

P R E S S R E L E A S E – For Immediate Release

Milwaukee County Federated Library System Hires New Director
January 22, 2018

The Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board of Trustees is formally announcing the appointment of Steven Hesel as the Director, beginning January 22, 2018. MCFLS Board President Paul Ziehler stated that Mr. Hesel has the qualifications and expertise to deal with the policy and program priorities of the Board of Trustees. President Ziehler indicated that those priority items included strategic planning and ensuring Milwaukee Public Library/suburban cooperation. President Ziehler finally noted that Mr. Hesel has the management style the Board was looking for and understands the role of the Board of Trustees in relationship to the Director.

Hesel has been the MCFLS Library Systems Administrator since December, 2004. He received a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee in 1999, and had been a Bibliographic Instruction Librarian and Head Librarian for Milwaukee Area Technical College.

"I'm looking forward to working with the MCFLS Board and all of the member libraries," Hesel said. "Libraries are in the midst of an exciting time filled with changes, and I am optimistic that we can continue the strong tradition of library services in Milwaukee County."

Hesel replaces Bruce Gay, who resigned in November after serving as MCFLS Director since 2014.

MCFLS consists of 15 public library members. With 14 separate suburban libraries and the City of Milwaukee library system (Central Library and 12 branches), there are 27 public library buildings in Milwaukee County. In 2017, MCFLS member libraries circulated more than 7.4 million items to over 500,000 library cardholders. MCFLS provides the computer catalog and delivers books and media items between the libraries.