

Dr. Christopher J. Jochum **Biographical Sketch**

Dr. Christopher Jochum currently serves as the Chair of the Department of Teacher Education at Fort Hays State University (FHSU) where he leads one of the largest teacher preparation programs in the state of Kansas. With an enrollment of approximately 1,000 students, his department offers virtual and on-campus degree programs in all areas related to PK-12 licensure. Dr. Jochum's previous appointments include the University of Nebraska at Kearney as an Associate Professor of Foreign Language Education and Spanish, the University of Central Missouri as an Assistant Professor of Secondary Education, Salina High School South (Kansas) as a secondary Spanish teacher and Kearney Public Schools (Nebraska) as a K-12 English as a Second Language teacher.

An award-winning educator, Dr. Jochum's work has been recognized in both higher education and the public schools. As a high school teacher, he was a finalist for the Master Teacher of the Year Award for the Salina Unified School District (Salina, KS) in 2007. While at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK), he received the campus-wide Creative Teaching Award, Outstanding Professor Award, Preferred Professor Award and the College of Fine Arts and Humanities undergraduate research mentor award. In 2015, Dr. Jochum was inducted into the Academy for Teacher Education Excellence at UNK, a prestigious award for those who have made significant contributions to teacher education and preparation. Since coming to FHSU in 2016, he has received the College of Education's Outstanding Research Award and Outstanding Service Award and has twice been recognized for his mentoring of faculty members within the Department of Teacher Education.

His research focuses on leadership development in higher education and his recent book is titled, *The Department Chair: A Practical Guide to Effective Leadership* (Rowman & Littlefield).