

# Hospitals OK pacts on medical school

Two years of negotiations climaxed Friday as officials of St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Youngstown Hospital Association signed each of their Association Agreements with the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, at YSU.

The agreements define the roles of each institution in the proposed six-year curriculum for medical students. Expressing his pleasure at the agreement, Dr. Stanley Olson, provost of the College of Medicine, said, "Because the new medical college will not develop a university hospital of its own, it is critically important that clinical teaching programs be developed in the community hospitals. The signing of the Association Agreements enables us to go forward with curriculum planning, faculty appointments, strengthening of internship and residency programs and the necessary administrative and financial arrangements."

YSU will accept about 13 students when it begins the program next year. Dr. Lawrence Looby, special assistant to the president of YSU, said he may be ready for applications in a few weeks. He said students in the existing two-year pre-med program might be allowed to

transfer over to the new six-year program, but enrollment into it would be highly selective.

The six-year curriculum consists of two years at YSU, KSU, or the University of Akron, a third year at the new basic medical sciences campus at Rootstown, and three years at the hospitals. During these last three years, an additional three quarters at the universities are required to earn a baccalaureat degree.

The hospitals will provide what Olson terms "clinical orientation" during the first two years at the universities. Doctors will visit the school, and in some cases students will be taught in the hospitals. Olson says this will help students decide early if they really want to be doctors, and will help them understand the applications of the information they must master in their third year. "We don't want them to have to take the whole thing on faith," says Olson.

He also felt that many of the classes initiated for the six-year program will be picked up by the existing two-year program as their merits become apparent. New courses, required for the six-year students, such as one dealing with the psychology of death, will be open to all, and will interest people of many fields, he predicts.