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IMMEDIATE

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Dr. John R. Loch of Youngstown, director of Youngstown State University's Office of Continuing Education and Education Outreach, has been elected president of the Ohio Continuing Higher Education Association (OCHEA).

He has served the association as chairman of the Community and Governmental Relations Committee, vice president of its public colleges and universities, and president-elect. He has also served as co-chairman of the Organizational Task Force appointed by the Ohio Board of Regents.

The OCHEA is the first organization of its kind in the U.S., in that it brings together public and private two-year and four-year colleges and universities to address issues of statewide interest and to contribute to the professional development of its members. Membership is made up of 200 professionals from approximately 90 of the state's 140 institutions of higher learning.

Dr. Loch is a native of Sharon, Pa. He has been director of YSU's Office of Continuing Education since 1975. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Grove City College, a master's degree in counselor education and a doctorate in higher education, both from the University of Pittsburgh.

Before joining YSU, Dr. Loch was director of suburban educational services at Pitt, where he had also served as director of student affairs research, director of the Student Union, director of undergraduate orientation, and assistant to the dean of men.

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In addition to his administrative duties, at Youngstown State he is also an associate member of the graduate faculty and teaches in the Department of Counseling.

His other professional memberships include American Association for Adult and Continuing Education, American Association for Higher Education, and National Universities Continuing Education Association. He is a trustee of the Mahoning-Shenango Health Education Network, and active in numerous other organizations.

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