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7-1-1992

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "07/01/1992 - Eastern's Botany Department Honored" (1992). *1992*. 569. https://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1992/569

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July 1, 1992

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

92-226

EASTERN'S BOTANY DEPARTMENT HONORED

CHARLESTON, IL--At its annual meeting, held at the University of Illinois last week, the North Central Division of the American Phytopathological Society recognized Eastern Illinois University's Botany Department for its contribution to plant pathology.

The American Phytopathological Society is a national organization of 4,500 plant pathologists, who identify and coordinate control of plant diseases.

According to William Weiler, acting chair of Eastern's Botany Department, Eastern was recognized because its botany students "are extremely well prepared for graduate programs at other schools-sometimes even more so than their own students."

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BOTANY DEPARTMENT HONORED

Jerald Pataky, professor of plant pathology at the U of I, said, "Eastern has been a consistent source of good graduate students for us. We just wanted to tell Eastern thanks."

More than thirty-five Eastern graduates have become plant pathologists. They have had careers with major industries such as Anheuser-Busch, DuPont, and Quaker Oats. Others have taught at such major universities as Ohio State, Louisiana State, and the University of Bonn in Germany.

Considering that Eastern does not have a graduate or undergraduate program in plant pathology, "thirty-five is a relatively large number of plant pathologists to have come out of there," Pataky said.

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