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## 02/26/1985 - CoB Receives Grant

University Marketing and Communications

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

# news

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Local/Area

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's College of Business has joined the U.S. government in a battle against death, injury and illness in the nation's work places.

Work injuries and occupational diseases number in the millions annually, and as a cause of death are exceeded only by stroke, cancer, and heart diseases.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) believes that "the same management principles and concepts that are applied to quality, cost, and production also must be applied to safety."

Based on that concept, NIOSH has awarded the College of Business a \$10,000 grant to include safety and health education information and skills in existing courses so that future management people will be sensitized to the potential for industrial accidents and how to effectively deal with this problem.

Dr. Foster C. Rinefort, who heads the five-member College of Business team involved in this project (codenamed Project Minerva, the name of the Roman Goddess of Wisdom), said "the problem solving must start with the manager on the floor of a production line, not in a corporate board room."

Dr. Jerry Geisler, Business Manager for the team explained the method: The focal point of Minerva is education and NIOSH has provided us the tools. These tools include ten case studies, an annotated bibliography, and previously published articles and studies describing safety and health management issues. Also included is a video tape lecture module.

"These curricula aids will be blended into existing courses taught by Doctors Jerry Geisler, Stuart Rosenkrantz, Edward Marlow, Edward Brankey

Add 1

Work Safety

and me. By the end of the year, more than 700 Eastern graduates will have received information about the problems of industrial safety."

When the pilot project is completed, a report covering faculty and student evaluation about the relative effectiveness of the activity will be submitted, Rinefort said. He added that "the bottom line, though, will come when these young men and women enter the management level in industry and the accident rate drops."

Eastern is the only University in Illinois to receive the grant, and one of three in the midwest. Rinefort's credentials include 15 years experience in the field, certifications, numerous published articles and service in the area over many years.

Rinefort said "project team members have a significant interest in the subject, years of industrial experience, and appropriate educational credentials."