

*Mrs. Elliott*

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

EVANSVILLE CAMPUS

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA 47712

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For immediate release. Further information available from Kathy Will at 426-1251, ext. 255.

The Division of Education at Indiana State University Evansville is implementing an innovative program in the area of Elementary Education, designed to provide the education student intensive experience in the classroom. The program, "Project Excel" is being offered in cooperation with four local elementary schools; Baker School, 415 Baker Avenue; Tekoppel School, 111 N. Tekoppel Avenue; James Thompkins, 1300 W. Mill Road; and Daniel Wuertz, 3111 Emerson. The program is being coordinated by Ted D. DeVries, Chairman of the Education Division and Associate Professor of Education.

According to Dr. DeVries, the program places freshman students in the classroom to build teaching skills starting on a one to one tutoring relationship through to the student teaching semester while remaining at a particular elementary school from the freshman year through graduation. 60 ISUE freshman are taking part in the program this semester, with fifteen students assigned to the participating elementary schools.

"Project Excel" will provide an opportunity for the student to perceive and understand the daily operation of an elementary school. This element is usually overlooked during the brief period a student normally spends for student teaching.

The internship program gives students aspiring to be teachers intensive work in an actual school setting. It also is an effective measuring device for evaluating how well students can perform in the classroom, and how satisfied the student feels in the school.