

Hospitality degree is approved

YSU — A new degree program has been approved for YSU and three existing YSU programs have been awarded \$732,076 in Academic Challenge grants by the Ohio Board of Regents.

The board approved the newly developed Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality Management, which will be offered by YSU's College of Applied Science and Technology.

Studies have indicated a need for trained personnel in the hospitality industry, both nationally and locally. The program is designed to prepare students for entry and mid-management positions in the areas of front desk, convention planning, sales, housekeeping, and restaurant operations.

The trend in the industry is to promote from within, and an associate degree would aid career advancement. Recruitment and registration for the two-year curriculum are under way.

Academic Challenge grants, which are designed to increase the quality of the strongest programs at state universities, were awarded to YSU's marketing and English departments, and the Dana School of Music.

The English department

received \$382,255 which is to be used to increase the number of full-service faculty members by four, and provide more faculty support and leadership for the department's programs.

The marketing department, which offers the country's only B.S. in B.A. with a minor in mall management, received a grant of \$128,831. The funds will be used to supplement mall management department expertise and expand professional development opportunities.

The \$219,990 grant awarded to the Dana School of Music will

go toward the Applied Music Enhancement Plan, which provides for a professional string quartet in residence to substantially strengthen YSU's string offerings through intense chamber music concentration. Most universities' string quartet programs focus primarily on graduate programs. YSU's program would offer unique, important concentration on the training of undergraduate students.