Anti-draft effort begins on campus

by Ken Tangvik

In the center of a new wave of political activism at UMB is the newly formed Anti-War/Anti-Draft Committee. The group came together immediately after President Carter's call for registration and has already organized two campus-wide teach-ins and sponsored the showing of the award-winning Vietnam documentary Hearts and Minds. It sponsored an SAC-subsidized bus for the March 22 anti-draft march in Washington, D.C.

The first teach-in was held about one month ago and attracted approximately 200 students. Michael Letwin, a UMass/Boston student, explained how the present Iranian crisis is tied in with Carter's call for registration. Professor Ron McKuen talked about the oil situation in relation to the draft, and Monica Crowley, a UMass/Boston student, spoke about women and the draft.

Three weeks ago, the committee showed the documentary Hearts and Minds to more than 100 students. The film showed the brutal reality and horror of the Vietnam war, with live coverage of bombings, tortures, and executions.

On March 12 the group sponsored a teach-in on U.S. involvement in Central America with UMass/Boston student Oscar Hernandez, a member of the Nicaraguan Solidarity Committee, speaking. Hernandez said he felt the U.S. was gearing up to go to war in Central America, especially since the revolution in Nicaragua.

The Anti-Draft/Anti-War Committee plans to continue activities throughout the semester.