

**Patricia Nava, Ph.D.**

Interim Dean

Dr. Nava came to UTEP in 1996 as assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, and was promoted to the rank of professor in 2008. She served as program director for the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department in 2004, then subsequently chair of the department until 2011. She was appointed to associate dean for academic affairs and undergraduate studies from 2011 to 2017. Prior to her work at UTEP, Dr. Nava taught at Northern Arizona University and California State University, Los Angeles, and worked as an electronics engineer at White Sands Missile Range and as a design engineer at IBM.

Dr. Nava received her Ph.D., MSEE, and BSEE in Electrical Engineering, all from New Mexico State University. In addition to her scholarly work in engineering, she has a strong record of service to students. Dr. Nava is a 2019 inductee of the UTEP Academy of Distinguished Teachers and a recipient of the UT Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (2009), the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award (2004), and the Lockheed Martin Award for Teaching Excellence (2003). In 2016, Dr. Nava was instrumental in leading the Texas Regional STEM Degree Accelerator initiative at UTEP, an opportunity to expand the institution's efforts to prepare students for a dynamic and diverse workforce in STEM fields. She has worked with dozens of graduate students in research and mentored them toward their masters' and doctoral degrees.