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01/05/1989 - IBHE Budget Recommendation

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

IBHE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

CHARLESTON, IL--The Illinois Board of Higher Education staff's FY90 (1989-90) budget recommendations for Eastern Illinois University include a 16.2 percent increase in the institution's operating budget and nearly \$5 million for capital projects.

"This is an excellent set of recommendations," said Eastern President Stan Rives, "which, if approved by the General Assembly and the Governor, would enable us to make considerable progress in several areas."

The operating budget recommendation includes an FY90 budget of \$51,803,300--an increase of \$7,211,200 over the FY89 appropriation of \$44,592,100. This 16.2 percent increase is the highest percentage increase among the state's twelve public universities, and compares with a 14.5 percent increase for all public universities.

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Aside from formula increases (10 percent for salary, five percent for general price increases on goods and services, and 11 percent for library materials), the recommendation includes \$2,063,000 for program and institutional support at EIU.

Most of the program support funds for Eastern are for improving the quality of the undergraduate program, but funds are also provided for instituting a new specialist program in School Psychology as well as for economic development, strengthening minority educational opportunity, and improving school-college relationships, Rives said. Institutional support includes \$400,000 for deferred maintenance and \$150,000 for purchase of science equipment.

The \$4,944,500 capital budget recommendation for FY90 includes \$1,068,000 for equipment for the new College of Business facility; \$2,068,100 for remodeling of the Buzzard Building; \$1,163,800 for remodeling of the energy management system in Booth Library; and \$644,600 for a group of smaller repair and renovation projects.

"While this is an excellent recommendation," said President Rives, "the spring session of the legislature is still before us. We should not act as if the recommendation of the IBHE is the actual appropriation. In a word, the recommendation must still be approved by the General Assembly and by the Governor before the funds are actually available to the University."