



**CATALYST AWARD**  
**Shari Slate**  
*Cisco*

Shari Slate is the Chief Inclusion and Collaboration Officer at Cisco. Her organization is responsible for leading Cisco’s Office of Inclusion and Collaboration, as well as global Community Relations. Slate has been widely recognized for her visionary leadership and transformational views on the business value created at the intersection of diversity, inclusion, collaboration and technology. Guided by her thought leadership in this area, Cisco is embracing new models of inclusion and collaboration to fuel innovation, accelerate market leadership, and reimagine workplace practices in the digital era.

In her previous role, Slate served as Chief Inclusion and Collaboration Strategist for Cisco’s sales organization. She was responsible for making inclusion relevant in the revenue generating arm of the business and incubating new strategies for fostering full spectrum diversity.

Slate joined Cisco in 2010. Prior to that, she served as Chief Diversity Officer and Director of Global Community Affairs at Sun Microsystems.

Slate is a respected and highly regarded leader in the areas of diversity and inclusion. Most recently, she was named a 2018 Top Executive in Corporate Diversity by Black Enterprise, and a 2017 Diversity Leader by Profiles in Diversity Journal. In 2016, she was named as one of the Top

Influential Women in Corporate America by Savoy Magazine. In 2014, the YWCA named her a "Tribute to Women in Industry" honoree. In 2013, she was named one of Diversity Woman Magazine's "Stars Who Mean Business". Previously, she was honored by the California Diversity Council as one of the "Most Influential Women in California" and a "Woman Worth Watching" by Diversity Journal Magazine. She received the National Coalition of 100 Black Women 2010 Corporate Leader Award and The Network Journal's "40 Under Forty" Achievement Award.

Slate holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political, legal, and economic analysis from Mills College.