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John R. Gilbert directs the Combinatorial Scientific Computing Laboratory at the University of California at Santa Barbara, where he is Professor and Vice Chair of Computer Science. He has done fundamental work in algorithms and software for combinatorial and numerical problems and for sparse matrix computation, including Matlab's original sparse matrix capabilities, the SuperLU solver library, and the Graph BLAS. His current research applies linear algebraic methods to large-scale graph and network analytics.

Professor Gilbert received his PhD from Stanford in 1981. He has been a member of the Computer Science faculty at Cornell, a visiting faculty member at MIT, and a Principal Scientist at Xerox PARC. He has chaired the ACM Special Interest Group on Numerical Mathematics and the SIAM Activity Group on Supercomputing, and is a Fellow of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.