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September 10, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU MOVING FORWARD WITH PLANS FOR FOOD COURT

CHARLESTON -- Initial planning for the University Union food court at Eastern Illinois University is underway.

Joyce Fasano, consultant from The Cornyn Fasano Group in Portland, Oregon, has been retained to assist in developing a master plan for the food court and will be visiting campus next week.

During her first visit to campus Sept. 16-19, she will meet with individuals from various campus areas to gain a better understanding of Eastern's campus and its needs, said Shirley Stewart, director of student services/career services, who is coordinating her visit. "Fasano will identify the unique characteristics of the campus community before helping to develop the partnering relationships with vendors so as to provide the best possible student-centered food court," Stewart said.

Fasano will meet with several student groups, including residents of Greek Court and the residence halls, and members of Student Senate, University Board, Black Student Union, Latin American Student Organization, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Allies Union.

An open meeting for all Eastern students and other interested individuals has been set aside for 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16 in the Paris Room on the third floor of the University Union. Anyone wishing to meet with the consultant and share his/her opinions on the food court is encouraged to attend this special open meeting.

The consultant also will meet with staff from the University Union, the residence halls, facilities planning and management, dining services (housing and University Union), Union business office, Eastern's administration and the Charleston Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee.

"We are very excited about moving forward with this approved campus improvement project," Stewart said. The students will be involved in this project from the very start and this involvement will continue until our food court is completed and open for business."

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FOOD COURT

Last November, Eastern students voted on a \$50-per-semester fee increase for 20 years to pay for the bonds that would fund \$9.5 million in campus improvements, including a food court.

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