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FALL 2013

LEADERSHIP NEWS

FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP STUDIES

GREETINGS

Greetings from the Department of Leadership Studies at Fort Hays State University. As we reflected during our departmental retreat in August, we were reminded about the early beginnings of Leadership Studies (1992-93) staffed by one visionary faculty member and one student staff member. Over twenty years later, the program is now serving students not only in Hays on the main campus, but also students across the globe through our virtual and international modalities. The picture below shows our current team of faculty members, administrative staff, and student staff.

This past year has been marked with tremendous growth with the hiring of new faculty and a full-time virtual advisor Mr. Troy Terry, but also expanded opportunities for students through attending conferences, international study and travel, and the rejuvenation of the Leadership Studies Speaker Series. We appreciate you taking time to keep connected with the Department's opportunities and accomplishments. Our departmental website (www.fhsu.edu/leadership) features a 'giving' tab on which you can learn more about ways in which you can support our students. Thank you for your continued support of Leadership Studies.

Jill Arensdorf, Ph.D., CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP STUDIES



Pictured here are the faculty and staff for the 2013-14 academic year. This shows the growth of our department since its early beginnings.

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

A degree in Organizational Leadership has proven to be very versatile and useful in the workplace. Here are what several Leadership Studies graduates are doing:

• **Tim Urban** ('12) began taking LDRS courses in 2005. Soon after this, he had a series of serious health problems, including a stroke that paralyzed his right side. Urban was able to walk across the stage in May 2013 to receive his diploma. Mr. Urban is retired from a career with Wal-Mart, but actively works on charity boards, as a mentor giving business and leadership advice, and speaks as a disability motivator.



• **Mark Thompson** ('12) works as a patrol sergeant in South Hutchinson, KS, supervising a team of five patrolmen. Thompson says, "My degree in Organizational Leadership has been fundamental in assisting me in becoming a better leader to our team. It has also given me the knowledge and confidence to better serve my community."



• **Regan Ochs** ('13) is the HR/Marketing Associate for Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd. in Great Bend, KS. Ochs' position also includes coordinating their college internship program. Ochs quotes, "No other academic program could have prepared me for the versatility that my job demands on a daily basis."



• **Sean Gatewood** ('12) is the Community Outreach Manager for the Kansas Health Consumer Coalition. He builds coalitions to advocate for better health policy from the consumer perspective, as well as lobbying legislators.



• **Aaron Muth** ('05), Scottsdale, AZ, is currently the President of Arizona Leadership Foundation, a scholarship organization for low income K-12 students at over 75 schools in Arizona. Muth states, "Leadership Studies is an outstanding program. The curriculum integrates all facets of the corporate world and translates theory into real-world applications."

