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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PRESIDENT RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University President Stan Rives will be recognized next month by the Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education (ICBCHE) for his "Outstanding Leadership" in the support of ethnic and cultural diversity in higher education.

Rives will be presented ICBCHE's leadership award at its May 28 spring conference awards banquet in Chicago. He is only the third individual in the 10-year history of ICBCHE to receive this honor.

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Johnetta Haley, ICBCHE chairperson, said, "President Rives has demonstrated by his actions, leadership, boldness, fearlessness, and professionalism that he is deserving of this honor. His efforts have continued to guide Eastern Illinois University toward a more ethnic and culturally diverse campus."

Some of his accomplishments in these areas include the University's "Partnerships for Excellence" program for minority high school students, Summer Leadership Camp for Minorities, Minority Task Force and Visiting Professorship for Cultural Diversity.

She said the purpose of ICBCHE is to serve as a forum for discussions of solutions to concerns about education for Blacks; to pool institutional resources to improve the climate of educational and career opportunities for Blacks; and to develop strategies for increasing the presence and representation of Blacks in the state's educational system.

ICBCHE is comprised of persons in Illinois who are involved in or concerned about various facets of post-secondary education, and includes faculty, staff, students, members and staff of boards and agencies, and state legislators.

Eastern is an institutional member of ICBCHE and is represented on the ICBCHE Steering Committee by Beverly Gartin, assistant dean of the College of Fine Arts; Johnetta Jones, director of minority affairs; William Colvin, director of Afro-American Studies; and Bill Ridgeway, zoology professor.