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3-12-1991

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "03/12/1991 - EIU President Gives State of the University report" (1991). *Press Releases*. 1367.

https://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases/1367

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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91-102

March 12, 1991

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PRESIDENT GIVES STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY REPORT

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University President Stan Rives today (March 12) gave his eighth annual State of the University Report to faculty and staff. "This report," said Rives, "was briefer than usual because I considered it important to allow plenty of time for questions and comments."

The report focused on operating budgets, academic program priorities, and campus development.

Rives identified making the temporary income tax surcharge permanent the highest budgetary priority for the University and education. "Without that," he said, "prospects for education funding next year turn from lean or grim to disasterous."

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STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

The President identified three internal reports as priority matters for consideration--the Study of Graduate Education, the Report of the Task Force on Enhancing Minority Educational Opportunity at Eastern, and the Council on Academic Affairs consideration of the new undergraduate core general education program.

On campus development, Rives focused on development of a new campus master plan and completion of the Student Recreation Center, funded by a \$55 per semester student fee. "No tax dollars," said Rives, "are involved in either the Recreation Center or Greek Court."

The President also announced that the University's new telephone registration system is operational and that the Council on University Planning and Budget has approved a new mission and goals statement for Eastern.

Rives concluded his remarks by a personal observation that "communication is important, but civility is even more important in an academic community" before inviting questions and comments from the audience.