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February 25, 1992

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BRAZILIAN STUDENTS EXPERIENCE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

CHARLESTON, IL--Twenty Brazilian students are completing their last week at Eastern Illinois University as part of a student exchange agreement with the Fundacao (Foundation) Armando Alvares Penteado (FAAP).

During the past eight weeks, the students, who attend the foundation's university in Sao Paulo, Brazil, have been learning what it's like to study at an American university by attending classes in their field of study.

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Jyoti Prasad, EIU associate professor of management/marketing and coordinator of this year's exchange program, said, "By interacting with American students and speaking English, these foreign exchange students have been gaining a great cultural experience."

The students have been here during what is their summer vacation in Brazil and have been attending regular classes and living in dormitories, he explained.

"Although the students have not been earning college credit, they have had the opportunity to observe American culture through courses in their own interest of study," Prasad said.

He said for those who want to work in the United States, the payoff will come later when they are looking for a job. "They will have an edge over other Brazilian students who have not had experience interacting with Americans."

As part of the exchange agreement, 10 Eastern students, accompanied by Prasad, will attend FAAP University from May 17 to June 15. Prasad said students interested in going to Brazil during intersession should contact him at 581-6922.

They will be required to choose either management, history, business education or economics as their area of study and will earn three credit hours toward their degrees.

In addition to attending seminars, presentations and classes, they will be expected to write a paper on their experiences, Prasad said.