

# Achieving Tenure: Faculty Panel

Faculty Bag Lunch

April 8, 2025

# Flow for today

- Introductions
- Polls
- Submitted questions
- Open Q&A
  - Chat or Raise Hand
- Close/Evaluations



# Marie Ann Heffern

- Department of Chemistry, College of Letters & Science
- Achieved tenure in 2024
- Dr. Heffern's research seeks to uncover the molecular players connecting metal micronutrients and metabolic function in extracellular space. Her approach and strategies sit at the interface of bioinorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, chemical biology, metabolic biology, and soil chemistry. Dr. Heffern and her team have specific interests in the interplay between first-row d-block transition metals and hormone function, with longstanding goal of extending our insights to develop therapeutic and diagnostic solutions to endocrine disorders spanning diabetes, liver disease, and cancer.



# Marina Radulaski

- **Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Engineering**
- **Achieved tenure in 2023**
- **Dr. Radulaski's research focuses on nanophotonics, solid-state quantum optics, color centers, quantum communications, cavity quantum electrodynamics, and photonic architectures. Dr. Radulaski's interdisciplinary research explores the interaction of light and matter at the nanoscale for applications in quantum and classical information processing hardware.**



# Juan Tellez

- Department of Political Science, College of Letters & Science
- Achieved tenure in 2025
- Dr. Tellez joined UC Davis in 2021. He previously worked as an assistant professor of political science at University of South Carolina. Dr. Tellez is a political scientist whose research interests are at the intersection of political violence and development. His writing has been published or is forthcoming in the *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Politics*, *World Politics*, and various other academic and popular press outlets. Dr. Tellez has substantial experience in international development, working on funded research for the World Bank, USAID and other government agencies, in settings like Colombia, Indonesia, Guatemala and Ethiopia.





# Benjamin Weber

- Department of African American and African Studies, College of Letters & Science
- Achieved tenure in 2024
- Dr. Weber is an interdisciplinary scholar of African American History, Critical Carceral Studies, and Black Social and Political Thought. He has been recognized for his research and teaching, including being named the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Outstanding Teacher of the Year for the United States, receiving an Omni Gold Award for the Calderwood U.S. History Series he hosts on PBS Learning Media, and codirecting Louisiana's contribution to the *States of Incarceration* national public history project. Dr. Weber authored *American Purgatory: Prison Imperialism and the Rise of Mass Incarceration* (The New Press, 2023), a four-hundred-year reckoning with the colonial workings of the carceral state and movements seeking to broaden the meaning and experience of freedom.



# Polls

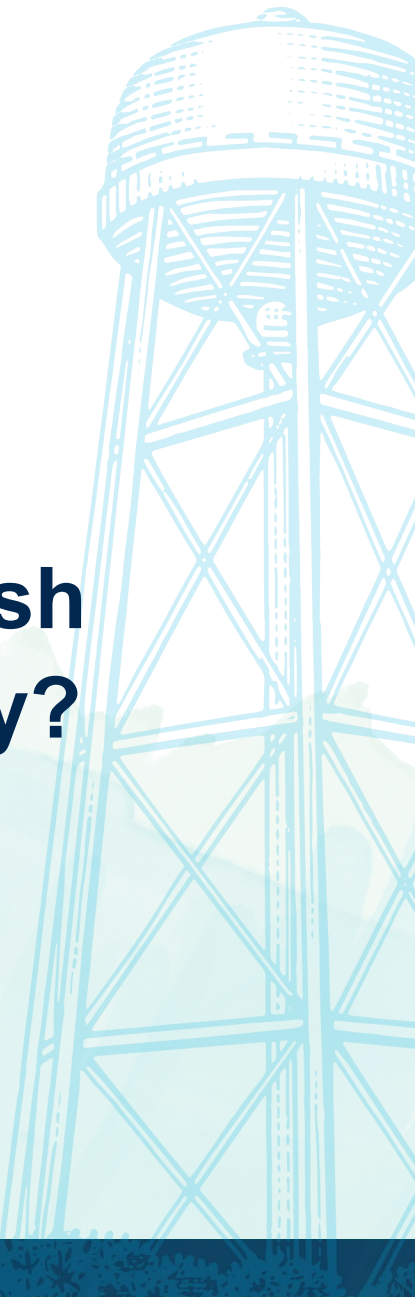
Please complete the following poll questions

1. What is your home College or School?
2. How many years until you go up for tenure?



## Question

**Knowing what you know now, what do you wish you had known or would have done differently?**





## Question

**What resources did you use or find most helpful in preparation for tenure?**



## Question

**What considerations did you take into account for your letter writers (arm's length vs non-arm's length; conflicts of interest; career stage; academia vs government)?**

## Question

**What sort of mentoring did you look for in your preparations for going up for tenure--both in the immediate lead-up (e.g. who did you ask to review your statements?) and farther in advance (e.g. how much help did you get with strategizing about publications, grants, etc.)?**

## Question

**How did you manage your time and balance work and life while on the tenure-track?**



## Question

**What was the best advice you received on your way to tenure?**





## Question

**What is life like after tenure?**



## Question

**Please share one final thought or piece of advice you would give to faculty preparing for tenure.**



### Open Question and Answer

**Please feel free to raise your hand or submit your questions via chat to our faculty panel.**

**Thank you!**

**Thank you for joining us!**

**Please take 2-5 minutes to complete an evaluation  
for today's bag lunch:**

