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Sandia National Laboratories

BIOGRAPHY

Robert W. Leland, Ph.D.

Vice President, Science & Technology, Chief Technology Officer
Sandia National Laboratories

Dr. Robert (Rob) W. Leland is Vice President, Science and Technology, and Chief Technology Officer at Sandia National Laboratories, which is located in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Livermore, California.

Dr. Leland is the executive responsible for leadership and management of corporate research and development and capabilities stewardship at Sandia National Laboratories. He is also responsible for leadership of technology transfer and strategic research relationships with universities, industry, and the State of New Mexico.

Dr. Leland joined the Parallel Computing Sciences Department at Sandia National Laboratories in 1990 and pursued work principally in parallel algorithm development, sparse iterative methods and applied graph theory. There he co-authored Chaco, a graph partitioning and sequencing toolkit widely used to optimize parallel computations.

In 1995, Dr. Leland served as a White House Fellow advising the Deputy Secretary of the Treasury on technology modernization at the IRS. Upon returning to Sandia, he led the Parallel Computing Sciences Department and the Computer and Software Systems Research Group.

In 2005, Dr. Leland became Director of the Computing and Networking Services at Sandia, with responsibility for production computing platforms, voice and data networks, desktop support and cyber security for the laboratory. In March of 2010, he became Director of Computing Research, leading a vertically integrated set of capabilities spanning computer architecture, math and computing science, algorithm and tool development, computational sciences and cognitive sciences. He also served during this period as Director of Sandia's Climate Security Program, which is focused on helping the nation understand and prepare for the national security impacts of climate change.

In 2014, Dr. Leland worked at the White House in the Office of Science and Technology Policy on development of a new national strategy for High Performance Computing.

Dr. Leland studied undergraduate electrical engineering at Michigan State University. He attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar and studied applied mathematics and computer science, completing a Ph.D. in Parallel Computing in 1989.

Dr. Leland and his wife have two young daughters and reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In his spare time, he and his family enjoy skiing and other outdoor activities.

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