

Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval serves as Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State. He is deeply committed to Fresno State's mission to educate and empower the multicultural students who will become tomorrow's leaders. As Dean, Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval has worked toward elevating 4-year graduation rates by deploying multiple initiatives: an informational College Student Convocation each Fall, increased faculty engagement, and direct collaboration between the college Advising and Support Center and Student Affairs.

In the belief that every discipline manifests our shared humanity, Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval has championed collaborative endeavors between Arts and Humanities and programs across campus: a prison art project with Criminology, a Correctional Recreational Certificate with Recreation Administration, Poet Laureate Lab in the Library, and various ethnic studies projects with other colleges. He is proud to have recruited and retained diverse, world-class faculty, including those who teach in interdisciplinary fields.

Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval takes a heartfelt approach in building personal relationships with donors of all types and levels, through clear and sincere communication with supporters across industries, disciplines, and interests. He co-chairs the President's Commission on the Future of Arts and Humanities, a groundbreaking initiative to develop a new performing arts center that will serve as a natural bridge between the University and the Fresno community. He is a dedicated member of the President's Portuguese, Armenian, and Jewish Leadership Councils, as well as the President's Southeast Asian Community Task Force, each of which represents a comprehensive approach toward engaging diverse students and forging vital partnerships within the region.

Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval moved to the Fresno region as a child and tended the family farm while growing up in a bilingual, bicultural environment. An honors student at Fowler High, he went on to the University of California, Irvine to study Biology and History. He graduated from UC Irvine with honors with a double BA in History and Spanish, received his Ph.D. in Spanish and Portuguese, and completed Cornell University's School of Critical Theory summer program.

As a scholar, Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval studies poetic discourses, Mexican literature, and Lusophone cultural productions. His research is influenced by deconstructionist and post-colonial theories, as these afford a theoretical and metaphorical space in which to explore and value the individual as a developing and dynamic being. As he has experienced first-hand the transformative power of learning, he envisions an integrated society nurtured by the quest for self-empowerment through education.