



## CSN Hires North Las Vegas and Charleston Campus Vice Presidents & Provosts

*Clarissa Cota and Sonya Pearson will help guide CSN's multi-campus initiative*

June 25, 2019 – The College of Southern Nevada is pleased to announce the hiring of two experienced higher education professionals as the new leaders of our North Las Vegas and Charleston campuses. Both take on their new roles beginning July 1.

Clarissa Cota will serve as the Vice President & Provost of the North Las Vegas Campus, and Sonya Pearson will serve as the Vice President & Provost of the Charleston Campus. Longtime CSN executive Patty Charlton was named Vice President & Provost of the college's Henderson Campus last year.

These critical hires signal that CSN is on track with the implementation of the decentralized multi-campus structure approved by the Board of Regents and the state legislature in 2017.

“Hiring Campus Vice Presidents & Provosts is critical to our ability to be more responsive and accountable to our municipal stakeholders and to make our instructional programs relevant and accessible to students at the campus level,” said CSN President Dr. Federico Zaragoza. “With the addition of Dr. Sonya Pearson and Clarissa Cota, each of our three campuses now have the strong leadership they require to ensure that CSN is better aligned and positioned to address the current and emerging needs of our diverse Southern Nevada communities.”

The position of Campus Vice President & Provost is a new one to CSN as the college transitions into a multi-campus college district. The change will enable each of CSN's three campuses to operate with a more local focus and give students the opportunity to study and complete their degrees on a single campus in many cases.

Cota will lead CSN's longest-standing campus in North Las Vegas. She joined CSN in 1997 as a professor and director of the Paralegal Studies Program after a successful career in the legal field. In addition to serving as interim vice president for academic affairs from 2018-19 and interim dean of the School of Business, Hospitality and Public Services from 2012-13, she has been chair of the Business Administration Department for nearly 10 years and has chaired the Nevada System of Higher Education's Hispanic Serving Institution Task Force since 2014.

Pearson takes the helm as the leader of CSN's largest campus. She joins CSN from Mesa Community College in the Maricopa County Community College District in the Phoenix metro area, one of the largest community college systems in the nation. She has served as the Vice President for Student Affairs there since 2009. She previously served there as dean of student affairs for support services.

Full resumes are available for Cota [here](#) and Pearson [here](#).

---

*About CSN: Founded in 1971, the College of Southern Nevada is the state's largest and most diverse higher education institution. CSN specializes in two-year degrees, offers seven bachelor's degrees, workforce development training and is the state's largest provider of adult basic education and literacy training. CSN is a Minority Serving Institution and Nevada's first Hispanic Serving Institution. CSN is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution.*