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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NORTH TO RETIRE

CHARLESTON, IL--Making students believe in themselves and showing them how to apply their knowledge to real-life situations is the approach John North of Charleston has used to motivate them to learn during his 22-year teaching career at Eastern Illinois University.

North, who will retire in August as chair and professor in the secondary education and foundations department at Eastern, has spent more than 35 years in the education field refining his teaching techniques and striving to maintain strong student-teacher relationships.

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"Successful teachers and administrators have students uppermost in their minds. They let them know they have confidence in them and they involve them in the decision-sharing process," North said.

He added, "My approach to teaching is the same as that in administration. I try to create a harmonious environment for individuals to learn and to work by being honest, informative, diplomatic and most of all, a good listener."

His success as an administrator is indicative of his selection for Eastern's 1992 Service Award in Administration.

North credits his success to the excellent faculty in the secondary education and foundations department, many of whom serve on major university councils, are active in national organizations and publish widely.

North has enjoyed his dual role as teacher and administrator, particularly his involvement in the University's Alternate Secondary Education program, which gives future teachers flexibility in instruction and early exposure to public high school classrooms.

In addition to teaching Alternate Secondary Education classes, North has spent more than 25 semesters off-campus, traveling thousands of miles, to teach EIU graduate courses at area community colleges and workshops for public school teachers.

While his dream of establishing a Master of Arts in Secondary Education degree program at Eastern was never fulfilled, North said he is proud of his role in increasing enrollments in courses leading to a Master of Science in Education degree.

Other career highlights include his term as chair of the University's Faculty Senate and service on the Council on Graduate Studies, University Personnel Committee and Intercollegiate Athletic Board.

For years, North was also active in the Charleston community as a member of Rotary, Chamber of Commerce and the Charleston School Board. He was assistant superintendent for instruction for Charleston public schools from 1966-69.

He also refereed baseball and basketball games in the Central Illinois area for more than 30 years.

North and his wife, Jean, who recently retired as a second grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary School in Charleston, plan to retire in Palm Harbor, Fla. He intends to teach part-time and advise several EIU students who will be student teaching in the Tampa area.

They will also visit their sons, Steve in Vermont, and Mike in Kentucky.