

Regents approve 4-year program

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The Ohio Board of Regents recently approved a baccalaureate degree in allied health designed for students with backgrounds in respiratory therapy, emergency medical technology and dental hygiene.

The four-year program, which has been on the drawing board for five years, was approved at the Regent's March 13 meeting in Columbus.

Dr. John Yemma, chairman of the allied health department,

said that current students enter the Individualized Curriculum Program in order to earn a four year degree. Beginning in the fall of '87, students will no longer have to do this, he said.

Thirty students with associate degrees in the specific areas are currently enrolled in the Individual Curriculum Program and will enter the new program in the fall.

Dr. Victor Richley, dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology, said that two year respiratory therapy, emergency medical technology and dental hygiene students will enter

the new program as junior and complete three program components:

- General group health courses.
- Advanced courses in the student's disciplines.
- A minor restricted to biology, chemistry, management or education.

Yemma said that no other program exists of this kind within 50 miles of the University and therefore, "we'll be able to attract from a large area."

"The program is very unique. The Board of Regents never saw a program quite like it," he added.

Yemma also remarked that in the past, students who had finished their associate degrees often moved on to other schools to finish their education. "We won't lose as many now — we'll keep them."

Yemma said that in order to accomodate the new program, "part-time instructors might be needed in the future" but that "we can function now.

The allied health department employs 11 full-time instructors and 15 part-time instructors each quarter.
