

Constitution, by-laws OK'd; Academic Senate launched

The new Academic Senate passed its proposed constitution and by-laws at last Friday's special meeting by a vote of 77 to 8.

Friday's changes were brought about by last spring's YSU-OEA Agreement when Senate (nee University Senate) responsibility for faculty-university relations came under the purview of the OEA.

Before the vote the proposals received endorsements, with reservations, from Dr. Thomas Shipka, president of the YSU-OEA, and YSU President John J. Coffelt.

Shipka thought that the Senate's definition of faculty differed with that of the OEA because it would include members of the administration. Under the new charter, chairpersons not appointed to the Senate are eligible for election as faculty. Also, academic department chairpersons and assistant deans of colleges meet the definitions of both faculty and administrators.

Shipka said that the new Senate has increased the faculty/administration mix in favor of the faculty. However, he said that some senate members defined as faculty were administrators. Shipka also noted that the faculty had not gained authority over the athletic's program.

Shipka said the OEA endorses the revisions and recommends it to the body.

In his address, Coffelt said that "there are elements I would prefer to modify and language in the by-laws I believe logically belongs in the charter."

Coffelt felt that the Senate's general concept was tenable but he wished to state two qualifications. The first was that the Senate's primary responsibility is

dealing directly with instructional functions and activities. The other qualification involved the Senate's ad hoc committees which, Coffelt said, could make recommendations to the administration but not adopt a "grand jury" role.

Before the actual revisions motion was made, Dr. Frank Tarantine, chairperson of the con-

stitution and by-laws committee, formulated the resolution that amendments from the floor would not be accepted on the revisions motion. Tarantine said that there was too much difficulty involved in amending the proposals to do it on the floor. The resolution was passed and the main motion was proposed and passed.