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Dr. John (Jack) Breese advises on university and corporate R&D management, especially as it concerns technology transfer, commercialization, and management of intellectual property.

Dr. Breese is also a managing member of Developmental Partners Management (DPMGT), a private equity venture focusing on early state investment in the life sciences. From 1998 to 2005 he was a Director of Microsoft Research in Redmond, Washington, where he supervised work on research in intelligent systems including data management, machine learning, natural language processing, community technologies, adaptive systems, and user interfaces. His responsibilities included facilitation of Microsoft Research technology transfer efforts, coordination with Microsoft's overseas research labs, and various activities related to university relations, intellectual property management, and customer interaction. Upon joining Microsoft in 1993, Breese was a founding member of the Decision Theory and Adaptive Systems research group at Microsoft Research, which developed basic technologies and tools for user modeling, intelligent diagnostics, adaptive systems and datamining.

Dr. Breese has numerous publications and patents in the fields of decision analysis, datamining, electronic commerce, and artificial intelligence. He was program co-chair for the annual Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence in 2001, and was general chair for the ACM Conference on Electronic Commerce in 2004. His other contributions at Microsoft include development of the Office Assistant in Microsoft Office, SQL Server datamining services, and troubleshooters deployed in Windows operating system products.

Breese received a doctorate from the Department of Engineering-Economic Systems (now Management Science and Engineering) at Stanford University in 1987 and joined Microsoft Research in March of 1993. Before joining Microsoft, he was a research scientist at the Rockwell Science Center Palo Alto Lab and a founder of Knowledge Industries Inc., a Palo Alto start-up. He has a Master's Degree in Public Policy Studies from the University of Michigan (1979) and a B.A. in Mathematics from Clark University (1977).

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