

State AAUP Pledges Aid To McClellan In Dispute

The Michigan Conference of the American Association of University Professors pledged its support of the faculty of Northern Michigan University and Dr. Robert M. McClellan in their controversy with the NMU administration, at the 13th annual AAUP conference at Alma College, Alma.

Representing the NMU chapter of the AAUP were McClellan, history instructor; Bruce Farrell, mathematics instructor, and Dr. Albert Cook, associate professor of English.

The controversy arose when McClellan was given a terminal contract, effective in June, by Dr. Edgar L. Harden, who was then NMU president. Objecting to the dismissal, students and faculty of NMU conducted a series of protests against the administration. The NMU board of control has declined to reverse the decision.

At the state meeting of the AAUP, the professional organization for university professors in the U.S., faculty representing around 15 state colleges and universities pledged its support to NMU's Lake Superior Chapter's

efforts to have McClellan reinstated.

It also pledged support to the fund-raising drive being undertaken by the committee for the defense of academic freedom at NMU to finance McClellan's appeal, which, if the case does go to court, will be supported by the American Civil Liberties Union.

In a resolution adopted Saturday by the Michigan Conference its states, "This is an issue which affects deeply all faculty members and students in colleges and universities of Michigan, involving as it does issues which extend far beyond the campus at Marquette.

"The Michigan Conference supports the attempt of the Lake Superior Chapter at NMU to resolve the issue and to enlist the aid of the Washington office. Further, the conference expresses its deep concern over the issue of academic freedom at NMU."

Among the schools represented at the meeting were Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan and Wayne State Universities, Oakland College, and several junior colleges.