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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

# news

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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SANDY RIVES ACTIVE IN AASCU'S SPOUSES PROGRAM

CHARLESTON, IL.--Sandy Rives of Charleston, coordinator of the Women's Expo and Health Fair at Eastern Illinois University and wife of Eastern President Stan Rives, is one of the featured spouses in a publication by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

Rives is among 25 presidential spouses to participate in AASCU's Spouses Program, where each women is asked to author an article on a special project she has spearheaded.

Her summary of the Women's Expo is among many different types of projects highlighted in AASCU's new publication titled "For Campus and Community."

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The publication not only documents some university/college and community-enhancing projects developed and executed by presidential spouses, but also provides personalized glimpses of the workings behind the projects.

In her project summary, Rives explains that the Women's Expo is an outgrowth of a series of community luncheons held with business and professional women and homemakers to determine the unmet concerns of women and their issues of interest.

In the three years she has coordinated the Expo, Rives has met with 2,500 women in 17 central Illinois and western Indiana counties. She uses the input from these women to plan workshop topics for each Expo.

"Expo '88 was a highly successful event that suggests good things for Expo '89. It (Expo) was the best ever and provided a positive and rewarding experience for all of the 1,300 participants," she said.

Rives has already begun seeking sponsors for next year's event on March 4, 1989, and identifying the best qualified people available regionally to present workshops.

Expo '89 will feature workshops on topics of interest to women, exhibits, health screening, style show and brunch/lunch, but will include a new dimension--a Teen Expo.

"With the input from women and teens throughout Illinois, Expo '89 is sure to be bigger and better," Rives said.

Through the efforts of Rives and many volunteers, interest in the Expo has continued to grow annually. The first Expo in 1986 drew a crowd of nearly 700, while Expo '88 was attended by more than 1,200 women. Rives expects attendance at Expo '89 to top '88 figures.

Her work with Women's Expo has been recognized by local, state and national organizations, including the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), which last year named Rives a gold medalist for her outstanding volunteer work.