

Campus Ministry Association of Northern Michigan University
Working Statement on
Moral and Ethical Behavior

Drafted January 2002

The Campus Ministry Association of Northern Michigan University desires to live up to the highest moral and ethical behavior. This working statement is designed to elaborate on the issues we face and the values we want to promote. It is a compliment to our current constitution. The overriding principle would be that each Campus Ministry Association member will act in a way that lives up to the highest moral and professional standards.

The specific links to our constitution are as follows:

Article II – Membership Section 2.

It is assumed that each representative meets the qualifications that have been established by that religious group. Each Campus Ministry Association member will act in a way that lives up to the highest moral and professional standards. As much as possible we will live by the NMU guidelines and policies that affect specific areas of campus ministry.

Article V - Operating Principles

B. The CMA will seek to conduct itself in harmony with University regulations.

Integrity has the sense of honesty and straightforwardness. It is the quality or state of being complete, undivided, whole, stable, or pure. We believe this honesty and completeness need to be evident in the life of anyone who works with university students. This integrity would be evident in dealing with money, relationships, and speech. Any hurtful actions, stealing, lying, sexual or physical abuse or inappropriate behavior should not characterize a member of the NMU CMA. We must also respect the differing views and faiths of others.

The issue of relationships is especially important. College students are at a unique point in life. They are often making decisions for themselves for the first time in their lives. They can be vulnerable and easily swayed.

Our behavior needs to be above reproach in relationship with any student with whom we interact, counsel or advise. It is paramount that when we deal with student of the opposite sex we live out these values. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

Our caution to each CMA Member is to be very careful in relating one on one with students of the opposite sex. This would mean time alone would be kept to a minimum. We also believe it would be best to refrain from dating a student under their “pastoral” care. Sexual Harassment is a significant issue in our culture. NMU has policies that must be followed in this arena. We believe the accusation of sexual harassment is a serious charge and must be fully explored.

We believe each CMA member needs to follow their own Denominational or Organizational structure and policies that relate to moral and ethical behavior. In the event that a CMA member is accused of inappropriate behavior, the CMA will initially review the issue(s) on a case by case basis. Criminal behavior must be reported to the appropriate authorities.

We as the NMU CMA will annually review this statement and its guidelines. We will also consider some sort of educational input on these issues.