



McClellan Controversy Rages

Rain failed to dampen the turnout as nearly 2000 students attended a mass meeting Wednesday evening. It was held in response to the general faculty meeting held Tuesday afternoon.

Dr. McClellan addressed the mass student meeting, reminding them that "we are trying to build a university, not tear it down."

Student body president Don L. Keskey called for adamancy on the part of the students in continuing their support for Dr. Robert McClellan. The smoothly run meeting followed the rather chaotic meeting of the general faculty Tuesday afternoon.

After hearing the Administrations in depth reasons for terminating the contract of Dr. Robert L. McClellan Tuesday, the faculty members broke into a three-hour debate that netted only two positive motions as tempers flared.

The motions that did gain passage from the faculty members were part of a sweeping, and what was termed by one prominent member of the faculty as a "radical" mandate proposed by Dr. John Alswang. The first motion the faculty passed was an expression of their support and admiration for the way in which the student body has conducted themselves in the handling of the McClellan case. The motion was carried by a solid majority.

The second motion embroiled the faculty members in much debate and

in its original form stated that the faculty would demand the reinstatement of Dr. Robert McClellan by noon Friday, October 20th. When voted on in this form, the motion divided the house and passed by a very slim margin. The faculty voted again, but this time the motion had been amended to read that the deadline would be extended one week to Friday, October 27th. The motion as amended passed almost unanimously. This vote was one of the few instances in which the faculty showed any unity as they continued in heated debate until the meeting was terminated close to 6 p.m.

Interim President Johnson, in his address to the faculty, delved deeper into the McClellan case than had been done previously. Johnson cited the recommendations made by Dr. Anthony Forbes to then President Edgar Harden, condemning the atti-

tudes and teaching abilities when Forbes was head of the History department. In his first recommendation concerning McClellan, Forbes had said that "Dr. McClellan was an angry young man". After President Johnson had concluded his remarks, Dr. Forbes made it clear in an address to the faculty that he had made a later evaluation of Dr. McClellan and had said in that evaluation that McClellan had "completely changed" and that his "excellent" qualities as a teacher far outweighed his abrasive actions as a member of the faculty.

Early in the Tuesday faculty meeting, Dr. Ellsworth Barnard indicated

that the resolution presented at the last meeting urging the review of the McClellan case by the administration was approved 197-17 on balloting by the faculty throughout the week. Barnard mentioned that ballots were still trickling in.

The question of how many members of the faculty were eligible to vote on this resolution was brought up by Mr. Midrag Georgavich, head of the Political Science department. Georgavich questioned the chair on how many actual faculty members were eligible. The Faculty Senate came up with a figure of "around" 270 voters but Georgavich countered with a figure of 370.

Seeking 'Truth' Insists McClellan

The basic problem at Northern Michigan University, according to Dr. Robert McClellan, is a conflict over the goals of the institution.

Dr. McClellan said that the Board of Control and the President have stated that their goal was to "Equip a person to live in our complex economic society today." The other goal, as Dr. McClellan sees it, is "To search for truth, to think the truth, act out what you believe is the truth, and be willing to accept the responsibility for what you believe." Dr. McClellan made it very clear that it is not really possible to state that one of these goals is any better than the other, but it is the duty of the teacher to combine these goals, and to equip a person to live in today's world, and also train them to always seek the truth.

In regard to the charges against him, Dr. McClellan made the following statement.

"The charges, with some exceptions, are substantially correct. I have been critical of the Four Course Plan, but teaching under this system for a year I have found it to be a workable program." Dr. McClellan then stated that; "I did side with the students in Magers-Meyland Halls in their disagreement with the University, but I did not provoke any demonstration. I advised the students to take a sober look at the situation, think it over and decide what they felt was true, act on it and accept the responsibility for their actions."

Regarding the incident involving the University expansion in North Marquette, Dr. McClellan has this to say: "I did focus attention on what I believe was the hasty and improper action of Northern Michigan University in not giving ample time to the residents of North Marquette regarding the acquisition of their property by the University. I am not saying the University was wrong in expanding but I do think they gave these people ample warning." Dr. McClellan then stated that

"It is not true that I harassed or humiliated representatives of the University at any public meeting." Dr. McClellan went on to say that he and his Humanities II class this summer did engage in questioning residents of North Marquette and NMU officials engaged in the expansion project." Dr. McClellan called this assignment a "study in public vs. private morality."

Dr. McClellan concluded by saying that; "I bear no animosity to anyone at Northern Michigan University, and the only goal of this issue is not the appointment, re-appointment, or re-hiring of a teacher, but rather the goal is to construct a community where trust and truth can prevail. A community where students, faculty, and administration can pursue their own goals."

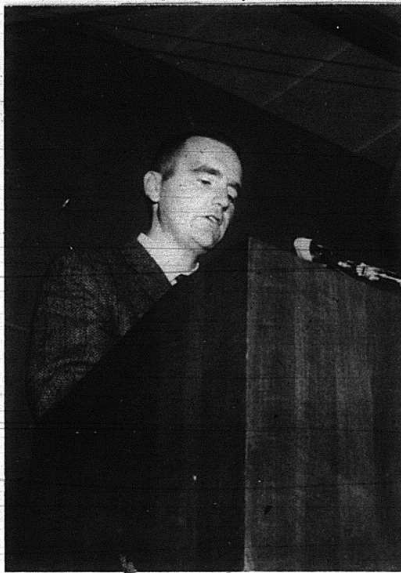
Committee In Support Of McClellan

An optimistic Student Body President, Donald L. Keskey, announced that the Student Body Committee for McClellan received a very favorable number of responses from other university student groups generally supporting his committee's protest over the firing of Dr. Robert McClellan.

Telegrams were received by the committee from Mr. Edward Schwartz, President of the National Student Association, Washington, D.C., and Mr. Richard A. Kool, Chairman of the Michigan Region of the National Students Association, Holland, Mich.

Telegrams were also received from Mr. Greg Hopkins, Chairman of the Student Association at Michigan State University and Mr. Jay Raphael, President of the Student Senate of Eastern Michigan University.

Keskey said that the committee expected more telegrams within the next week.



Interim President Ogden E. Johnson (left) and Dr. Robert McClellan, the two principals in the search for truth that is currently being waged by faculty, administration, and students at NMU.

Regarding McClellan

AAUP Considering Resolution

The Lake Superior Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, contrary to previous reports, has made no official statement in support of Dr. Robert McClellan.

The only action taken by the AAUP as of the "News" deadline on Wednesday, October 18, has been the drafting of a resolution by its Committee To Propose Action, deploring the action taken by the administration and requesting the immediate reinstatement of Dr. McClellan.

Still to be voted upon by the chapter membership as a whole, the proposed resolution charges that;

--The President of Northern Michigan University has failed to follow the official procedure in the

termination of the appointment of Dr. McClellan, as stated in the Faculty and Staff Administrative Guide;

--The President refused to state the charges against Dr. McClellan, and denied him an opportunity to present counter-evidence, or to confront the witnesses upon whose testimony the charges were based;

--The President's action, which followed Dr. McClellan's discussion of controversial issues, has had one effect of inhibiting public discussion and the free exchange of ideas;

--"Good universities have always been places of contention and dispute, and the best universities in their greatest phase have always been places of the most energetic and uninhibited contention" (John

Kenneth Galbraith).

In other related action, the AAUP's Committee To Propose Action drafted several other resolutions to be considered by the Professors. One resolution would provide that the AAUP's Executive Committee give public expression to the following concerns:

• The lack of faculty participation in the governing of the University;

• the need for clarification of the role and composition of the Faculty Senate;

• the need for the clarification of the roles of the Administrative Council and the Department Heads' Committee in promulgating University policy;

• the need for the clarification of the status of the Faculty Guide.

THE Northern NEWS

Student Newspaper — Northern Michigan University

Editor & Chairman of the Editorial Board: Jeffrey R. Jurmu

Editorial Board Member: Vincent A. Romano

Editorial Comment

Question On Campus: Where Will It All End?

Where will it all end?

This is the most serious question surrounding the McClellan controversy that everyone in the university, and especially those directly involved should be concerned with. After all the fighting and debating, there is going to have to be, for the sake of the university, a solution that administration, faculty and students will be able to agree upon.

The ultimate fear is that there are some factions on both sides of the controversy that seem to show a desire for nothing short of total victory. No matter what happens there are going to be a lot of losers, but worse than that, if both sides look at the conflict in only these terms there will be nothing but losers.

Aside from some selfish personal satisfaction, this holy war, if not approached reasonably, could tear the university right through its foundations. Is this what you want? Is this what Dr. McClellan wants when he says, "We're here to build, not to destroy."

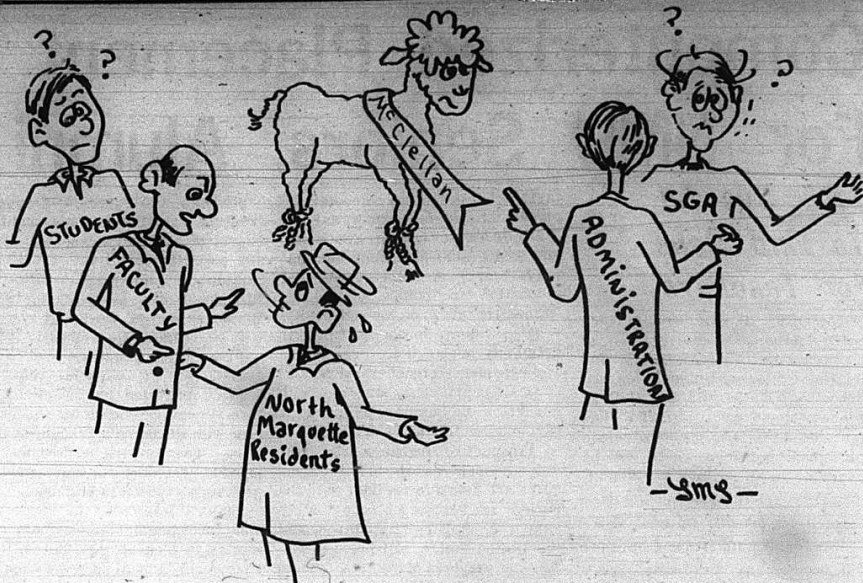
Some personal performances on both sides of the conflict the last several days cast a gloomy cloud over hopes of settlement. It appears that some have long since cut off their heads and started thinking with their guts.

The most outstanding of these performances had to be at the general faculty meeting Tuesday afternoon. They heard a statement from the administration as to the reason for dismissing Dr. McClellan and proceeded to get embroiled in a three hour harangue over a sleepy motion by Dr. John Alswang. The difficulty with it, according to Dr. Anthony Forbes, was that "Dr. Alswang tried to fire a blunderbuss when a single bullet would have been sufficient."

What made the meeting extremely disappointing was that the faculty netted only two motions, neither of which reflected much of a leadership role.

There can be little doubt that the student leadership under Don Keskey and Rob Fure has been able to do considerably better. They have been able to do what the faculty leadership hasn't. They have left both of their mass student meetings with agreement on a reasonable course of action.

If these latter developments are any indication it would appear that the student leadership is much better prepared to bargain and compromise than their faculty counterparts whose lead they are supposed to be following.



"Is it your sacrificial lamb?"

My Personal Opinion

Beyond One Man's Job

by Vince Romano
NEWS Associate Editor

The firing of Assistant Professor of History, Robert McClellan, has touched off the latest and most serious crisis in Northern Michigan University's history. The implications of the situation go far beyond one man's job.

Certainly, the crisis is compounded by the fact that McClellan is well-liked and highly respected, both as a man and as an educator. We must not, however, place personality over principles. It would be too bad if Northern were to lose McClellan as a Professor. But it would be tragic if Northern were to lose the right of free speech as a guiding principle. Even the best men are, in the end, transient; they will come and go. Principles must remain constant.

Apparently McClellan's crime was to disagree with the "Administration". If Northern is at a point

where disagreement with policy is grounds for dismissal, then the death knell has sounded. Everything that a lot of people have worked towards for a lot of years has been destroyed, and education has been put back on this campus scores of years. When diversity cannot live at the University, it cannot live anywhere.

where disagreement with policy is grounds for dismissal, then the death knell has sounded. Everything that a lot of people have worked towards for a lot of years has been destroyed, and education has been put back on this campus scores of years. When diversity cannot live at the University, it cannot live anywhere.

We have heard it said that a basic question of loyalty to the University is involved; that such a display of disloyalty in industry would lead to dismissal. We respond by saying that a college professor is not analogous to a company man. His loyalty goes first to truth as he sees it, and second to the University.

If the college professor honestly views the University to be in conflict with truth, he has a moral and ethical obligation to say so. If he doesn't, he has ceased to be an educator worthy of the name;

any more. The thrust of anti-Americanism here is led by the French students. A small number of them have set up a new kind of Resistance, reminiscent of World War II's FFL

he is a hypocrite.

The greatest danger in the entire affair lies in the insurmountable threat it poses to Northern's faculty, now and in the long run. If the McClellan decision is allowed to stand, Northern faces the very real danger of losing its top faculty. In addition, it may very well be unable to attract first rate new faculty. And the faculty remains the heart of it all. Students, like personalities, will come and go. First rate faculty, like principles, must remain constant.

When Dwight D. Eisenhower was first appointed President of Columbia University, he was addressing a meeting of the faculty. In his speech he made reference to, "You, the employees of Columbia University". A very senior member of the faculty interrupted him and said, "Mr. President, we are not the employees of Columbia University, we are Columbia University."

better eyes than the journalists." The United States is quietly backing the military government, and "Figaro" has suggested that if the U.S. had minded its own business Debray would still be in France.