

Accreditation given YSU for 10 years

by Liz Lane

YSU's academic program received continued accreditation for the next ten years as the result of an evaluation of the University by a team from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools during April.

A six-member team was here to see if the University is maintaining its set objectives as an educational institution. The main evaluation was focused on graduate education but also considered the entire University.

The result of the evaluation is continued accreditation for the next ten years, the highest evaluation a university can receive. Other evaluations could have been from the following: 1) continue accreditation with an early evaluation, 2) public probation, 3) deletion, and 4) deferred action.

The previous visit from NCA was in 1974, and YSU received continued accreditation with early evaluation. NCA's major concern was the fact that the administration had had such a great turn-over that there were many new and inexperienced individuals in upper administrative positions.

During this last visit NCA did not see the administration turn-over as a major concern and stated in its report that the administration was managing University affairs effectively.

Some of the concerns during this evaluation were long-range academic planning in programs and procedures to insure courses do not overlap and duplicate, thus taxing the faculty with too much work. Other concerns were whether YSU is recruiting minority faculty to the fullest extent possible and whether the University is maintaining a faculty that is vigorous and that develops as the University grows.

Dean of graduate education, Leon Rand, who prepared YSU for the accreditation, said the University knew about those concerns which were pointed out by the NCA.

YSU had conducted its own self-study evaluation during the last two years in preparation for the NCA. A report was given to the NCA which contained a summary of the programs the University has to offer and an in-depth study of the involvements and actions of the entire University.