

OEA forms campus chapter, elects officers

A YSU chapter of the Ohio Education Association was formed and provisional officers elected in a meeting yesterday.

The newly-elected officers are: President, Dr. Phagwati P.K. Poddar, assistant professor of sociology; 1st vice-president, Dr. Thomas A. Shipka, assistant professor of philosophy and religion; 2nd vice-president, Leonore Hoffmann, English and communication secretary-treasurer; Dr. Joel E. Henkel, assistant professor of physics and astronomy.

Eugene Green, the OEA's area attorney, spoke on the association's fight to obtain job security and its relation to the OEA's support of the case of Dr. Poddar against the University. Attorney Green said that he had just received a letter from the University informing him that Dr. Poddar would be informed of the reasons for his dismissal.

Green said that the OEA has been very active recently in trying to attain job security and collective bargaining for University faculty members. He said of the Poddar case, "It is significant that we have to go to court and make a Federal case out of what is the right of every union worker in the country."

The courts have established the right of all faculty to know the reasons for their dismissal, but, "as the law stands now, the reasons don't have to be too reasonable," Green said.

Green told the meeting that they could hope to someday have the job security of a blue-collar worker.

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Mr. Keck said that previously, the direction of faculty policy had centered in the departments and there had been less need for organization. He pointed out that the drift recently has been to more and more centralization of control within the University and state higher education systems. He said, "the only way the faculty can keep even with the increasingly centralized management of the universities is by joining together to collectively bargain with the universities."

Keck stressed the recent gains in job security, teaching loads, promotion policy, and salary scales obtained at City University of New York, Pennsylvania Universities and Central Michigan University through collective bargaining.

Joseph G. Newlin, executive director of higher education of the OEA spoke on the Governor's Budget Message and the state Board of Regents' Master Plan for 1971. He said that the Governor's message provided for an across-the-board raise of 5% for Ohio higher education. He urged faculty to read both documents with care.