

2018
Marie Lam from
*Women of
Distinction
honoree*



Melody Rose, Ph.D

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Melody Rose has a 25-year distinguished career as a higher education executive and is currently the principal of Rose Strategies. She is a nationally recognized thought leader in the fields of corporate governance, talent development, mergers & acquisitions, and strategic affiliations. Melody leads teams to grow organizational culture and high performance with a warm and inclusive style.

Most recently, Melody was the Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education, the state's largest employer and landowner. She oversaw a multi-billion-dollar budget and was successful in securing \$22 million in federal earmarks for the schools under her purview.

Melody also served as the President of Marylhurst University in Oregon, where she was recruited to provide an assessment of the distressed institution's viability. Ultimately, she recommended a graceful closure, and her book on campus closures (with coauthor Larry Large), *Higher Education Business Models Under Stress*, is the industry standard in the field.

Previously, Melody was Chancellor at the Oregon University System. As CEO, she decentralized the higher education system to seven separate institutional boards.

A highlight of Melody's 17-year career at Portland State University was her position as founder and director of the university's Center for Women's Leadership. The center has changed the face of Oregon's leadership by training over 500 diverse women and girls.

Melody earned her Ph.D. in Government, M.A. in Government, and M.P.A. in Public Affairs from Cornell University. She received her B.A. in Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz.