

OEA initiates defense fund for YSU faculty

The YSU chapter of the Ohio Educational Association set up a local defense contingency fund at its second official meeting last Wednesday.

Dr. Thomas A. Shipka, assistant professor of philosophy and religion, the chapter's first vice-president, explained that the fund was necessary to protect the rights of its YSU faculty membership in cases where they may be fired, passed over for promotion, denied a summer assignment without clear cause, or "otherwise exploited."

Dr. Bhagwati P.K. Poddar, the campus OEA president, made it clear that the defense fund would not be a Poddar fund. He stated that all the funds necessary to prosecute his still pending litigation with YSU had already been secured.

The OEA group also decided at the meeting to retain Attorney Eugene Green as the chapter's legal counsel.

Proceeding to fill their last vacant office, the 16 faculty members attending the meeting unanimously elected Mr. Joseph J. Koss, assistant professor in economics, treasurer.

The OEA group outlined the format of *The Advocate*, a newsletter the local chapter intends

to send to all YSU faculty members. In addition to notifying faculty of upcoming agenda in future meetings, the newsletter will also contain an "outrage column" listing grievances or flagrant violations of faculty rights and a feature article.

A motion proposing local dues in addition to the \$35 member state organizational dues was tabled until the next OEA meeting, at 4 p.m. Monday April 26, in Lincoln 103.