

\Interview with Fred Stenkamp April 24, 1987 concerning Northern Michigan University History.

INT: When did you first come to Northern?

FS: 1960

INT: When did you become administrator of ?? here on campus?

FS: Oh, actually when Richard Sauderigger retired, that would be about 1980, I think.

INT: What was your area of concentration before that?

FS: Oh, I worked in 19th century ??? and specifically the ??? anyway but then of course some 20th century ???

INT: In 1973 the ground was broken where the Cohodas administration building is and closed down three buildings on campus; Kaye Hall, Olson Library and

FS: I can't remember the third one, I thought there was only two, Kaye Hall and Olson, they left Pierce

INT: Peter White there was something about Peter White too.

FS: Oh yeah there might have been a wing that I may not have been familiar with.

INT: ????? similar ?? said that the foundation was ?? that is when had to set up another ????

FS: The foundation of Olson Library, that is the only one they claimed was ??? they said nothing about Kaye Hall as far as I know Kaye Hall is ???

INT: How did you feel about that is that a concern?

FS: Well, I had no nostalgic attachment to it, it wasn't a good place to teach the thing could have been preserved perhaps as a museum and I do note that the people in Marquette, alumni, had a very strong attachment to it and possibly for ????? but the administration and the state authorities wanted it torn down. ??? Kaye Hall.

INT: What do you think should be done with Pierce and Longyear?

FS: Longyear can't be restored according to the information that I have from the building people, it can't be restored but for political reasons no one wants to tear it down, ??? important ??? I'm not ????? Pierce is sound, could be restored but then according to the authorities that know such things to rut the thing out and to rebuild it would cost between 5-600 dollars, if

the building is worth that I don't know.

INT: I had heard at one time that they were to make a museum on campus and I had heard ??? between Pierce and Longyear.

FS: Longyear is the one that there is continuous talk about having it is a museum or a fine arts display but I had never heard Pierce mentioned for nothing like that.

INT: Pierce was a school at one time, a large school. How long ??? do you know?

FS: I think they continued to use that until 1972-1973 something like that for that type of lab work ??

INT: What was Longyear ?? for?

FS: Offices for the most part.

INT: And Kaye Hall was?

FS: Offices and classrooms and there was an auditorium in Kaye Hall too, I was about to say about the same size as the Forrest Roberts theater.

INT: Was any of it used for a dormitory, or?

FS: Not to my knowledge, no.

INT: When Jamrich was president there was a proposed building a sports center and I was told by another of the faculty that you were against this, do you ??? information about that.

FS: Well if he wanted to, maybe that idea comes from elsewhere but ??? too, he wanted to put up a covered football field is all it really is ?? the olympic building your looking at now is too ??? But when the proposal first came out it was to be built with student fees, which would be paying for until the 21st century I am sure and you wouldn't really get much out of it except 5 football games played indoors every year. And it was run in a kind of a ?? to ??? the students were home for easter vacation, they came back and they found their boxes full of brochures saying how wonderful it would be to have all these ??? and that they would get to vote on it on Thursday, three days to discuss it. Basically ??? if we got the ?? a few years later ??? crunch too, this time it came from the athletic director from the student and the faculty, why spend a lot of money for something that ain't ????? This the present home presumably is going to be funded by the state, ??? 25 million dollars ??? of course they are going to spend about an equal amount of money 25 million dollars to make a new heating ?? for the university because they buy their heating , that is 50 million dollars of the states money, that is why we don't have faculty offices there is always something more important.

INT: Now ??? faculty offices ?????

FS: yeah

INT: I was told by another professor that at one time that the ?? had been through the first floor of each dorm and put the faculty offices in their and then have all the history majors in one hall and all the ?? majors in another hall.

FS: ?? silliest proposal I had ever heard. Campus was not made for that, ??? there is now way you can have decent offices and ??? in dormitories ?? loud noises ??? doing that and then they better not ??? professors ?? Then what does a student do when he changes majors he has to change dormitory too. What about commuter students who happen to be ??? will they have to run from one dormitory to another to see the professors.

INT: ??? year around ????

FS: I am not sure about that, I am on the space utilization committee ?? October ??? of course ??? for faculty offices but I think between that building and Carey Hall where we can make some adjustments there too ?? your not going to be. You'll have to do some shuffling because ?? education will probably come out of the Jacobetti center down below and they moved up here somewhere, probably over in the ??? because most students and faculty are already there.

INT: I have heard ??? that Vietnam was really hard on the campus, I guess this was during the war and I was told that the professors ??? classes, were you involved in this at all?

FS: No

INT; Were you here in the faculty?

FS: Yes

INT: Will you comment a little about what went on,??

FS: No they had ???, about a half a dozen a couple dozen students ???, that is when faculty people made a speech and most of them meddled I really don't know but the more ?? in Vietnam War seems to me a pretty crude ??? that long for people up here to notice that there is a war going on, ????

INT: ?????? MIAs, if they went on a big campaign to try to get some kind of recognition from the state but if they were ?? out in like 1974 ??? elections, any comments on that?

FS: Well there is still people missing in action from World War I, that tomb of the unknown soldier, that is why they don't know who they is. I can't remember seeing any figures and why how many people were crossfired and missing in action in 1918 or 1945

for that matter or 1953 after the Korean War. ?? the concerned for the missing in action in Vietnam ??? But I am not sure the people in cross fire and missing in World War I are obviously dead, that ?? considerable ??? probably World War II as well. Now the Korean and Vietnam I don't but I suspect that 95% of them are probably around and living is what I suspect.

INT:???? victims so concerned about and then all of sudden there is just nothing but dying?

FS: But there was survivors though, people in the United States ?? that I just ??? I don't know Jungle Warfare, someone gets killed out in the jungle there isn't going to be much luck in three or four months time let alone 10 -15 years.

INT: In 1976 ??? of Marketing and ?? department was fired because he was not a full professor, ?? your comment on that.

FS: ??? fired ??? No I can't get behind that because ?? involved in that case but I ?? some comments. He fought back, but I am really not entirely sure what the ??? the fact is. Although I am not entirely sure that he was competent either. ??? I just remember it.

INT: Also Robert McClellan was fired ?? is it because he backed ???

FS: No this McClellan thing came much before that. As a matter of fact the McClellan thing was just getting ??? when ??? What Bob did was at the time the president of the university was Harden was getting property condemned out here north of the campus  
???? Bob ??? all of a sudden the university paid him so much money for the ??? and told him to get out. ??? And the problem just simply began to ?????? that is where ??? was. And ??? preached that a couple of times in church ??? minister and ??? Harden refused to renew his contract ??? what McClellan simply did was fight back ?????? Harden ??? Harden ?? the proposal the university ?????? And I would say ?????? and I have done it in cases.

INT: ????? McClellan or ????

FS: ??? because ??? but it was ?????????? university commitment

INT: ??? specifically

FS: ??? through the provisions ????

INT: ??? Jacobetti

FS: ?? IRS on Tracy Street and Second Street, if you look ??? you can see some of the ????

INT: ??????

FS: I don't know and it wouldn't have been any aid in McClellan's case it probably would have been AAUP. In ???, see this is why ?? union here so that the ?? Harrison ?? trying to organize it but ?????? initiated it ???

INT: Was the administration against having a union here?

FS: ???? John X Jamrich running around like, he looked like ??? he ran from one office down here to another on the day we had the union election to make sure that we got out and vote because he expected that he could get out all the faculty to vote but the union ????? he ?? a whole lot of reasons ????? but the basic reason is the way he ran the selection committee for the new vice president, ???? wanted it ???? first place ?????

INT: Is it true that he named Jamrich hall as he was president after himself?

FS: ???? I don't think he ??? Jamrich was ??? board of control issue, almost ??? I will tell you something unusual about that though the day they picked the names for Jamrich Hall, they put them in in small letters in the morning ??? in the afternoon you could see them prying them off. I wish I had a movie camera for that.

INT: They weren't big enough??

FS: They weren't big enough at first

INT: ???

FS: ???????? for the same reason I don't think that Appleberry ??? ordered it to be done that way but on a slow day you come on campus and ????? the administration ????? Students and faculty have to wade through two feet of snow to get into the classroom let alone probably get into a parking lot. Of course nothing gets cleaned down here until about noon. ?????

INT: ??? professors ??? a lot of the ????? John X. Jamrich ????? what does

FS: No that is ????? I ?????

INT: What was the proposed Northern's first hall of fame ??? campus ?? 1975

FS: ?? Northern, Northern Michigan

INT: That is what I mean

FS: Upper Michigan Hall of fame. That was over in the Lake Superior Room for a number of years and ?? moved that in the

Lakeview Arena where it is now.

INT: I see. I kept hearing rumors that they were going to take this stuff and ??? a museum and ??? state hall of fame later on ???

FS: Seems to me ??? over there in the lakeview arena. I don't see why that should be connected to the university ?? all the high schools in the u.p. and things of that nature have nothing to do with Northern Michigan.

INT: Do you think that Northern should ?? a museum for the state?

FS: We have a hard enough time trying to get them to ??? let alone ??? money ?? do something but not ??? between faculty and administration salaries ??? everything, every school with that respect ??? we get plenty of money up here and ??? money up here???? taxpayers pockets. I don't know where it all goes, well I do, it ??? funding student aid ???

INT: OK in 1975 Channel 13 started televising Northern courses is this ???

FS: Well considering northern courses, they are courses but ?? broadcasting ??? nobody at Northern makes those courses ??? to offer them for degree credit ??? home more ??? mothers ??? and there are some special ??? moments that have been ?? on television ??? teach a course based on that ??? I don't think it is very ??

INT: ??? taxpayers

FS: Absolutely, ?? reading, every professor has to extra in that ??? correct papers.

INT: ??????

FS: No, ?? already had, there are two different sections at KI Sawyer Air Force base and one here on campus and then ?? Iron Mountain ??? the only thing that made that kind of ?? was that it didn't met that often ??

INT: ??

FS: Is that it?

(end of tape)