

Susan Khawaja appointed foreign student advisor

by Greg Garramone

"It is important that we work to expand the horizons of the American student, to enable him to study in foreign lands. It is equally important to help the foreign students in America to adjust to the strange and unfamiliar situations they encounter, and expand their horizons as well," said Susan Khawaja, recently appointed International Student Advisor.

Khawaja, who succeeds Dr. C. David Bertelsen, assistant dean for student affairs and acting international student advisor, is an alumnus of international studentship, having been involved in exchange programs. She holds a Master's degree in student personnel in higher education, and is at the thesis point in working towards her doctorate.

After serving as a counselor at Indiana University, Khawaja worked for the dean of the Honor's College at Kent State University. "This was quite a challenge, as the department was completely redesigned while I was there. From top to bottom we had to ask ourselves why we were there, what we were doing. It was a thoughtful experience."

Khawaja points out that, as the International Students Or-

ganization has been in a state of transition pending the selection of permanent advisor, there is much to be done. "Mrs. Elizabeth Brewer, our secretary, and Dr. Berterlsen have done so much to hold the office together during the interim," she adds.

As the new advisor, Khawaja, whose husband is Dr. Ikran Kharaja, chairman of the geology department, stresses that she wants to make the international students feel they are an integral part of the campus. "I think it's very important for the international students to feel a part of the University community. We want to broaden their views. Also, whenever anybody is faced with adapting to a new way of doing things he experiences culture shock. We want to ease this as much as possible for those from other lands that are here at YSU for an education.

"This whole experience in America is a type of growth by stretching process for the international student. We are here to aid in that growth."