

Dr. Thomas J. Hochstettler
Acting Chancellor
American University of Sharjah
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Thomas John Hochstettler joined AUS in Fall 2009 as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and was named Provost shortly thereafter. He was appointed Acting Chancellor in Spring Semester 2013.

A native Ohioan, Dr. Hochstettler has been engaged in international education throughout most of his career. A historian by training, he has held both teaching and administrative positions at Bowdoin College, Rice University and Stanford University. He was the founding chief academic officer of International University Bremen, now Jacobs University, the first private, non-profit research university established in post-war Germany. Since its official opening in 2001, Jacobs has risen into the top rank of German universities in several fields, including the life sciences and social and political studies. Subsequently, Dr. Hochstettler was named president of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where he was instrumental in putting the institution on a firm financial basis and championed the expansion of international study opportunities for students. During his tenure, the college completed a major new LEED Gold-certified building to house the social sciences, and his efforts were key in upgrading spaces available for the performing arts on campus. Under his leadership, Lewis & Clark rose in reputation and quality both nationally and internationally, particularly as a center for innovative undergraduate research and teaching in the natural and social sciences.

As Provost at AUS, Dr. Hochstettler oversaw all teaching and research programs at the university, as well as ancillary services such as student advising, academic computing and the library. During his tenure as Provost, AUS dramatically increased its funding for faculty research, and he was responsible for creating opportunities for student and faculty exchange with universities abroad. An accomplished pianist himself, Dr. Hochstettler expanded the program in performing arts at AUS. He broadened the scope of liberal education for all undergraduates, even as he led the movement to create new interdisciplinary centers and institutes at the university.

Dr. Hochstettler earned his bachelor of arts degree from Earlham College in Indiana and his master's and doctoral degrees in history at the University of Michigan. He has been the recipient of a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship and of research support from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst. Dr. Hochstettler specializes in early modern German political and economic history and European military history. Through his engagement in higher education administration, he has also extended his research interests to include enrollment management and international educational reform. He currently chairs the board of directors of the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP), the world's foremost non-profit organization engaged in expanding opportunities for international education, based in Washington, DC. He is married to the artist Marcia Glas, and they have three grown sons, Ben, Will and Taylor Glas-Hochstettler.