Dr. James H. Thompson serves as executive vice president, engineering for Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and has been a member of Qualcomm’s Executive Committee since 2012. In this role he is responsible for global research and development activities associated with all wireless chipsets in QCT, Qualcomm’s semiconductor business. Thompson has overseen hardware and systems engineering activities in QCT since 2001 and all of QCT engineering since 2004. Prior to joining QCT, Thompson lead Qualcomm’s Globalstar engineering team and was also part of the team that developed the CDMA cellular standard.

Jim grew up in Madison, Wisconsin and received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees, as well as his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He is a member of the Industrial Advisory Board of the University of Wisconsin College of Engineering and is also a member of the Council of Advisors for the Jacobs School of Engineering at the University of California, San Diego. He played an active role in the creation of the Qualcomm Innovation Competition and the Senior Design Lab for the ECE department. Jim endowed a Named Professorship in the College of Engineering that supports an outstanding female faculty member to honor his sister and to encourage more female participation in the engineering disciplines. Jim goes back to Madison every year to cheer for his Badgers at the Wisconsin Homecoming game.