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03-9

January 10, 2003

For Immediate Release:

UNIVERSITY APPOINTS NEW FEDERALLY MANDATED HIPAA PRIVACY OFFICER

CHARLESTON – Bryan Callaway, nurse practitioner at Eastern Illinois University's Health Service, has been appointed the chief privacy officer for the university by Interim President Louis Hencken, effective January 2003.

Eastern is actively engaged in preparing for compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), which was signed into federal law in 1996. This law sets standards and regulations for the use of personal health information. Additionally, this law requires the university to designate a chief privacy officer to administer and monitor HIPAA compliance.

Parts of the law require the university to be in compliance as early as April 14, 2003. Callaway's role is to provide guidance and assist in the identification, development, implementation and maintenance of information privacy policies and procedures in coordination with Eastern's administration and the Office of General Counsel.

As the chief privacy officer, he will act as a consultant to assist and guide departments who are required to comply with HIPAA rules and regulations, as determined by Eastern's general counsel. Duties also include overseeing delivery of initial privacy training to all required employees.

Additional information related to HIPAA compliance will be disseminated to the university community during the spring semester.

Callaway may be reached by phone at 581-2412 or by e-mail at csbkc@eiu.edu. His office is located in the Student Services Building, room 3053. Office hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.