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May 8, 2001

For Immediate Release:

EIU ALUM NAMED DIRECTOR, HOUSING AND DINING SERVICES

CHARLESTON – Nearly 20 years after receiving both a bachelor's and master's degree from Eastern Illinois University, Mark Hudson will be returning to his alma mater as its new director of housing and dining services.

"I feel very honored and privileged to have been selected," he said. "I was greatly impressed by all those with whom I came in contact during my interview, and look forward to partnering with them, and many others, as we work toward our shared goals of making the housing and dining program at EIU an outstanding resource for its residents."

Since graduating from Eastern in 1983, Hudson has worked at the University of North Dakota where he currently serves as interim associate director of residence services. He will use his 18 years of experience from there, as well as his familiarity with Eastern, to enhance the university's continuing tradition of excellence in housing and dining services.

"I am excited to arrive on campus and reacquaint myself with old friends and make many new ones," Hudson said. "I look forward to building the partnerships with those individuals that will

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Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 10,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern's pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.

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MARK HUDSON

make residence hall, Greek Court and University Apartment students feel very well served and appreciative of a good return for the investment they have made in us for their housing and dining needs.”

Hudson, who received his bachelor of science degree in business (1981) and his master of science degree in education (1983), remained actively involved in residence hall life throughout his years at Eastern. He served as Weller Hall president, Residence Hall Association representative and graduate hall counselor; as a three-year resident assistant in Stevenson Hall; as both vice president and president of the National Residence Hall Honorary; and as the national director of the NRHH.

“I was greatly impacted by the housing program during my entire college career,” Hudson said. “As a newly entering student at EIU in 1976, the housing system ‘took me in’ and provided great opportunities for learning outside the classroom. I look forward to continuing that great tradition.”

Hudson said he looks forward to “engaging the residents” and finding out what works well for them and what changes can be made to meet their evolving needs.

“We will establish a long-term plan for all dimensions of the organization and I pledge my full energy in making those plans become a reality,” he added.

Hudson, who will begin his new position at Eastern on July 1, said he and his family are “looking forward to becoming active members of the Charleston community.” He and his wife, Donna Turner Hudson, have been married for 14 years and are the parents of two children – Andy, 11, and Danny, 6. Donna Hudson runs her own conflict management business, serving clients throughout the United States.

The new director is the son of Harold and Edna Mae Hudson, who reside in East Alton, and is a 1976 graduate of East Alton-Wood River Community High School.