Dear UAA Community,

After several weeks of consultation with UAA’s Incident Management Team (IMT) and university leaders, I have decided that UAA will remain in Phase B of the university system’s COVID-19 response plan for the fall 2020 semester.

By their very nature, universities are places where people gather in person -- to learn, study, work and socialize. The constant flow of people in and out of campus poses an elevated risk of spreading COVID-19, creating an uncertain environment for fall.

It’s important we have clarity regarding how we will operate so that we can offer our students the very best educational experience as they attend college during this pandemic. By making a decision now, administration can thoughtfully plan and intentionally communicate with students, staff and faculty and foster a culture of success.

Cases continue to spike in Alaska, and it’s critical we balance safety with academic rigor. Our UAA team will continue to work with municipality and state leadership as we consider future plans to transition back to campus life.

What does Phase B mean at UAA?
Phase B is characterized by medium risk and medium levels of precautionary measures. You will find information about UAA’s operations on the University of Alaska COVID-19 information website.

- UAA fall classes will be delivered primarily via alternate delivery methods; however, some classes will be offered in-person. At this time, UAOnline is being updated to provide accurate, up-to-date information on fall course
delivery. I encourage students to register for their fall classes.

- The majority of staff, faculty and students should continue to work remotely.
- Deans, directors and unit leads should continue to follow the prescribed process for in-person and remote work, particularly with regard to campus access due to face-to-face course delivery.
- Please note that the guidelines within the statewide framework also apply to Seawolf Athletics. News about fall competition is forthcoming.

This is a challenging time, but we are resilient. UAA is committed to supporting the health and safety of our community and state. Let's all do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you, I will continue to communicate with you every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Cathy Sandeen
UAA Chancellor