

# UMA trustees take \$2.1 million grant, five-year plan outlines 40 new courses

University of Mid-America (UMA) trustees have accepted a \$2.1 million grant from the National Institute of Education (NIE). The grant is \$900,000 more than last year's, but \$500,000 less than UMA requested.

A UMA five-year plan calls for the production of 40 new multi-media courses before 1982.

According to Milan Wall, UMA marketing and information director, a \$2.6 million grant was built into the five-year plan.

NIE is the major source of support for UMA, a consortium of nine midwestern universities that produce multi-media courses for "open learning" projects.

UMA plans to complete four courses this year, and begin production of six more, Wall said. UMA has been producing an average of three to four courses a year and currently distributes seven courses, Wall said.

The UMA five-year plan calls for NIE grants of \$2.6 million in 1978 and 1979, \$1.6 million in 1980, \$1.5 million in 1981 and \$1 million in 1982.

The \$500,000 difference might be made up by smaller grants from other institutions, he said. Requests for grants to other institutions are pending and are being prepared, according to Wall.

With sufficient funding, UMA plans to produce six to eight new courses annually for the next five years, Wall said. The consortium hopes to have 47 courses available by 1983 and have a nationwide enrollment in UMA.

produced courses of 225,000, he said.

Courses being completed this year are: Great Plains History, History of the American Revolution, Japan: The Changing Tradition, and a course on the metric system.

UMA also will begin production of courses in small business management, law and society, nutrition, personal finance, literature and agriculture, Wall said.

The UMA Board of Trustees has decided to concentrate future course development in five areas: professional continuing education, the humanities, business, agriculture and environmental and energy studies.

## Annual fund drive begins tomorrow

UNL employees will be asked to give of their hearts and pocketbooks this week when the annual United Way fund drive begins.

The campaign begins Thursday and runs through Friday, Oct. 21.

United Way, which raises money for 24 Lincoln agencies, hopes to raise \$70,000 this year, with 60 percent of the employees contributing. Last year it raised \$65,000 with 36 percent participation, said Doug Higgins, United Way executive director.


This goal is based on the number of employees and "what appears to be a reasonable gift," Higgins said. He said United Way hopes employees earning less than \$10,000 a year will contribute six-tenths of one percent of their gross income and that those earning more will give one percent.

Some of the organizations supported by United Way are the Open Door Health Center, Personal Crisis Service, Malone Community Center, YMCA, YWCA, and the Red Cross, Higgins said.

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