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06/24/1988 - BOG Member Wilma Sutton Addresses Minority Students

University Marketing and Communications

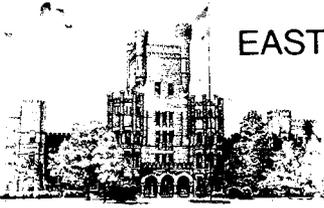
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BOG MEMBER WILMA SUTTON ADDRESSES MINORITY STUDENTS

CHARLESTON, IL.--Wilma Sutton, a member of the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities, today told a group of minority high school students attending a Summer Leadership and College Prep Camp at Eastern Illinois University that the BOG is concerned about the need for increased funding for education.

"What concerns us (the BOG) is that the current budget situation for higher education in Illinois may not provide adequate funds for the BOG's five universities to sustain a level of programming that will address the System's needs."

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SUTTON

She added, "We are very supportive of a modest income tax increase, such as the one currently being considered by the Governor and the leaders of the General Assembly.

"The increased funding for higher education provided in the plan would, among other things, enable us to not only continue current Affirmative Action programs, but to build on them as well."

Sutton said the BOG is committed to increasing opportunities for the participation and success of minority students in higher education.

The Board has developed systemwide initiatives to address the need to increase representation of minorities and women in the faculty and administrative ranks, including the Board of Governors Fellow Program, which provides mentoring and administrative experience for minority and female faculty and staff, and the Board's Seminar on Affirmative Action and Sexual Harassment.

Another systemwide effort, the Minority Internship Program, was implemented in 1984. This program provides minority students enrolled at BOG universities with professional work experience through internships with state and local government agencies and private organizations.