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August 15, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

CHARLESTON -- Nominations from faculty, staff, students and alumni for honorary degrees to be awarded by Eastern in May 1998 are being accepted by the university's Honorary Degree Committee.

Honorary degrees may be awarded to persons who have achieved a record of major distinction at the state and/or national level in such areas as education, public service, research, humanities, business, or the professions, or, in exceptional circumstances, those who have made an especially outstanding /significant contribution to the university or higher education even though they have not achieved national/statewide recognition.

Elected or appointed public officials in state/local government, members/employees of Eastern's Board of Trustees, and members and employees of the Board of Higher Education are ineligible for award of an honorary degree during their term of office/employment.

Nomination materials/information may be obtained by contacting Charles Titus, chair, Honorary Degree Committee, History Department, 581-6362 or 581-3310. The deadline for all nomination forms and supporting materials is Oct. 17.

Past honorary degree recipients include Newton E. Tarble, Richard A. Lumpkin, J. Ray Livesay, Helen Douglas Hart, Burl Ives, Quincy V. Doudna, Celeste Holm, Hazel Watson, Gwendolyn Brooks, William C. Warfield, Thelma Keller and Joan Embery.