



Dr. Gail James, from New Jersey, received her B.A in History and Political Science from Elmira College, New York, and her PhD in French Literature from the University of Arizona. She spent her Junior Year Abroad at the Sorbonne, University of Paris. Her academic career spanned 16 years as faculty and 20 years in administration, as Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs at several colleges. She has received numerous grants, fellowships and awards, including the Fulbright Fellowship for study in India, the National Defense Education Act Fellowship, and was selected for post-graduate study at the Kennedy School of Government. Dr. James recently retired from the University of Kansas, where she served as Associate Director of the Academic Achievement Center and Director of the Learning Communities Program.

Dr. James has also participated in the non-profit sector, as Program and Development Director, with emphasis on the empowerment of women, girls and other marginalized groups through education, equity and social justice. She has been selected to serve on local and national Boards of Directors, including the Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Foundation, the Alliance Francaise, and is a founding member of the Women's Intercultural Network, a global forum, where she serves as a United Nations Delegate to the Commission on the Status of Women, and is Vice-President of US Women Connect, a national network committed to implementing Cities for CEDAW (U.N. Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women). Most recently, Dr. James is involved with UNA Women-KC, and is co-coordinating the Women's Equality Week Coalition. Her professional and personal advocacy for education, women's issues and internationalism is committed and long-standing. She is an AAUWKC member.