disease Control, National Writing Project, the U.S. Department of the Interior. The college serves as an important center for the arts in Anchorage and the state, offering traditional and experimental theatre at the Mainstage, dynamic performances by the Dance Program, musical performances by students, faculty and visiting artists, and readings by writers and poets from around the state and across the country during the summer writing program residency.
The College of Business and Public Policy (CBPP) is an AACSB-accredited program committed to preparing students for leadership at the frontiers of a changing world and to serving as a catalyst for Anchorage’s emergence as a thriving business city in the 21st century. The College offers several degree programs: Associate, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Public Administration, and Master of Science in Global Supply Chain Management through the departments of Accounting & Finance, Economics & Public Policy, Information Systems & Decision Sciences, and Management & Marketing. The College has an impressive faculty who bring a wide range of academic, research, and industry expertise to students and community partners. The Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) is another strong contributor to innovation and research at the CBPP and has been at the forefront of public policy research in Alaska for more than half a century. The faculty and staff actively contribute their applied research to enhance the knowledge of social and economic systems which in turn supports an informed Alaska and private decision-making.

The College of Engineering (CoEng) offers Bachelor’s degrees in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Computer Systems Engineering, Computer Sciences and Geomatics (Surveying and Mapping) and graduate degrees in Project Management, Mechanical and Civil Engineering. The four engineering disciplines (CE, CSE, EE and ME), Computer Science and Geomatics are ABET-accredited. The MS Project Management program is accredited by PMI-GAC. The College also offers collaborative degrees in Chemical Engineering with Washington State University and Mining and Geological Engineering as well as a PhD in Engineering with the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Engineering & Industry Building and revitalized Engineering & Computation Building offer state-of-the-art labs, classrooms and collaborative learning spaces where students gain the tools and skills they need to solve 21st century problems. The College’s location near all major Alaskan employers of engineering talent has enabled 74% of job-seeking students to secure positions before they graduate. The Alaska Department of Labor has projected the state will need 300 new computer and engineering professionals annually through 2022, and UAA’s College of Engineering is committed to producing cutting-edge graduates ready to energize the state’s growing engineering, technology and management community.

The College of Health (COH) is committed to advancing the health and well-being of people and communities. Offering more than 45 certificate or degree program options, the UAA College of Health is leading the statewide health program planning to meet Alaska’s growing healthcare workforce demands. Many of the College’s programs offer advanced degrees enabling graduates to continue to develop in their professions over time. In addition, robust and growing faculty and student research at both the graduate and undergraduate levels help policy makers to address the many health care challenges Alaska faces. By building on this strong foundation and expanding programs across the state, the College will meet the challenge set by the Board of Regents to double the number of health graduates by 2025. Nursing and allied health degrees, as well as partnership for the MD through the WWAMI program, create a full complement of high-quality and innovative health service offerings.

The Community and Technical College (CTC), comprised of the departments of Communication, Quantitative Studies and Writing, offers more than 20 certificate, associate and bachelor’s degrees plus general education courses in Writing, Math and
Communication. CTC is also home to UAA’s Army ROTC program as well as the Learning Commons, which offers learning support resources for all UAA students and the community. Individuals and groups can study, access open computer labs, collaborate on projects, hold meetings in small-group study areas, or get extra help for classes. An Academic Coaching Center helps students develop effective academic skills and contributes to student success. The Communication Center supports student public speaking activities across all disciplines and for all levels. The Math Lab helps students build their math and reasoning skills at all levels. Science tutoring is offered for a few specific courses each semester. The Writing Center offers English language writing and disciplinary literacy, and the Center for Language Learning offers tutoring for students enrolled in languages classes.

The School of Education offers accredited programs in Early Childhood (AAS), Educational Leadership (MEd and Graduate Certificate), Teaching & Learning (MEd), Language Educations (Graduate Certificate), Speech-Language Pathology (Minor or Post-Baccalaureate Certificate; MS through affiliated program with East Carolina University), Special Education (MEd & Graduate Certificate), and Early Childhood Special Education (MEd) as well as Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) 500-level courses. With the recent suspension of UAA’s initial licensure programs within the School, the School is committed to helping students find a path to complete the degree and receive licensure or pursue other opportunities within the School. At the same time, the faculty is working on an accreditation self-study for the Educational Leadership, Special Education and Language Education programs to be submitted to CAEP in the Fall of 2020. Additionally, during the Fall of 2019, the faculty is participating with colleagues from Juneau and Fairbanks in a review of the Master of Education, Post-baccalaureate, Graduate Certificate, and AAS Early Childhood programs offered at all three campuses in an effort to determine where there are opportunities to create more efficiency within the UA system.

The Graduate School contributes to the advancement of knowledge through research and instruction. The Graduate School encourages qualified undergraduates to pursue graduate study, seeks to foster in each graduate student a spirit of inquiry and a quality of scholarship or artistic excellence consistent with the highest traditions in graduate work, and prepares graduates who are able to assume the professional and scholarly responsibilities of educated persons in a free society. The Graduate School aspires to be a leading driver of high-quality graduate education, dedicated to the embodiment of academic and creative excellence, resulting in scholars, researchers, and practitioners committed to and capable of continually broadening the scope of academic discourse, discovery, and innovation.
Established in 1917, The University of Alaska is a land-, sea- and space-grant system of higher education that serves more than 26,000 full- and part-time students. The UA system’s three universities—University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and University of Alaska Southeast—are separately accredited institutions with 13 community campuses and extended learning centers across the state. The University of Alaska Board of Regents is the governing board of the University of Alaska system. The Board consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Alaska Legislature. Members serve an eight year term, with the exception of the student regent who is nominated from their campus and serves a two-year term. The Board was established through the Alaska Constitution and is responsible for University of Alaska policy and management through the University President.

The University of Alaska’s System Governance Council provides a forum and mechanism whereby faculty, staff and students may present issues and positions for discussion throughout the university system; may seek mutual support, may speak with a common voice, and may act together on issues affecting the general welfare of the university system community as a whole.

Council members are elected from the system-wide Faculty Alliance, Staff Alliance, and Coalition of Student Leaders which, in turn, are comprised of members of the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, and student government organizations from the campuses. Offices reporting to the Provost include Academic Affairs, Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), Alaska Natives & Diversity, Institutional Effectiveness, Engagement & Academic Support, Research & Graduate Studies, and Student Success.
LEADERSHIP AGENDA FOR THE NEXT PROVOST OF UAA

The next Provost at UAA will find a forward-looking, cooperative, conscientious, and inclusive community of faculty, staff and students poised to help advance the university through thoughtful, strategic and collaborative interactions that will secure UAA’s position as a state higher education leader. Primary among opportunities and challenges are the following items:

• Leading the campus to address systemic factors that impact enrollment and resource allocation in the context of the statewide higher education reforms, workforce needs and demographic trends. This important work must appreciate how many different factors work together in an integrated fashion, rather than as discrete, individual projects. Collaboration with enrollment management, student support and faculty governance will be essential in this effort.

• Ensuring adherence to shared governance principles as specified by the AAUP, to processes in the collective bargaining agreement with the faculty union (UNAC) and to the policies of the Alaska Board of Regents.

• Overseeing effective management systems (such as business process and curricular alignment), development of relevant collateral programs (such a degree-completion, blended HS-to-college programs, and workforce learning opportunities), equitable and transparent personnel policy and administration and excellence in faculty and staff development programs (for example, administrator and faculty mentoring, compliance training and other professional development) in close collaboration with deans and community campus directors.

• Encouraging and fostering innovative learning practices, excellence and innovation in teaching, creative leadership approaches, process effectiveness, and areas of distinction that ensure UAA’s ongoing relevance to the state and world.

• Engaging campus members in fostering an inclusive community that recognizes and supports different identities and life experiences at UAA, fulfilling UAA’s central commitment to diversity.

• Using a data-informed approach to student success, continuing the momentum toward developing innovative and high-impact support services and creating alliances with campus colleagues and community partners (e.g., Native communities, K-12, business, industry, organizations) to improve student readiness and career preparation.

• Working collaboratively within the shared governance structure to implement changes suggested by the expedited program review, which will be completed prior to the Provost’s appointment. This program review will likely have resulted in some difficult decisions about program array, and it will be important for the Provost to ensure that UAA’s value of respect for students, staff, and faculty is upheld.

• Advancing support that enhances the visibility of UAA’s research contributions critical to the Arctic region and the rest of the world, including economics, public policy, fisheries management, climate change, engineering, and resource extraction. This includes research that has local and global impacts, and which creates pioneering field internships and research opportunities for students as well and has resulted in inventions, patents and start-up companies.

• Promoting and celebrating the contributions of UAA’s faculty and students to their local communities, the state, the nation and the world.
REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

• Earned terminal degree
• A record of scholarship, research and service commensurate with appointment at the rank of full professor
• Progressively responsible leadership experience at the dean level or above
• Experience with and commitment to shared governance

• Demonstrated experience with budgeting and resource allocation
• Ability to use data and assessment to inform decision making
• Experience and commitment to student success efforts in a diverse learning environment

DESIRED EXPERIENCE AND ATTRIBUTES

• Strong communication skills
• Experience in the strategic leadership of program management and resource allocation decisions through a collaborative and inclusive process
• Familiarity with two-year, four-year, and graduate degrees
• Understanding of remote regional campuses
• A leadership style that is transparent, approachable and authentic
• Strength of character, integrity and personal ethics
• A collaborative and good-natured management style that brings people together
• Ability to inspire constituents toward a shared vision with a sense of optimism
• A forward-thinking and open-minded approach that balances stability, creativity and improved effectiveness
• Ability to engage effectively with and act upon inputs from diverse campus and community stakeholders
The University of Alaska Anchorage is being assisted by Academic Search, Inc. Prospective candidates and nominators may arrange a confidential discussion with senior consultants:

Stacey Morgan Foster, J.D.  
stacey.foster@academicsearch.org

Andrea Warren Hamos, Ph.D.  
andrea.hamos@academicsearch.org

Applications should be submitted electronically to: UAAProvost@academicsearch.org and must include a cover letter that addresses the qualifications and desired experiences as outlined above, a curriculum vitae, and a list of five professional references with contact information, including telephone and email, and a notation indicating the candidate’s working relationship with each. References will not be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate. This position is open until filled, but only applications received by February 23, 2020 can be assured full consideration.

For additional information about University of Alaska Anchorage, please visit www.uaa.alaska.edu.

University Non-Discrimination Statement  
The University of Alaska Anchorage is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. The University of Alaska does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, citizenship, age, sex, physical or mental disability, status as a protected veteran, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, or other legally protected status. The University's commitment to nondiscrimination, including against sex discrimination, applies to students, employees, and applicants for admission and employment. Contact information, applicable laws, and complaint procedures are included on UA’s statement of nondiscrimination available at www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination.

Applicants must be eligible for employment under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 and subsequent amendments. Application for employment with the University of Alaska is subject to public disclosure.

Notice of Availability of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report  
The University of Alaska Anchorage is committed to assisting all members of the community in providing for their own safety and security. The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is available at https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/safety. If you would like a hard copy of the report, stop by the University of Alaska Anchorage Police Department Office at 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage AK 99508 or request a copy be mailed to you by calling 907-786-1120. The report contains information, as required by law, regarding campus security and personal safety. The report also contains information about fire statistics in campus residential facilities and crime statistics for the three previous calendar years that occurred on campus; property owned or controlled by the University; and public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search, Inc. is assisting University of Alaska Anchorage in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services exclusively to institutions of higher education. Academic Search was founded on the principle of strengthening higher education leadership through professional search services. We are the only search firm in the nation with a formal relationship to a premier leadership development program. As the subsidiary of the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI), Academic Search provides substantial financial support to a number of leadership identification, development, and support programs across all sectors of public and private higher education. For more information, visit http://www.academicsearch.org/.

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