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Gregory R. Mellas, Minneapolis, was appointed Metropolitan State University director for the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship (ICES) effective Dec. 19. This is a full-time probationary position.

In this role, he guides the integration of community engagement, community action and civic engagement and scholarship into the fabric of the university through curricular, co-curricular and institutional activities. As director he provides leadership to the university's Academic Internship program; School, Youth and Family Outreach program; American Democracy Project; youth literacy initiatives; community-university library-community outreach program, Individualized Study Abroad and the Community-based Learning program.

Mellas worked since 2006 as service learning director/Center for Civic Engagement leader and Spanish instructor at Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC). From 2003–2006 he was the service-learning coordinator at Metropolitan State University and MCTC. Earlier he worked as both an English as a second language and citizenship instructor at Chicanos Latinos Unidos En Servicio in Saint Paul, and as a Project SHINE coordinator at both Metropolitan State and MCTC. He also served two years in Paraguay with the U.S. Peace Corps.

He holds a B.A. international studies and Spanish from the University of St. Thomas and an M.S. in Spanish from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, is America's premier university for lifelong learning, providing unsurpassed, competitive

academic and professional degree programs at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels while maintaining affordability.