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NEWS

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For Immediate Release:

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN EIU AND ITS FACULTY UNION

CHARLESTON – Union leaders representing Eastern Illinois University and its faculty union, University Professionals of Illinois, have announced that a tentative agreement has been reached between the two parties.

A summary of the agreement is expected to be released in the near future. The agreement will be submitted to the faculty and Eastern's Board of Trustees for ratification as soon as possible.

In a joint statement, Charles Delman, vice president and chief negotiator for UPI, and Robert Wayland, chief negotiator for Eastern's administration, said they were pleased that a tentative settlement had been reached. Both also expressed satisfaction with the terms agreed upon in the four-year contract.

The announcement of a tentative agreement came Thursday (Feb. 6, 2003) afternoon following a lengthy negotiation session which lasted throughout the night. The two parties, along with a federal mediator, met from 3 p.m. Wednesday until 5 a.m. Thursday. Delman and Wayland met again later in the day to reach a resolution to some of the final details of the contract.

Negotiations began in Spring 2002, with both sides agreeing to an indefinite extension of the current contract, originally set to expire Aug. 31, 2002.