April 24, 2021

To: Denise Runge, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
   Lora Volden, Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

From: Bruce Schultz, Interim Chancellor

CC: Susan Kalina, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness
    Lindsey Chadwell, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services
    Full Council of Deans and Directors
    Mara James, Education Abroad Coordinator
    David Racki, International Student Admission Officer

Re: Education Abroad and International Exchange for summer 2021, fall 2021, and spring 2022.

As UAA phases back to in-person offerings, we will also cautiously phase back into education abroad opportunities for our students. UAA values these opportunities and looks forward to the time when we will be back to full implementation. Please see the following guidance for summer 2021, fall 2021, and spring 2022.

- There will be no incoming or outgoing education abroad programming (study abroad, international exchanges, direct enrollment in partner institutions) in summer 2021.
- There will be no international exchanges (outgoing or incoming placements) or outgoing direct enrollment with UAA partner institutions in fall 2021 or spring 2022.
- There will be study abroad through third party providers in fall 2021. Decisions about spring 2022 will be made at a later time. Students wishing to participate through a third party provider will be asked to sign a waiver and will also be informed that the third party providers maintain the right to cancel at any time, due to travel restrictions, health and safety concerns, and/or other COVID-related or other considerations. If students are already abroad on a program, UAA may require students to return, in the case of a cancellation. Participating students must still meet UAA’s minimum eligibility requirements for education abroad, and no education abroad will be allowed in countries with a U.S. State Department Travel Advisory of 3 or higher.
- UAA reserves the right to change the above guidance at any time, depending on travel restrictions, health and safety concerns, and/or COVID-related or other considerations.

The Education Abroad Coordinator will communicate this guidance to UAA students who have applied for outgoing education abroad and to UAA’s international partners. UAA students have already been advised to work with their academic advisers to develop back-up plans for taking courses at UAA and progressing in their degrees.
The International Student Admission Officer will communicate this to any students who have applied for summer, fall, or spring placements through international exchange partnerships.

Education abroad is a transformative, high-impact educational practice that changes lives, expands future opportunities for our students, and connects the world in positive ways. It is, therefore, with regret that I make this decision.

This is difficult news for our students, and UAA will work with them to ensure continuity in their academic planning.

Please communicate this decision as needed.