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March 1, 1999

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SIGMA XI BANQUET

CHARLESTON -- The Eastern Illinois University chapter of Sigma Xi scientific research society will host its second annual banquet at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 5, in the University Ballroom in Eastern's student union.

The banquet is open to the public and features a buffet-style meal for \$14 per person. To make reservations, contact Sharon Nichols in Eastern's physics department at 581-3220.

The deadline for reservations is noon Wednesday. Checks should be made out to Sigma Xi, EIU Chapter, and delivered to Betty Smith, EIU's Department of Geology/Geography, Room 322 Physical Science Building, Charleston, IL 61920. For more information, e-mail Smith at [cfbes@eiu.edu](mailto:cfbes@eiu.edu).

"The banquet will provide an opportunity for socializing among local scientists, colleagues, friends and other interested community members. Both members and non-members of Sigma Xi are welcome. We will be inducting 12 new faculty and student members as part of

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the banquet ceremony and completing the signing of the original charter which created our new EIU chapter last year,” Smith said.

A free, public lecture by renowned psychologist Ray Hyman will follow the banquet at 8 p.m. in the University Ballroom. The University of Oregon faculty member will talk about “How Smart People Go Wrong.”

Hyman’s current research focuses on human error and how people get to believe what is not so. His more than 200 publications deal with information theory, perception, pattern recognition and problem solving.

Sigma Xi is an interdisciplinary and international scientific research honor society with a membership of 90,000 scientists and engineers from academia, government and the private sector. Throughout its history, more than 170 members have received the Nobel Prize.

Eastern’s chapter is actively seeking new faculty and student members to add to its already strong membership of about 65.