

'PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY'

10-31-66

Tenured faculty asked to sign petition of support for ATL dept.

By ANDREW MOLLISON
State News Executive Reporter

Six representatives of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), headed by E.H. Barnes, MSU chapter president, have accepted an invitation to meet with the ATL advisory committee Wednesday night.

Meanwhile, the Department of American Thought and Language is apparently stockpiling ammunition for a counter-attack against its critics.

The department's tenured faculty members are being asked to sign a statement by Tuesday supporting the "professional integrity" of its advisory committee and the section of the University College by-laws which states that a department advisory committee:

"... shall advise the department chairman on departmental matters, including promotions, appointments . . ."

Bern Engel, professor of ATL and a University College delegate to the Academic Council, sent copies of the statement to all tenured ATL faculty members who are not now serving on the advisory committee.

The committee's decision to recommend against re-hiring three non-tenured instructors--Ken Lawless, W. Gary Groat and Robert S. Fogarty--touched off a campus-wide dispute over the rights of non-tenured faculty members, when it became publicized.

So far, no one has told the three men why they have not been recommended for re-hiring.

In his letter to all tenured faculty members, Engel asked them to note that signing "in no way expresses approval or dis-

approval of recent extensively publicized personnel decisions."

Copies will be forwarded to Edward A. Carlin, University College dean.

Criticism of the recent personnel decisions was implied in a statement signed earlier in the week by 20 ATL faculty members, most of them untenured.

It speculated that criticism of the department and work on *Zeitgeist*, a controversial literary magazine, had been held against Groat by the advisory committee.

Two students who organized a drive for petitions supporting the three men explicitly criticize the committee's action.

John Dennis, Aiken, S.C., senior, and Stephen Hathaway, Mt. Clemens senior, have had hundreds of mimeographed blanks distributed. Originally, these read:

"We, the undersigned students and faculty members of MSU, demand that the
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