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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WOMEN'S STUDIES COUNCIL TO HONOR FOUR WOMEN

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's Women's Studies Council will honor two Charleston women and two EIU students at its twelfth annual awards banquet Tuesday, March 31, concluding Women's History and Awareness Month.

The Council will present "Women of Achievement" awards to Melody Allison of Charleston, a registered nurse; Kathleen Roberts of Charleston, director of the Coles County Mental Health Center; M. Antoinette Spinner of Pana, EIU senior political science major; and Evette Pearson of Chicago, EIU junior journalism major.

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Each recipient will be recognized for their contributions to the University and/or the larger community and efforts to advance the status of women and improve the quality of their lives.

Guest speaker Molly Hall, WCIA TV Springfield Bureau Chief and an EIU alumnus, will discuss "Women in Political Life." During the banquet, she will be presented with a Special Recognition Award from Eastern's Phi Alpha Eta undergraduate women's honorary.

The banquet, open to the public, will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Mattoon Golf and Country Club. To make reservations, call Women's Studies Council members Eleanor Midkiff at 581-2323 or 348-8088, or Edith Hedges at 345-2631 after 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$13 per person.

In addition to her contributions to the nursing profession, Allison serves as president of the League of Women Voters and is founder and president of the Coles County Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides.

Roberts is recognized by her co-workers for the care and sincerity she displays in her profession and for her success in rehabilitating patients and helping them overcome social barriers. She is active in the Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Spinner is noted for her outstanding leadership in student organizations. She was recently nominated for Eastern's Union Board "Outstanding Senior Award" and is actively involved in the Campus Literacy Core, Amnesty International, and Habitat for Humanity.

Pearson is currently editorial page editor of Eastern's newspaper, the Daily Eastern News. She will be honored for her skills in journalism and for her involvement with minority students on campus.

The Council will award EIU graduate student Mike Brown of Altamont with a certificate and cash prize for winning first place in its writing competition. Brown wrote on "Don't Start the Revolution Without Me: Women and the Revolution in the Muslim World - Two Works by Mahfuz." Spinner will also receive an honorable mention for her essay on "Compulsory Contraception: The Use of Norplant."