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CONTACTS:
Gregg Dodd, Marketing Director
Columbus Metropolitan Library
(614) 849-1043 office, (614) 205-7816 cell
gdodd@columbuslibrary.org
www.columbuslibrary.org

Ben Zenitsky, Marketing & Communications Specialist
Columbus Metropolitan Library
(614) 849-1045 office, (614) 315-3766 cell
bzenitsky@columbuslibrary.org
www.columbuslibrary.org

Library hires Chief Information Officer

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) has hired Dr. Carl Powell as Chief Information Officer (CIO). He begins his role at CML on Monday, July 25.

As CIO, Dr. Powell will report to the library's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), be responsible for providing visionary leadership to the library’s IT department and serve on CML’s Executive Leadership Team.

“Carl’s depth and breadth of IT experience, combined with his commitment to education, will make him a great asset to CML,” said CML CEO Pat Losinski.

A Kent native, Dr. Powell received his M.S. in computer science from Kent State University and his Ph.D. in education administration from Cleveland State University where he was an adjunct professor in education. He currently serves as Assistant Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Eastern Michigan University (EMU).

Dr. Powell began his IT career with IBM in Cleveland where he held various managerial positions, culminating as the Manager of IT Services for all IBM locations in Michigan and Ohio. Dr. Powell has also held technology management positions at KeyBank, Medical Mutual of Ohio and Progressive Insurance. He has also served as Chief Information Officer at Cuyahoga Community College in Ohio and at Metropolitan State University of Denver.

In addition to his professional career, Dr. Powell has served as a reserve officer in the Van Buren Township Police Dept. in Belleville, Michigan, and as an emergency medical technician with the Highland Rescue Team in Golden, Colorado, and with Donald Martens and Sons in Cleveland.

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CML’s previous CIO, MarKel Snyder, left to pursue an opportunity at Franklin University in January 2014, and the position was not immediately refilled.

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Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio since 1873. With its Main Library and 22 branches, CML is well known for signature services and programs like Homework Help Centers, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Club and Ready for Kindergarten. The library’s Strategic Plan supports the vision of “a thriving community where wisdom prevails,” which positions CML to respond to areas of urgent need: kids unprepared for kindergarten, third grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, college readiness and employment resources.

CML was named a 2011 National Medal Winner by the Institute for Museum and Library Services for work in community service, the highest honor for libraries and museums. Columbus Metropolitan Library has been rated a 5-Star Library by Library Journal for seven of the eight years the magazine has published its industry ratings.

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