



Cherri J Schmidt
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BIOGRAPHY

Cherri J Schmidt joined Fermilab in June, 2013 as the Manager of the new Office of Partnerships & Technology Transfer (OPTT). In this role, Cherri is responsible for facilitating the formation of high-impact partnerships with industry, academia, and other research facilities, that support the global, scientific missions of the laboratory while advancing U.S. Competitiveness through the transfer of knowledge and technologies to U.S. industry. Cherri also serves on the Executive Committee of the Technology Transfer Working Group (TTWG).

Cherri is an experienced manager and leader with more than 30 years of experience with applying management “best practices” in a wide array of organizational settings. From industry to government, from Fortune 500 to small start-up companies, Cherri brings a wealth of real-world, practical experience to the Fermilab team.

In her early career, Cherri held a variety of engineering and manufacturing management positions with Exxon and General Motors. Cherri has also held senior executive positions at U.S. Department of Energy, including Director of the Office of Technology Utilization. In that role, Cherri led the Department’s implementation of the National Technology Transfer Competitiveness Act of 1989. Cherri is also familiar with the DOE national lab system, having served as the manager of the Chicago Operations Office in the mid-1990s. For the past 15 years, Cherri has been involved in a number of entrepreneurial ventures, from electronic components distribution, to systems integration services, to creating and operating a specialty retail store for pets and pet owners.

Cherri earned a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology and an MBA from Harvard Graduate School of Business.