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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BATES NAMED CHAIR OF HEALTH STUDIES

CHARLESTON, IL--Robert Bates has been named chair of the Department of Health Studies at Eastern Illinois University.

He has been acting chair since Fall 1990 when former chair Martin Reed resigned to return to teaching at Eastern.

Bates oversees 12 full-time and four part-time faculty and 145 students majoring in health studies. Eastern offers a bachelor's degree in health studies with an option in community health and teacher's certification. The department also offers minors in driver education and health communication (in conjunction with the speech communication department).

As chair, his duties include budgeting, curriculum development, and faculty and staff development and supervision.

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During Bates' tenure as acting chair, the department has successfully completed an evaluation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and a survey of departmental alumni.

He earned his bachelor's degree in industrial technology, master's in driver and traffic safety education and doctorate in health education with a concentration in safety education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Bates came to Eastern in 1988 as an assistant professor of health studies, after teaching for seven years at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg.

He serves as chair of the educational research section of the Educational Resources Division of the National Safety Council and as public education chair of the East Coles County Chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Bates has performed service in the area of occupational safety and health for corporations and law enforcement driving programs. Recently, he was invited to participate in a driving program to teach proper use of anti-lock brakes by one of the American car manufacturers.

He and his wife Kathleen, a speech pathologist, and children Christopher, Mark, Katie and Brian live in Charleston.