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CHICAGO STUDENTS, FACULTY TO GET TASTE OF EASTERN

CHARLESTON, IL.--Twenty-one junior honor students and three faculty from Chicago's Percy Julian High School will get a first hand look at the Eastern Illinois University campus Monday, Feb. 22 and Tuesday, Feb. 23.

The EIU Committee for the Retention of Minority Students is sponsoring the trip and has designated Tuesday "Percy Julian Day" to recognize "the ongoing commitment Eastern has with state high schools, such as Percy Julian, to provide educational opportunities," according to Dr. Shirley Moore, dean, Academic Development.

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"Eastern's association with Percy Julian is a strong one," said Moore, adding that EIU faculty from the College of Education and Journalism Department have visited the school to provide consulting services.

Five teachers from Percy Julian have completed, in part, their teacher certification requirements at Eastern, she added. "Eastern also actively recruits at Percy Julian in search of minority students who would like to attend Eastern's summer leadership and college prep camp for minority high school students."

Following their arrival Monday night, the group will attend the EIU-Northern Iowa basketball game. On Tuesday, they will participate in a campus orientation and three mini-classes on black music, crisis intervention and Afro-American studies.

During lunch on Tuesday, EIU President Stan Rives will present a plaque from the university to Percy Julian in honor of the day and Vice President of Student Affairs Glenn Williams will welcome them to Eastern. A student panel, comprised of EIU minority student leaders, will give a presentation on "What it's like at EIU."

"The event enables Percy Julian faculty to become more familiar with Eastern and its facilities and their students to learn about the many educational opportunities available," Moore said.

"Dr. Edward Oliver, principal at Percy Julian, and Pat Swilly, assistant principal, have been very supportive of the program and have worked closely with Dr. Glenn Williams to plan joint ventures," she added.

Moore said the campus housing office has provided some of the housing for the participants and have made all the meal arrangements.

Committee members who planned the event include John Coffey, advisor, Academic Assistance Center; Jim Johnson, assistant dean, Student Personnel Services; Johnetta Jones, chairperson, Afro-American Studies; Bill Kirk, psychology professor; Claudia Lane, counselor, Counseling Center; William Smith, Admissions counselor; Sandra Westbrooks, assistant professor, Student Teaching; and Moore, chairperson.