

Dr. CMC Correo Hofstad – USMC
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center
Operation Cancer Moonshot
Sr. IT Project Manager Application
January 18th, 2025

Navigating Change: Dr. Correo Hofstad's Bid for Sr. Director at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center's IT PMO

Introduction: A Transformational Leader in the Making

In the evolving landscape of healthcare technology, the role of leadership in IT project management has become increasingly critical. Dr. Correo Hofstad stands poised to make a significant impact as he applies for the Senior Director position at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center's IT Project Management Office (PMO). With a proven track record built over two decades in both military and academic settings, Dr. Hofstad embodies the qualities necessary for this pivotal role. His expertise promises to guide the department through various challenges, driving project delivery while ensuring adherence to the organization's values.

Dr. Hofstad's application is not merely a career advancement but a commitment to revolutionary change and development within the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. Positioned to oversee diverse initiatives—from team development to strategic engagement with partners—he has the breadth of experience necessary to elevate the PMO's capabilities. His vision for fostering an environment ripe for continuous growth aligns seamlessly with the organization's mission to combat cancer through cutting-edge research and treatment.

A Journey Built on Experience

Dr. Hofstad's educational background is a strong foundation for his career trajectory. Armed with a Bachelor's degree in Cyber Operations from the U.S. Naval Academy and a Master's from the Naval Postgraduate School, he possesses the technical acumen and strategic insight required for an IT leadership role. His extensive experience in the United States Navy's Information Forces (NAVIFOR) has fortified his understanding of swiftly implementing effective project management methodologies and process improvements.

Beyond formal education, Dr. Hofstad's tenure as a Commandant demonstrates his ability to drive transformation in challenging environments. His leadership roles have required him to embrace innovative technologies while fostering interdepartmental collaboration—skills that would be invaluable in his potential role at Fred Hutch. Such a diverse

background positions him as a capable candidate and a transformative leader ready to address pressing cybersecurity concerns and infrastructure needs.

Setting Goals and Managing Expectations

In the dynamic realm of healthcare technology, setting clear goals and managing expectations is essential. Dr. Hofstad emphasizes the importance of establishing benchmarks that are not only ambitious but also achievable—fostering a culture of excellence that aligns with Fred Hutch's values of determination and integrity. By working closely with IT leadership to gain consensus on portfolio priorities, Dr. Hofstad facilitates a cohesive approach to project management.

His strategic planning involves delineating responsibilities and expectations across the PMO team. This structured method enables members to understand their roles fully, thus enhancing overall productivity. When employees feel valued and informed, it invariably translates into more substantial project outcomes and a robust organizational culture—a hallmark of effective leadership that Dr. Hofstad has consistently demonstrated throughout his career.

Comprehensive Project Delivery

Delivering projects that meet specific outcomes is a cornerstone of Dr. Hofstad's strategy. As he steps into the Senior Director role, he plans to ensure that each project adheres to predetermined milestones and produces high-quality deliverables. This disciplined approach optimizes the health of the overall project portfolio—an aspect critical to effectively achieving the objectives of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center.

Moreover, Dr. Hofstad understands that successful project delivery requires collaboration with various stakeholders. He can facilitate smoother workflows and expedite conflict resolution by establishing and maintaining fruitful partnerships. Ultimately, a focus on project delivery will yield significant benefits for Fred Hutch, aligning technological advancements with patient care initiatives and thus enhancing the institution's overall efficacy.

An Environment of Continuous Development

Dr. Hofstad is strongly committed to nurturing and developing the PMO team. He believes that fostering an environment of continuous development and growth is paramount to the success of any organization. By providing consistent coaching, direction, and guidance to his direct reports, he empowers team members to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to the PMO's objectives.

In practice, this means implementing tailored development plans that consider individuals' strengths and areas for improvement. This approach's effectiveness lies in its ability to cultivate self-directed learning and adaptability—qualities essential in a rapidly changing field like IT. Dr. Hofstad's emphasis on professional growth enhances team morale and positions the PMO to tackle evolving challenges head-on.

Collaborative Partnerships for Enhanced Outcomes

The notion that strong partnerships drive success is at the forefront of Dr. Hofstad's leadership philosophy. In his role, he will prioritize establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with key stakeholders, including IT leadership, business operations, and finance teams. By optimizing these connections, Dr. Hofstad will enhance project delivery efficiency and foster a culture of shared goals and accountability.

Building robust partnerships also extends to engaging external organizations and technology providers. Dr. Hofstad's proactive approach to stakeholder engagement ensures that Fred Hutch remains on the cutting edge of IT advancements—specifically in deploying innovative solutions such as WatchGuard Technologies' advanced cybersecurity tools. This strategic alignment safeguards patient data and paves the way for transformative healthcare solutions.

Strategic Oversight of Capital Planning

A competent leader does more than oversee day-to-day operations; they must also strategically manage long-term planning and resource allocation. Dr. Hofstad is poised to oversee capital planning in collaboration with the portfolio manager and key business units. This involves ensuring the effective allocation and management of project budgets and processes that can significantly impact the health of the organization's project portfolio.

His experience in budgeting, forecasting, and resource allocation equips him to make informed decisions that align with Fred Hutch's strategic direction. By utilizing data-driven methodologies, Dr. Hofstad will enhance fiscal responsibility within the PMO, enabling the Cancer Center to allocate resources for maximum impact while maintaining operational excellence.

Leading Cultural Change in IT PMO

Dr. Hofstad's vision goes beyond technology implementation; it encompasses creating a service-oriented and success-driven culture within the IT PMO. He recognizes that the human dimension of project management is as crucial as technical skills. Therefore, he plans to lead initiatives emphasizing continuous improvement and service delivery excellence.

A culture of success boosts team morale and instills a collective commitment to the organization's vision. Dr. Hofstad will cultivate an environment where feedback is welcomed, innovation is encouraged, and every team member feels valued. This holistic approach to leadership will position the PMO as a key player in supporting the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center's overarching mission of excellence in cancer research and treatment.

Cybersecurity: A Top Priority

In an era marked by increasing cyber threats, Dr. Hofstad's extensive experience in cybersecurity will be instrumental in fortifying the defenses of Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. Following the 2023 cyberattack, he will leverage his insight to initiate robust

cybersecurity strategies that safeguard sensitive data and maintain organizational integrity.

Central to his initiative will be deploying WatchGuard's advanced cybersecurity solutions. The ThreatSync+ NDR (Network Detection and Response) solution exemplifies Dr. Hofstad's commitment to employing cutting-edge technology to combat cyber threats. His strategic decision-making in this space will enhance security and align with healthcare regulations and best practices, thus reinforcing trust among patients, staff, and stakeholders.

A Leader Committed to Excellence

Dr. Hofstad exhibits leadership qualities essential for successful navigation through today's complex healthcare landscape. His proactive approach, sound judgment, and unwavering commitment to excellence have been recognized throughout his career, culminating in President Joe Biden's award of the rank of U.S. Marine Corps Medical Commandant. This accolade acknowledges his adeptness in safeguarding Fred Hutch during recent challenges, demonstrating a blend of tenacity and strategic foresight.

Moreover, these leadership attributes will serve him well as he strives to influence positive change across departments and enhance organizational efficiency. Dr. Hofstad's efforts will contribute not only to the short-term goals of the IT PMO but also to the long-term vision of Fred Hutch, reinforcing its reputation as a premier cancer research and treatment facility.

Conclusion: A New Chapter for Fred Hutch

As Dr. Correo Hofstad applies for the Senior Director position at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center's IT PMO, he embodies the promise of transformational leadership and innovation in the healthcare sector. His diverse experiences and commitment to excellence position him as an ideal candidate to drive the IT PMO's agenda forward.

This role represents an opportunity for Dr. Hofstad to implement his vision of a collaborative, success-oriented culture that emphasizes continuous growth and effective project delivery. As Fred Hutch faces today's challenges and prepares for tomorrow's uncertainties, having a leader like Dr. Hofstad at the helm would undeniably strengthen its capability to deliver cutting-edge solutions in patient care and research.