

Clarissa M. Cota, J.D. ' Biography'



Clarissa M. Cota has worked in higher education over 20 years. Starting February 1, 2018, she will serve as the Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs for the College of Southern Nevada. She holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Arizona and is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the American and Clark County Bar Associations, the Latino Bar Association for Southern Nevada, the American Association of University Professors, the Nevada Faculty Alliance, the Las Vegas Valley Paralegal Association and the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs. As Interim Dean for the School of Business, Hospitality and Public Service and Department Chair, she has overseen the academic programs in business, management, entrepreneurship, real estate, marketing and paralegal studies which includes a new Bachelors of Applied Science in Project Management. Her department has developed the Business Incubator Program which currently has 43 student run businesses and designed the Interactive Business Lab.

Ms. Cota's involvement with the ACBSP includes: Region 7 Past-President, Accreditation Site Evaluator, Region 7 Conference Host in Las Vegas and Phoenix, service on the Teaching Excellence Committee, Region 7 Strategic Planning Committee, Region 7 representative to the Global Risk Management Committee, Institutional ACBSP Champion, and attendance at the Annual and Regional ACBSP conferences.

She has served in a leadership capacity on numerous college committees, local and state committees and boards, including chairing the Hispanic Serving Institution Task Force for CSN and NSHE and the American Council on Education, Office of Women in Higher Education, Southern Nevada Coordinator. She has been awarded numerous academic awards including the President's Outstanding Teaching Faculty Award for the College of Southern Nevada, the El Dorado Award for Outstanding Latino Faculty Member, the Woman of Excellence Award, the Excellence in Service to CSN Award and she was part of the inaugural class for the CSN Executive Leadership Institute program. Ms. Cota completed the Leadership Las Vegas Program with the Class of 2015 and has served as an Executive Board Member for the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada.

DEFINITION OF LEADERSHIP: (

Developing a vision through a collaborative process, initiating an action plan while balancing (expectations, motivating others to overcome challenges and together staying focused on the desired (outcome. (