

Celia Dorantes Abalos, Esq.,

Celia Dorantes Abalos, Esq., Vice President for Multicultural Affairs has been employed by UMDNJ since 1988. From 1988 to 1990 she served as the Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance; from 1990 to 1992 she was the Director of Special Projects; from 1992 to 1993 she served as the Executive Director for Corporate Relations; from 1993 to 1996 she was the Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance; from 1996 to 1999 she served as the Vice President for Administration; and from 1999 to 2001 she was the Vice President for Regulatory Affairs/Corporate Compliance. She has served in her current position since 2001. In her present role, she assists the University in its outreach to the Latino community statewide and the Newark community in particular through the Loaned Executive agreement with FOCUS Hispanic Center for Community Development, Inc., a Latino community based organization in Newark. She has been instrumental in leveraging relevant information, expertise and resources from a variety of stakeholders, e.g., UMDNJ schools/units, government agencies, academic/health institutions, and the community at large to achieve effective community outreach for UMDNJ. She is a founding member of the Coalition of Hispanic Physicians and co-chairperson of the Latino Medical Conferences at UMDNJ, which has brought, and will continue to bring, together some prominent experts in the areas of Latino health issues, as well as those who can impact on legislation which directly affects the Latino community. The 2002 conference brought Congressman Robert Menendez and Senator Jon Corzine to the Newark campus; the 2004 conference brought together numerous state officials, healthcare professionals and community based organizations as well as pharmaceutical companies and agencies serving the Latino communities of New Jersey.

Ms. Abalos has been instrumental in reaching out to the South Asian American community as well as the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender communities in NJ. Conferences on those health issues are scheduled for 2005 and 2006 respectively. Community seminars sponsored by Ms. Abalos bring together the UMDNJ, the community, state government agencies and the healthcare professions.

Prior to coming to UMDNJ, Ms. Abalos was the Director of the Essex County Department of Citizen Services where she managed the staff and operations of the county's largest agency. Ms. Abalos holds a B.A. from Marygrove College in Detroit, Michigan, an M.A. from Seton Hall University and a J.D. from the Seton Hall University School of Law.