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January 15, 1992

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU TO ADMINISTER OCCUPATION INFORMATION PROJECT

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University has received more than \$500,000 in state and federal funding that will enable state officials to more accurately assess employment needs in Illinois and to respond to those needs.

Among the agencies funding the IOICC (Illinois Occupational Information Coordinating Committee) project are the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois State Board of Education, and Illinois Community College Board. The project is administered by Eastern's College of Education.

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The IOICC maintains, updates and delivers career and occupational information for the state's Occupational Information System, a computerized supply and demand reporting system which combines current occupational supply with current and projected occupational demand for the state and surrounding regions.

Charles Joley, dean of the College of Education, said Eastern works closely with the funding agencies to improve and enhance vocational training programs in Illinois.

Joley said, "The project will assist the University in attaining its goal of improving continuing education by providing courses and programs responsive to the educational needs of citizens in the University's service region with special attention to the in-service needs of educators."

Eastern's College of Education has also received additional state funding, totalling more than \$340,000, to administer two related projects--the Public Private Partnership Program (PPPP) and Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Professional Development Program.

The goal of PPPP is to create partnerships between business, industry, labor, and education through the sharing of resources which will lead to teacher upgrading and student training.

The JTPA program provides professional development activities to develop a more effective group of personnel to conduct programs.