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06/13/1990 - Adult Students Receive Awards

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ADULT STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS

CHARLESTON, IL.--Adult students at Eastern Illinois University were honored for their achievements at the School of Adult and Continuing Education's third annual recognition ceremony held recently.

Shirley Neal, director of Eastern's Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts Degree Program, presented BOG/BA Degree Program Director's Awards to spring graduates Jack Allen Poff of Effingham, president and owner of AFS Enterprises, Inc., Beecher City; and Master Sgt. Bryan L. Perdue of Rantoul, who is stationed at Chanute Air Force Base.

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Mary S. Hackl of Ridge Farm, a media data clerk/statistical clerk at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Danville, received honorable mention.

AWARDS

Neal said the Director's Award was created to recognize and honor one or more graduates of Eastern's BOG/BA Degree Program who exemplify the highest achievements of adults committed to completing their undergraduate education.

She explained that the BOG/BA Degree Program offers students flexibility in earning a fully-accredited bachelor's degree through a combination of coursework and prior learning assessment.

Neal also presented awards to 29 faculty in recognition of their support of the program and presided over the induction of 26 BOG/BA students into Alpha Sigma Lambda, an honorary society dedicated to the advancement of scholarship and high scholastic achievement in an adult learner's academic career. A total of 121 new members were inducted.

Larry Helsel, chairman of Eastern's School of Technology, and Carol Helwig, acting chairwoman of Eastern's Elementary Education Department, were inducted as professional members.

During the ceremony, Valerie Buchanan of Champaign received the Career Occupations Student Excellence Award. Buchanan, who is in the final stages of completing her Career Occupations degree, was selected for the award based on her academic record, leadership, positive influence on fellow students and personal qualities.

Buchanan, manager of nursing at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, was nominated for the award by fellow Career Occupations students and selected for the honor by an alumni committee.

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"A ceremony such as this is especially important for the School of Adult and Continuing Education and Eastern Illinois University because it brings attention and honor to the growing number of adult students," said William Hine, dean of the School of Adult and Continuing Education, who presided over the ceremony.

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AWARDS