

Robert Vanderbei

Robert Vanderbei is a Professor in the Department of [Operations Research and Financial Engineering](#) at [Princeton University](#). From 2005 to 2012, he was chair of the department. In addition, he holds courtesy appointments in the Departments of [Mathematics](#), [Astrophysics](#), [Computer Science](#), and [Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering](#). He is also a member of the [Program in Applied and Computational Mathematics](#), is a founding member of the [Bendheim Center for Finance](#), and a former Director of the [Engineering and Management Systems Program](#).

Beyond Princeton, he is a Fellow of the [American Mathematical Society \(AMS\)](#), the [Society for Applied and Industrial Mathematics \(SIAM\)](#) and the [Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences \(INFORMS\)](#). Within INFORMS, he has served as President of the [Optimization Society](#) and the [Computing Society](#) and is the 2017 winner of the [Khachiyan Prize](#) for his work in optimization. He also serves on the Advisory Board for the journal [Mathematical Programming Computation](#).

He has degrees in Chemistry (BS), Operations Research and Statistics (MS), and Applied Mathematics (MS, PhD). After receiving his PhD from [Cornell](#) (1981), he was an NSF postdoc at the [Courant Institute for Mathematical Sciences \(NYU\)](#) for one year, then a lecturer in the Mathematics Department at the [University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign](#) for two years before joining [Bell Labs](#) in 1984. At Bell Labs he made fundamental contributions to the field of optimization and holds three patents for his inventions. In 1990, he left Bell Labs to join Princeton University where he has been since.

In addition to hundreds of research papers, he has written four books: (i) a textbook entitled [Linear Programming: Foundations and Extensions](#) now in its fifth edition and published by Springer, (ii) [Welcome To The Universe in 3D](#), an astronomy book written jointly with Neil deGrasse Tyson, J. Richard Gott and Michael Strauss and published by Princeton University Press, (iii) [Sizing Up The Universe](#), an introductory astronomy book written jointly with J. Richard Gott and published by National Geographic, and (iv) [Real and Convex Analysis](#), a textbook written jointly with Erhan Cinlar and published by Springer.