

STUDENT GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM TO PARENTS

A distinguished and capable member of our faculty, Dr. Robert F. McClellan, was fired in a manner that did not follow the procedure outlined in the faculty handbook, for reasons that had nothing to do with his teaching abilities.

- 1) He was given an "A" rating in the Faculty Guide, a student evaluation of their professors.
- 2) Dr. Forbes, formerly his department head, gave him highest recommendations. He considers Dr. McClellan one of the finest teachers he has ever met.

Dr. McClellan was fired because he criticized when university expansion threatened the homes of many Marquette residents. The students of Northern Michigan University do not believe that a fine teacher should be fired because he exercised his right of free speech to defend property rights of his fellow citizens. Our view is supported by the American tradition of respect for private property and free institutions.

This unjust dismissal has provoked the resignation of many professors who have given their lives to make Northern great. Their loss would damage our education irreparably and since we have come here to learn, this decision must be changed.

Our wish to see Dr. McClellan re-instated is shared by:

- 1) Our faculty which has voted to support us.
- 2) Our fellow students, who voted to support us.
- 3) The Faculty Senate, which has requested a state investigation.
- 4) The Student Senate.
- 5) The American Association of University Professors.
- 6) The National Student Association.
- 7) The American Association of University Women.
- 8) The Michigan Association of Student Governments.
- 9) The people of Marquette.
- 10) Student Governments throughout the state and nation.

In addition, Ernest Mazey, executive director of the Michigan Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, was recently quoted in the Marquette Mining Journal as saying that the dismissal of Dr. Robert McClellan "is one of the most flagrant examples of due process and academic freedom that has ever come to our attention."

Now we appeal to you, our parents, to join in supporting our attempts to maintain the education you have provided for us.