Lisa Durham is the Director of the Leadership Institute and a Principal Environmental Engineer at Argonne National Laboratory. As the Leadership Institute Director, she provides strategic direction and management of creative programs designed to cultivate the leadership potential of all employees and to enable them to maximize their unique contributions to science, engineering, and Argonne’s mission. In the role of Principal Environmental Engineer, Lisa is responsible for programs, projects, and research associated with geoenvironmental analyses.

Lisa received her B.S. in geology from Texas A&M University and her M.S. in geosciences from Purdue University. She is recognized for her work in the areas of soil and groundwater investigations, data analysis and interpretation, and environmental modeling in support of characterization and remediation at hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste sites. She has more than 25 years of scientific and professional experience working with federal agencies in providing innovative technical approaches and expertise to investigate, characterize, and remediate environmentally contaminated legacy sites as a result of the nation’s early atomic weapons and energy programs.

Lisa has led efforts to increase diversity in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and her advocacy and encouragement of young women interested in STEM careers has earned her recognition and numerous awards. She has served as the Program Initiator for Argonne’s Women in Science and Technology Program, which strives to recruit, retain, and promote women in an effort to diversify and strengthen the laboratory’s scientific workforce. Lisa is a graduate of the Strategic Laboratory Leadership Program at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the Crain’s Leadership Academy. She currently serves on many panels and advisory boards including the board of COACH, the Committee for the Advancement of Women in Science, to provide mentorship and career-success training to women scientists in the US and in developing countries.