

Q&A PANEL  
**BUSINESS AND SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS**RSVP here: <https://ps.uci.edu/mentors/2021-Mentor-Career-Panel-RSVP>**Panelists:**

**Tiffany Awischus** is a Sales Market Manager for Armstrong Flooring Inc in Los Angeles. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from UCI in 2010; 3 of those years were spent being an undergrad researcher in Professor Eric Potma's lab. Shortly after graduating, she started her career in the construction business with Custom working in their R&D lab formulating adhesives, benchmarking competition, and qualifying products through ISO, ANSI and ASTM test standards. She was then offered an opportunity with Parex USA, as their R&D Manager. In this role, her team focused on launching new and innovative flooring solutions, investigating quality issues, attending trade shows, and providing updates to the executive management team. She was promoted to Project Manager where she managed multiple brands and launched various products in both the commercial and residential markets exceeding the company's KPIs for the facade and flooring brands. From marketing, she took an opportunity in sales with T&M Supply as an A&D Sales consultant promoting hard surface solutions (terrazzo flooring, epoxy resinous flooring, and quartz countertops). She drove sales through specifications and customer relationships. Currently, she has joined the Armstrong Flooring organization as a Market Sales Manager for Los Angeles that allows her to incorporate her technical, marketing and sales experience in one role.

**John Leyerle** has retired from wage-earning for 9 years. He enjoys family and friends, travel, and active engagement in "giving back" through volunteer teaching, mentoring and affirming support of mental health, veteran's program and career mentoring. In the private sector, he worked for two small acoustical consulting companies (Industrial Noise Services and Bio Acoustical Engineering), and two large civil engineering companies (Mission Viejo Company and Nolte and Associates). In the public sector, he worked for John Wayne Airport, also know as Orange County Airport and Santa Ana Airport. And he served in the Public Affairs Division as the Manager of Access and Noise for 9 years leading and managing a staff of five, working daily with 12 domestic Air Carriers and numerous community groups, citizens, agencies and governments.

**Neil Sahota (萨冠军)** is an IBM Master Inventor, United Nations (UN) artificial intelligence (AI) Advisor, author of the book Own the A.I. Revolution., and Professor at UC Irvine. Over his 20+ year career, Neil has worked with enterprises on the business and marketing strategies to create next generation products/solutions powered by emerging technology as well as helping organizations create the culture, community, and ecosystem needed to achieve success such as the U.N.'s AI for Good initiative. Neil also actively pursues social good and volunteers with nonprofits. He is currently helping the Zero Abuse Project prevent child sexual abuse as well as Planet Home to engage youth culture in sustainability initiatives.



Tiffany Awischus



John Leyerle



Neil Sahota (萨冠军)

**Wednesday, February 3 at 3 pm via Zoom**