



## Gallaudet University Academic Affairs

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## Provost Biography

Jane K. Fernandes, Ph.D. was appointed Provost of Gallaudet University by President I. King Jordan in April 2000. In this role, she has led the restructuring of the Academic Affairs division in order to enhance programs and services to students, promote greater collaboration among units, and streamline administrative decision making. Prior to her appointment, Dr. Fernandes was the

Vice President for the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center (formerly Pre-College National Mission Programs) at Gallaudet University beginning in August 1995. She led the Clerc Center in a complete restructuring of the organization in order to better achieve its federally mandated national mission. National outreach efforts at the Clerc Center focus on the development of collaborations between the Clerc Center and other schools and programs to identify educational best practices and disseminate them across the nation.

Dr. Fernandes became the first Deaf woman in the United States to head a school for the deaf when she was appointed Administrator of Hawaii's Statewide Center for Students with Hearing and Visual Impairments. She is a graduate of Connecticut's Trinity College and earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Iowa. She has served as Director of the American Sign Language and Interpreting programs at Northeastern University, chair of the Department of Sign Communication at Gallaudet University, and coordinator of the University of Hawaii's American Sign Language/Interpreter Education Program.

She is known as a speaker, writer, and consultant of national prominence on Deaf culture, language, education and literature. With her husband, Jim, she is co-author of *Signs of Eloquence*, a study of Deaf American public address.

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

<http://academic.affairs.gallaudet.edu>

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