

June 6, 2016

Dear UA Community,

After a review of nearly a dozen applications, I am submitting the name of Dr. Dana L. Thomas as University of Alaska Fairbanks Interim Chancellor to the Fairbanks community for comment/feedback, and will consult with UAF governance before making a final decision by June 30.

Of the many great candidates who stepped forward and offered their expertise and energy to lead UAF during the next year, there was one person whose qualifications, reputation and experience stood out from all others and that person is Dana Thomas.

If appointed, Dr. Thomas, the former vice president of academic affairs and research, would lead the UAF's 3,400 faculty/staff and 9,800 students for the next 12 months, succeeding Interim Chancellor Mike Powers who steps down August 1.

In my May message I discussed the involvement of the Fairbanks and UAF community in the selection process. A **public forum is planned for June 16 on the UAF campus**, and a feedback form can be found at www.alaska.edu/pres/uaf-interim-chancellor-se/.

As interim chancellor, Thomas would lead UAF through its continued evolution as the premier Arctic research university, the continued commitment to campus safety, efforts to complete the UAF engineering building, and the celebration of UAF's 100th anniversary in 2017.

Sincerely,

Jim Johnsen
President

Thomas' letter of application and full CV can be found at <http://www.alaska.edu/pres/uaf-interim-chancellor-se/>.