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For Immediate Release:

AUGUSTINE NAMED DEAN OF GRADUATE SCHOOL AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

CHARLESTON – Robert M. Augustine, acting dean of Eastern Illinois University's Graduate School, officially has been named dean following a national search.

"I am extremely pleased that Bob was chosen and has gladly accepted the position of dean of the Graduate School," said Teshome Abebe, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "He is a colleague who works hard and makes difficult decisions.

"Bob's sensitivity to graduate education and his efforts to embrace the dynamic changes taking place in the academy make his appointment even more critical here at EIU. We look forward to his able leadership."

As dean, Augustine plans to continue his plan to enhance the graduate assistantships program and to apply technology to the administration of graduate programs. Other priorities include a new publication that will focus on the scholarly work of EIU's faculty and students, and a new and enhanced web page being built by the director of the Office of Grants and Research

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to strengthen support for research and grant scholars. A series of grant writing workshops will be offered to further support grant development, while the International Office staff will be implementing a plan to meet and examine international education opportunities with academic departments.

The Graduate School and International Programs will be moving to newly remodeled offices during the Spring term. The new offices will provide the space and technology to enhance services to students.

Augustine, who came to Eastern in 1978 as an assistant professor of communication disorders and sciences, rose through the ranks to become chair of the department in 1990. He assumed the role of acting dean for the Graduate School in 1997.

"During my tenure at Eastern Illinois University I have had the opportunity to work with some of EIU's finest educators and staff members. I am excited about the continuing opportunity to work with these outstanding professionals to build and enhance one of EIU's strengths, its excellent master's, specialists and post baccalaureate programs," Augustine said.

"I am also challenged by the opportunity to increase the university's scholarly profile and to contribute to EIU's diversity through international education. Technology is offering new and innovative options for developing scholarship, advanced study and globalization. It is a unique and exciting time to be a member of EIU's family of educators and to be a contributor to an institution with a 100 year history of excellence in higher education."

Two months ago, Augustine was named a 1999 Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association – an honor offered to members of the association who have made significant contributions to the professions and the association. Augustine was recognized for contributions through academic leadership and to the state and national

associations:

- As professor and chair of Eastern's CDS' department, he has implemented innovative ideas which have assisted the program in achieving recognition for the excellence of its bachelor's and master's degree programs.
- As president of the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Augustine was successful in gaining state licensure for speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Illinois.
- Augustine served on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Task Force on Treatment Outcomes. During a four-year period, that task force developed the foundation for the National Outcomes Measurement System.
- He is currently a member of ASHA's Legislative Council where he served on the committees on Special Rules and Resolutions, and as a Legislative Council Floor Manager.
- During a recent convention, Augustine was elected coordinator of the Speech-Language Pathology Assembly.

The new dean received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in speech pathology and audiology at Illinois State University, and his doctorate in communication disorders and sciences from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. He and his wife, Kathy, reside in Charleston and are the parents of three sons.