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3-9-1991

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#### **Recommended Citation**

University Marketing and Communications, "03/09/1991 - Verna Armstrong Assigned to AASCU in Washington" (1991). *Press Releases*. 1355.

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March 9, 1991

### VERNA ARMSTRONG ASSIGNED TO AASCU IN WASHINGTON

Eastern Illinois University President Stan Rives announced today the assignment of Dr. Verna Armstrong to the Washington, D.C. office of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities(AASCU).

Dr. Armstrong has served for the past six years at Eastern as Vice President for Administration and Finance, a title recently changed to Vice President for Business Affairs.

At AASCU Dr. Armstrong will serve as a Senior Consultant to the association's health professions education task force, a group which is examining the appropriate role of AASCU institutions in the preparation of future health service professionals. The task force will work with the Pew Health Professions Commission.

"This represents a significant professional opportunity for Dr. Armstrong," said President Rives, "and one for which she is well qualified. Dr. Armstrong has degrees in pharmacy and toxicology, served Eastern as Professor of Health Studies as well as Vice President for Business Affairs, and served as a member of the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center Board for several years."

"In addition," said Rives, "this work will benefit the nine Illinois state universities who are AASCU members, as well as the health services profession and all American colleges and universities which prepare students for careers in health care services. I have made this assignment because I believe it to be in the best interests of Dr. Armstrong and Eastern Illinois University."

"The assignment to AASCU," according to President Rives, "is effective immediately, although Dr. Armstrong will probably be in Charleston until the end of the month to deal with some personal business." The University will continue to provide Dr. Armstrong's salary through February 29, 1992.

"I view this as a significant professional opportunity," said Armstrong, "and one which will allow me to make a contribution to my profession. I leave Eastern with regret, having made many friends in Charleston and in the University community, but I'm excited about the work at AASCU."

President Rives indicated the new assignment for Dr. Armstrong involved consultation with AASCU President Allan Ostar and Board of Governors Universities Chancellor Thomas Layzell. He also reported that the University will announce the appointment of an interim Vice President for Business Affairs next week.