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PUBLIC LECTURE ON H.J. MULLER SLATED

Elof Axel Carlson, professor of biology at New York State University, Stony Brook, will lecture on "H. J. Muller: Maverick of Science," at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 7, in Room 221 of the Science Complex at the University of Montana.

Muller received the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1946 for demonstrating that X-rays induce mutations. Carlson will use Muller's life to discuss the difficulties scientists encounter when their work has impact on social issues and generates controversy.

Muller, an American, was working in Berlin when Hitler came to power. He left Germany to work in the Soviet Union until forced to flee after the Stalin purges of 1936. His views on radiation protection, academic freedom, eugenics and human genetics often collided with government policy in both capitalistic and communistic societies.

Carlson is a geneticist and a former student of Muller's. He holds a doctorate from Indiana University.

Carlson is the author of more than 70 publications, including "The Gene: A Critical History" and "Genes, Radiation, and Society: The Life and Work of H. J. Muller." A text based on his biology course is now in production.

While on the UM campus, Carlson will meet with faculty interested in the design of biological science courses for non-majors.

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