

The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) has initiated a process to create a Diversity Action Plan. Chancellor Case and Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Alaska Natives and Diversity Breinig asked the three of us to serve in the capacity of tri-chairs.

We have organized a Diversity Summit in order to initiate conversations and presentations. We would like to begin our consultation by inviting key groups and individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to social inclusion and equity on our campus. We would like to hear about your accomplishments and points of pride. We also want to hear what you think are ongoing concerns at UAA, in our community, and in Alaska. Finally, we need your assistance in identifying groups to consult with in our ongoing work to understand UAA's diversity and inclusion needs.

We believe consultations like this will help us understand the work that remains to be done. We invite you to attend as much of the day as your schedule can accommodate on February 12 from 9am - 5pm and if you wish, please develop a 10-15 minute presentation to share points of pride, areas of concern, and recent projects or research that could be helpful to the process. If you are unable to present please attend and participate in the conversation.

We will be developing this plan through purposeful engagement and consultation with the full range of campus and community stakeholders, including campus governance representatives, the Chancellor's cabinet, faculty, staff, students and alumni. This Diversity Summit will be the first of a series of many gatherings as we move forward in developing a Diversity Action Plan.

A list of invited groups and a general agenda for the day will follow. Please consider joining us in this conversation and listening to the great work UAA has done and aiding us in charting an even brighter future for all of our students and the communities we serve.

Dr. E. Andre Thorn Director of the UAA Multi-Cultural Center Dr. Robert Boeckmann Professor of Psychology Dr. Maria Williams Director, AKNS