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University Marketing and Communications

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February 2, 2000

For Immediate Release:

BONE MARROW REGISTRY/BLOOD DRIVE SET TO TAKE PLACE AT EIU

CHARLESTON – In order to increase the pool for potential bone marrow recipients -- especially those of under-represented cultures -- and to develop community and university interest for this pool, Eastern Illinois University's Office of Minority Affairs is sponsoring the area's first bone marrow registry/blood drive.

The event will take place between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Persons of all ethnic backgrounds are encouraged to participate. Although normally there is a charge for registering as a bone marrow donor, that charge will be waived during this drive.

Even those unable to give blood due to colds, a low iron level or being below the recommended weight for donating blood (110 pounds) can still participate in the bone marrow registry drive; a small vial of blood is all that is needed.

An informational packet may be obtained by contacting the Office of Minority Affairs, Blair Hall 111, on Eastern's campus. Those wishing to register in advance should phone Priscilla at 581-6690.