

William R. Pulleyblank is the Vice President of the Center for Business Optimization within IBM Business Consulting Services. This group is leading the development and deployment of high powered optimization and analytic capabilities to improve the business performance of IBM's clients and customers.

Prior to this, he was the Director of Exploratory Server Systems and Director of the Deep Computing Institute within IBM Research. These research teams provided broad-based support to IBM's server activities as well as leading research in high performance computing. This included the Blue Gene project, which led to the creation of the Blue Gene/L supercomputer. Since November 2004, this has been certified as the most powerful supercomputer in the world. He has also served as the Research relationship executive responsible for the Financial Services sector in IBM, the Utility and Energy Services industry, and for the Business Intelligence group. He was Director of Mathematical Sciences in IBM Research from 1995 to 2000.

He has served on a number of boards and advisory panels, including the Advisory Committee of the Division of Mathematics & Physical Sciences of the National Science Foundation, the Board on Mathematical Sciences of the National Research Council, the iCORE Board of Directors, the Science Advisory Board of the National Institute of Aerospace, and the Scientific Advisory Panel of The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences. In addition, he serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals.

He is the IBM Partnership Executive for the University of Minnesota and has served on the Industrial Advisory Committee for the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications at the University of Minnesota as well as on the board of governors, which he chaired in 1998.

His personal research interests are in operations research, combinatorial optimization and applications of optimization. In addition to writing scientific papers and books, he has consulted for several companies including: Mobil Oil on helicopter routing; Marks and Spencer on depot management; Statistics Canada on survey validation; and CP Rail on train scheduling.