

# The Northern News

Student Newspaper • Northern Michigan University

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## October 15

Whether an individual agrees or disagrees with the rationale for the involvement of the United States in Vietnam, he must be concerned about this most important topic. The development of this concern both on campus and in the community is the object of the national October 15 moratorium on the war in Vietnam, and thus we wholeheartedly support this movement.

But a display of temper such as that which occurred at the Monday night meeting of the ASNMU could ruin the whole effect of Northern's moratorium movement.

Putting on that display was Arnold Avant, chairman of the committee which is planning Northern's participation in the moratorium.

Avant came to the Board with the request that it provide both moral and financial support for his moratorium plans. The financial support was to come in the form of an allocation of about \$100 to Avant's committee to print an ad supporting the moratorium in the Northern News.

The problem was not the money, but the ad for which the money was to be spent.

Far from emphasizing the "open forum" which Avant said Northern's "October 15" would provide, this national ad presented a very one-sided, anti-war message.

In addition, the ad mentioned a boycott of classes, something which Avant said Northern's program would definitely not include.

It was on the basis of the above two factors that the majority of the governing board rejected Avant's proposal. If Avant would not have shouted his objections to the Governing Board's actions and stalked out of the room, he might have realized.

In fact, we maintain that the money would have been allocated following minor changes in the ad.

Avant's action was surprising, to say the least. We know, as does the Governing Board and President Harry Campbell, that the student members of the University moratorium committee are responsible, reasonable objectors to the war who are out to win public support for their cause.

The fact that this committee has labeled their October 15 program a "public forum" rather than an "anti-war rally" is ample evidence of its goodwill.

We very sincerely hope that persons who are in the process of evaluating their position with regard to October 15 will remember that a whole group cannot be judged by the action of one of its members.

It is our hope that the responsible elements of the moratorium committee will succeed in making October 15 the thorn in the university, city state and nation's conscience that it should be.