

OU'S COLLEGE WITHOUT CAMPUS

Ottawa University continues to break new ground in educational practices with its new Kansas City center, the College Without Campus. The College Without Campus has reduced the time and place barriers that make education difficult for adults. Instruction is not limited to a campus and may begin at any time or place that is convenient.

Keith Shumway, Dean of Non-Traditional Studies and head of the College Without Campus program, states that the Kansas City center is an attempt by Ottawa University to serve the educational needs of people who have not been well served by traditional programs of higher education. Adults who are employed or have family responsibilities are the chief student prospects for the new program. All too often such persons have been forced to abandon educational institutions or have had to drag out their studies for many years.

The new center is located on the Country Club Plaza of Kansas City. The Kansas City office was opened in August, and the first degree seeking students were enrolled in September. With a minimum of advertising, about fifty students were engaged in center activities in the first three months, and a substantial increase is expected during 1975. Kansas City was selected as the site of the new learning center for several reasons. It is the major urban area near the residential campus and thus has a large number of adult students who may be attracted to the new program. The metropolitan region is important to the future of the residential campus program as well.

Kansas City is not the only area served by the new College Without Campus. Dean Shumway points out. There are students who live some distance from Kansas City, but who come to the center for ad-



Dean Shumway

vising and planning services and then carry out some of their educational programs closer to their homes. Among such students are several American Indians living on reservations in Kansas and businessmen who have reason to schedule an occasional trip to Kansas City. One development has been that several Ottawa residents and residents of other nearby towns have become interested in the program. Since the center can establish classes virtually anywhere that twelve or more students are ready, there are plans to work actively in Ottawa and in other suburban communities around the region to serve interested adults.

Most of the initial activity of the College Without Campus has been to help persons complete their degrees. Credit for learning from life and work experience and individualized planning are the key elements. In addition the College Without Campus continues to supply other educational services and instructional activity. The continuing education work with Kansas Baptist pastors begun last spring is still in process. Also the College Without Campus was selected by Kansas City's Federal Executive Board to work

cooperatively to provide instruction
to public service employees during
1975.