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09/12/1988 - Eastern Closes Spring Undergrad Admissions

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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September 12, 1988

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN CLOSES SPRING UNDERGRAD ADMISSIONS

CHARLESTON, IL--Due to an unprecedented high enrollment for this Fall Semester, and in conjunction with a planned enrollment reduction over the next five years, Eastern Illinois University has imposed a cutoff of freshmen and senior college transfer admissions for Spring Semester 1989 effective Friday, September 16.

Eastern has a fall enrollment of 10,510, nearly 4% over last year and freshmen applications for admission for Spring Semester 1989 are 49 percent above the number received at this time last year.

"We regret the need to close undergraduate admission for the Spring Semester," said President Stan Rives, "but we are pleased that more students want to attend Eastern than we have the resources or facilities to accommodate."

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EASTERN CLOSES SPRING ADMISSIONS

In a letter dated September 6 to all high schools and public community colleges in Illinois, the University had announced the possibility of an early cutoff for the Spring Semester of 1989.

Affected by the cutoff for Spring Semester will be beginning freshmen and undergraduate transfers except those transfers from Illinois Public Community Colleges who (a) hold baccalaureate-oriented associate degrees or (b) have completed a minimum of 45 semester hours prior to Fall 1988 and are currently enrolled in an Illinois Public Community College.

Other exempt categories include former students applying for readmission, graduate applicants, minority applicants, and applicants who are recipients of designated institutional scholarships and awards.

President Rives said, "... we have no alternative to reducing future enrollment to a level that we can effectively serve with the resources available to us. The alternative is certain deterioration of the quality of our educational program ... something we cannot allow to happen to our University."

Without increased funding, Rives said Eastern will admit approximately 200 fewer students a year over the next five years. He said the University must maintain flexibility to adjust the figure upward or downward depending on actual appropriations and protection of Eastern's future vitality.

"Put simply," he said, "we cannot continue to offer a quality academic program by serving more students with less state support."