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Recruitment and Retention of Students, Faculty and Staff of Color

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Executive Vice Chancellor for University Relations, University of Kansas

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Recruitment and Retention of Students, Faculty and Staff of Color

Janet Murguia

Executive Vice Chancellor for University Relations, University of Kansas

Janet Murguia became the executive vice chancellor for university relations at the University of Kansas in 2001. She oversees the university's internal and external public relations including governmental and public affairs.

Murguia's administrative areas include the offices of University Relations, Governmental Relations, Trademark Licensing, and KANU-FM public radio station and Kansas Audio-Reader Network, a radio reading service for the blind and visually impaired. She also coordinates the university's strategic planning and marketing efforts with those of the KU Alumni Association and the KU Athletics Corporation and works closely with the KU Endowment Association.

Murguia earned three degrees from the University of Kansas: a bachelor of science in journalism, a bachelor of arts in Spanish, both in 1982, and a juris doctorate in 1985. Before returning to KU, Murguia served as deputy campaign manager and director of constituency outreach for the 2000 Gore/Lieberman presidential campaign. She was the primary liaison between former Vice President Gore and national constituency groups. She also served as spokesperson for the campaign and handled interviews with radio, print and television media outlets. Murguia worked at the White House in various capacities beginning in 1994. She was deputy assistant to the president and deputy director of legislative affairs, serving as the senior White House liaison to the Congress. She provided strategic and legislative advice to President Clinton on key issues and managed a legislative staff of 25. Murguia started her career by working as legislative counsel to former Kansas Congressman Jim Slattery for seven years.

Murguia grew up in Argentine, the Mexican-American neighborhood of Kansas City, Kansas, as one of seven children of Alfred and Amalia Murguia. . The Murguia siblings are known for their accomplishments. Ramon Murguia is a lawyer and former chair of the National Council of La Raza, the largest Hispanic advocacy organization in the United States. Janet is just beginning her term on the board of Directors of La Raza. Janet's twin sister, Mary, is a federal judge for the U.S. District Court for Arizona and her brother, Carlos, is a federal judge for the u.s. District Court in Kansas City. Mary and Carlos Murguia are the nation's first brother-sister duo to become federal judges.

Her keynote address is "Recruitment and Retention of Students, Faculty and Staff of Color."