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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

KINDRICK SPEAKS TO MATTOON KIWANIS

CHARLESTON, IL.--Dr. Robert Kindrick, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Eastern Illinois University, gave a presentation on Eastern at the June 14 meeting of the Mattoon Kiwanis Club.

Underfunding is one of the major challenges Eastern faces, Kindrick said. Eastern, the second most cost efficient public university in the state, remains the most underfunded public university in the state, he said.

Kindrick said compounding inadequate funding has been record enrollments. Because of Eastern's popularity among high school graduates, the University was forced to close freshmen and transfer admissions for the Fall semester of 1989 in October, 1988.

Because of inadequate state funding, Kindrick said, Eastern has had to impose two substantial mid-year tuition increases to allow the University to continue offering a quality education program and make up for inadequate appropriations from the General Assembly.

He noted that because of inadequate state funds for the past 10 years, Eastern President Stan Rives has had to institute a drive to downsize Eastern's enrollment by 200 students annually for the next five years.

But Kindrick also noted that in spite of funding problems, Eastern has maintained its tradition of "Excellence in Education." In fact, a publication by the College Research Group of Concord, Massachusetts, lists Eastern as "one of the most recognized and prestigious universities among the 1,500 4-year colleges in the United States.

He said Eastern has the second highest retention and persistence rate of all the state colleges and universities in Illinois.

Kindrick said during 1988, the University initiated a total review of its undergraduate program. The Undergraduate Study Report contains specific recommendations for further improving Eastern's excellent program and assuring it remains the best available of any public university in the state.

Kindrick's appearance was organized through the University Relations Office at Eastern. Any club or organization representative who would like to request a speaker to present a program on Eastern Illinois University, may contact University Relations at (217) 581-5981.