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KCPT Announces New Vice President of News

This month, Janet Saidi joined KCPT as VP of News. Janet will lead the Hale Center for Journalism, providing editorial vision for KCPT's news initiatives across all platforms.

As a professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, Janet ran an award-winning NPR-affiliate newsroom that consisted of 8 news team members and served as an innovation lab, training up to 100 Missouri School of Journalism students each semester. The newsroom won three national Murrow awards in the past eight years, including a 2013 national Murrow for digital journalism.

As an associate professor on the faculty of the Missouri School of Journalism Janet served as news director at KBIA 91.3 FM. Saidi has contributed to National Public Radio, the BBC and BBC World Service, and her writing has appeared in the Christian Science Monitor, Wired magazine, the Los Angeles Times, and in a weekly media column for the San Diego Union-Tribune. Saidi helped produce the national PBS health care series "Remaking American Medicine," and her public-radio work began with "The Lounge," a nightly culture magazine on San Diego's NPR-affiliate station.

Saidi got her start in journalism as an editor on San Diego's alt-weekly Gay & Lesbian Times and Uptown Newsmagazine. She lived for several years in England, where she earned a master's in literature from University College, University of London.

"It's a huge honor to join KCPT and the Hale journalism team. What public television does is so important - I'm a huge fan! - and it's very exciting to add local, multiplatform journalism into that mix. It's a valuable effort for KCPT, for public media and for Kansas City. I'm very much looking forward to embarking on the innovations and collaborations that are already making the Hale Center a dynamic forum for information and dialogue in the KC community. Stay tuned!"