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2-28-1992

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "02/28/1992 - Jacques Named Coordinator of Disabilities" (1992). 1992. 263.

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92-56

February 28, 1992

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JACQUES NAMED COORDINATOR OF DISABILITIES

CHARLESTON, IL--Martha Jacques of Charleston has been named coordinator of disability services at Eastern Illinois University.

She will coordinate support services to meet the needs of disabled students, faculty and staff, such as making special arrangements for visually impaired or print disabled students to take tests or assisting in the development of accommodations for those people in the campus community who have physical disabilities.

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Jacques is available to counsel individuals with learning and physical disabilities, hearing and vision impairments, or anyone experiencing extreme emotional stress.

She has a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling and more than 10 years' experience working with individuals with disabilities.

"I will be involved in academic and vocational counseling and will be interpreting diagnostic testing done elsewhere for those with learning disabilities. Appropriate academic accommodations will be devised depending on each student's particular needs," Jacques said.

She also hopes to develop individualized programs for persons who require specific accommodations. "For example, if a student has a visual problem or is learning disabled, arrangements can be made for lectures to be tape recorded or for tests to be taken with the assistance of an instructor or myself," Jacques said. To facilitate such arrangements, she has begun a program of student-volunteer readers. Response to her initial request for volunteers has been extremely good, she reports.

Jacques also plans to initiate campus and community programs to increase awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Her office is located in Eastern's Counseling Center in the Buzzard House on Seventh Street. For more information about what services are available or to arrange an appointment, students, faculty and staff may call Jacques at 581-6583.