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### 08/26/1991 - Rives Outlines Priorities in Letter to Faculty and Staff

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS UNIVERSITIES

# NEWS

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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RIVES OUTLINES PRIORITIES IN LETTER TO FACULTY AND STAFF

CHARLESTON, IL--In a message to Eastern Illinois University faculty and staff members printed in the University Newsletter, Eastern President Stan Rives has outlined his personal priorities for the coming academic year.

They include securing an adequate 1992-93 appropriation for the University, improving communication with all members of the University community, and continuing work toward three major projects (implementation of the new integrated core general education program, task force on cultural diversity/enhancing minority educational opportunity, and study of graduate education).

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## RIVES OUTLINES PRIORITIES

Rives said that with substantially the same appropriation as last year (actually only a .2 of a percent increase over last year despite a 5 percent tuition increase), all areas on campus will experience budget problems this year, particularly if the University is able to reallocate funds for a modest salary increase.

To improve communication with all members of the University community, Rives has appointed Emily Bryson, a Board of Governors Universities Fellow from Chicago State University, to serve as Eastern's ombudsperson for faculty, staff and students. Bryson is spending her internship year as a special assistant to Rives.

In his letter, he encouraged members of the University community to schedule an appointment with Bryson to discuss any concerns they want called to his attention. "I sincerely welcome any recommendations from faculty and staff toward improving the University," Rives said.

He said he has also asked Bryson to schedule a series of coffee or lunch meetings with randomly selected groups of faculty, staff and students. "The sole purpose of these meetings is to keep me in touch with the needs of members of the University community," he said.

In response to the Faculty Senate's request for increased communication with the administration, Rives is scheduling a monthly meeting with the chairs of the Faculty Senate and Civil Service Council, president of the Student Body, and vice presidents and himself.

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RIVES OUTLINES PRIORITIES

In the letter, Rives also summarized highlights of the summer, which included the appointment of Charles Colbert as Eastern's new Vice President for Business Affairs, culmination of the Council on Academic Affairs' work on general education, continued construction of the Student Recreation Center which is substantially complete, and the addition of four more fraternity/sorority houses to Phase III of Greek Court.