Willowbrook appointment to be official

Official word of the appointment of Dr. Miodrag Ristic as permanent director of Willowbrook State School is expected today from Dr. Alan B. Miller, state commissioner of mental hygiene.

Ristic, a 34-year-old Yugoslavian psychiatrist, has been acting director of the institution for mentally retarded since July.

Before his transfer to Willowbrook in 1969 as deputy director for clinical services, he had been medical director of Cambridge (Mass.) State School.

Ristic's attitude toward facilities for the retarded coincides with the concept of decentralization expressed by the Department of Mental Hygiene, and to that end he has been implementing "unitization" and other programs designed to break down the ratio of patients to personnel.

His ultimate goal, he has said, is to give intensive training to as many patients as possible, enabling them to return to their families and eventually function in community life.

After attending medical school in Yugoslavia, Ristic served his residency in London. He is married and the father of two daughters.