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NEWS

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For Immediate Release:

ANNUAL PBK LECTURE TO FOCUS ON MEDIA'S IMPACT ON POLITICS, EDUCATION

CHARLESTON – A nationally renowned scholar in the field of ethics will discuss the impact of the media on politics and education during the 14th annual Phi Beta Kappa fall lecture, set to take place later in the month on the campus of Eastern Illinois University.

William F. May, professor of ethics emeritus, Southern Methodist University in Dallas, will deliver this year's address, "Media Professionals and Celebrities: Unordained Teaching Authorities Today," at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, in Buzzard Auditorium.

The lecture, jointly sponsored by Eastern's Office of Academic Affairs and the national Phi Beta Kappa society, is free and open to the public.

May served as the Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics at Southern Methodist University, where he also founded and directed the Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility. Before joining the faculty at Southern Methodist University, he was the Joseph P. Kennedy Sr. Professor of Christian Ethics at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University.

May also founded and chaired the Department of Religious Studies at Indiana University, and earlier he served as chair of the religion department at Smith College. He was a visiting professor at Yale University (2001) and a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar during 1999-2000.

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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.

He is past president of the American Academy of Religion and a founding fellow of the Hastings Center, where he co-chaired its research group on death and dying. He has received fellowships from the Danforth Foundation, the Lilly Endowment and the Guggenheim Foundation, and is the recipient of three teaching awards: Distinguished Teaching Award, Indiana University; Scholar/Teacher Award, SMU; and Outstanding Teaching Award, American Academy of Religion.

May also is the author of *A Catalogue of Sins; The Physicians' Covenant: Images of the Healer in Medical Ethics; The Patient's Ordeal; and Testing the Medical Covenant: Active Euthanasia and Health Care Reform*. His recent works include an edited volume, *Entrusted with Giving and Receiving: Am I My Foolish Brother's Keeper?*, and a comparative study of eight professions under the title, *The Beleaguered Rulers: The Public Obligation of the Professional* (2001).

He received his bachelor of arts degree from Princeton University and his B.D. and Ph.D. from Yale University.