

CHRISTOPHER O’CONNOR

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TECHNOLOGY | DHSES

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CAREER SUMMARY

Innovative and results-driven technology leader with over 20 years of experience in developing and implementing IT products and strategies for New York State government. Proven track record in optimizing data and systems to meet business needs, driving digital transformation, and leading cross-functional teams to achieve organizational goals. Adept at leveraging technologies to enhance operational efficiency and support data-driven decision-making.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Master of Arts in Geography, specialization in GIS State University of New York at Albany	2002
Bachelor of Arts in Geography State University of New York at Albany	1996
New York State Leadership Institute Graduate New York State / Rockefeller College	2018
Geographic Information Systems Professional Certification GISCI	2022

TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Product Development | Geospatial | Data Management | SDLCs | Systems Implementation | Business Analysis
Analytics | AI | Vendor Management | IT Governance | Client Engagement | Project and Program Management

WORK EXPERIENCE

Deputy Commissioner for Technology | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2005 - Present

- Act as the senior level ITS executive embedded with the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, leading a DHSES-dedicated team of IT professionals.
- Develop and execute IT strategies aligned with DHSES objectives, manage IT budget, and identify opportunities for innovation.
- Oversee IT operations and support, procurement and policy, data management and analytics, geospatial, architecture and development, and business process and user experience efforts.

Lecturer | State University of New York at Albany 2003 - Present

- Design, develop, and deliver semester length course on the science and application of geographic information systems (GIS) and geospatial technologies.
- Teach undergraduate, graduate and PhD students.

Deputy Chief Data Officer | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2023 - 2025

- Manage daily operations of the Chief Data Office, including delivery of data-centric strategies, products, and services focused on data and AI governance, geospatial solutions, and data analytics.
- Develop geospatial product proposals and implementation plans.
- Coordinate cross-functional team focused on the implementation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the organization and across the client base, with a focus on generative AI.

- Portfolio Executive Director** | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2023
- Provide executive client agency relations for Environment, Energy, and Transportation Portfolio, which includes 7 NYS executive agencies.
 - Collaborate with NYS client agencies to align technology solutions with business goals.
 - Lead the development and deployment of new IT products and IT infrastructure.
- Data Management Services Director** | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2021- 2023
- Consolidate and lead a team of 140+ data management specialists.
 - Provide data engineering, business intelligence, analytics, geospatial, and data integration services.
 - Implement and optimize data management for over 25 executive agencies.
- Portfolio Shared Services Director** | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2018 - 2020
- Direct enterprise data management, business intelligence, analytics, and geospatial technologies for four executive agencies.
 - Support customer agency technology strategic planning processes.
 - Lead the provision of GIS services to 12 executive agencies.
- Business Solutions Deputy Director** | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2021- 2023
- Manage software application portfolio and development services for Department of Public Service, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Agriculture & Markets, and the Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation; with over 100 applications.
 - Directed activities of the Business Analysis Unit and the Geospatial Technologies Unit.
- Project Management Director** | NYS Office of Information Technology Services 2012- 2016
- Manage project portfolio for Environment & Energy Portfolio with a combined budget of \$40M across 5 state agencies.
 - Guide agency executive and program staff on IT investments and governance.
- PMO, GIS & Research Library Director** | NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 2010- 2012
- Direct the department's Project Management Office and manage project portfolio.
 - Direct GIS activities and coordination for the department.
 - Develop and implement agency-wide Project Management Methodology.
 - Manage diverse range of projects including custom builds and COTS implementations.
- IT Program Manager** | NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 2006- 2010
- Manage IT projects for the agency, including custom builds and COTS implementations.
 - Implement multi-agency Brownfield and Groundwater GIS Program with a \$5M+ budget.
 - Draft \$1.5M in grants to support interagency technology sharing initiatives.
 - Break down institutional barriers to data sharing between state agencies.
- Geospatial Technology Specialist** | NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 1996- 2006
- Provide geospatial services to the agency and partners.
 - Participate in planning and implementation of enterprise-level GIS.
 - Develop multi-platform ESRI software tools and statewide geospatial data sets.
 - Participate in FEMA's Map Modernization Program, developing new technologies and workflows for updated New York's Flood Insurance Rate Maps, leveraging advanced geospatial technologies.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Outstanding Technology and Customer Service Award Center for Digital Government NY	2018
NYS ITS Change Agent Award NYSOITS NY	2017
IT Managers of the Year Award NY IT Leadership Academy NY	2013