

Dr. Lee Cheatham

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Lee Cheatham has focused his career on leadership in research management and operations, especially in the translation of that research into high-impact commercial products. Lee currently leads the Office of Technology Deployment and Outreach (TDO) at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), a Department of Energy national laboratory focused on making fundamental scientific discoveries and using its foundational capabilities to address key challenges in energy resiliency and national security. TDO's mission is to engage the Laboratory with industry, federal agencies, and state/regional organizations in developing and licensing PNNL's technology as a basis for commercial products and to realize the greater impact of science and technology for economic growth.

Previously Lee served as Director of Strategic Partnerships at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and as Chief Operating Officer and General Manager of Commercialization for The Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University. For twelve years prior to Biodesign, Lee led the Washington Technology Center (WTC), an organization chartered by the State of Washington to accelerate growth and expand economic impact of small and medium-sized businesses. WTC funded these companies' collaborations with university researchers and provided programs to ease their access to growth capital.

Lee has private-sector experience as Vice President of Worldwide Product Engineering for a market-leading library software company and founder of a real estate technology and services company. He has served in scientific, engineering, and development positions, as well research program management roles, for energy systems modeling, large-scale environmental and military information systems, and medical device development programs. Lee received his Ph.D. from Carnegie-Mellon University, MS from Washington State University, and BS from Oregon State University, all in electrical engineering.