

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed March 11, 1988

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The Ohio Board of Regents today (3/11/88) presented Youngstown State University with the first of two installments under its Academic Challenge Program, which is designed to advance strong academic programs.

YSU received checks totaling \$351,829 for the first of the biennium year as the Board of Regents held its meeting at YSU.

The total over the two years for the six YSU programs selected for Challenge grants is \$716,746.

Academic Challenge, an initiative funded by the Ohio General Assembly and Gov. Richard F. Celeste, is designed to increase the quality of the strongest programs at state colleges and universities.

Last month, under Round Two of Academic Challenge, the Board of Regents announced YSU's Departments of History, Mechanical Engineering and the School of Business Administration would receive a total of \$473,622 during the next two years.

Earlier, the Regents approved a total of \$243,124 in Challenge grants for the Dana School of Music, the Counseling Department in the School of Education and the Biological Sciences Department.

YSU's History Department will use its funds, which total \$175,655 over the next two years, to enhance history instruction in area schools, according to department chair Dr. George Beelen of Austintown.

A summer workshop program for area teachers, which will advance their knowledge of history in 12 basic categories, will be taught by YSU instructors beginning this summer. In addition, a summer enrichment

MORE

ADD ONE

program, providing high school graduates with intensive instruction in Western Civilization classes and their first exposure to college, will also be offered this summer.

The Mechanical Engineering Department plans to apply its challenge grant of \$115,967 toward the creation of a computer graphics room which will be used by all freshmen in Engineering and Engineering Technology.

Dr. Frank D'Isa of Boardman, chair of Mechanical Engineering, said the department will purchase 24 personal computers as well as MICRO-CADAM Cornerstone, a computer software program which is capable of drafting, modeling and analyzing work.

The Williamson School of Business Administration, which will receive \$182,000 in the next two years, will use its funds in the Accounting and Finance Department to add one doctoral faculty position and upgrade the salary of another faculty position, according to Dr. Frank Seibold of Sharon, Pa., interim dean of the school.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Dr. Karen L. Duda of the Youngstown State University faculty will speak at a Columbiana County Joint Vocational School workshop, "Magnetic Media and Beyond," Monday (March 14) at the school.

She will discuss microcomputer software selection, using and teaching magnetic media, and industry trends at the workshop, which is for Columbiana County business education teachers.

Dr. Duda is an associate professor in YSU's Department of Business Education and Technology, which is part of the University's College of Applied Science and Technology. She teaches automated office systems, organizational behavior, magnetic media and classes on microcomputer applications.

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