Authority on emotions gives next President's Lecture

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MISSOULA—

Philosopher, ethicist and authority on emotions Robert Solomon will give the second installment in the President’s Lecture Series 2000 on Monday, Sept. 25, at The University of Montana.

Solomon will discuss “The Philosophy of Romantic Love” starting at 8 p.m. in the University Theatre. The lecture is free and open to the public. Solomon also will speak at the Philosophy Forum from 3:10 to 4:30 Monday afternoon in Room 106 of the Gallagher Building. He’ll discuss “The Philosophy of Nietzsche.”

On the philosophy faculty at the University of Texas at Austin since 1973, Solomon also has been the university’s Quincy Lee Professor of Business since 1987 and teaches ethics seminars for businesses. He has held 14 visiting teaching positions all over the world and won many teaching awards, among them UT’s Distinguished Teaching Professor Award in 1997.

UM philosophy Assistant Professor David Sherman, who studied under Solomon, praised him as a scholar, mentor and teacher.

“He has a very rare skill that makes him superb in terms of his ability to take exceedingly complicated philosophical issues and lay them out and expand upon them without in the least sacrificing the complexity and richness of the ideas involved,” Sherman said.
Dubbed by Sherman as “truly more productive than any other three people I know,” Solomon has published more than 100 articles since 1972, edited 11 books, written eight textbooks and penned 21 other books on special topics. Among those are “About Love: Reinventing Romance for our Times,” “History and Human Nature,” “What Nietzsche Really Said” and “In the Spirit of Hegel,” which Sherman called “one of the finest books on Hegel in the English language, one that benefits students enormously.” Solomon’s theory of emotions, explored in his 1976 book “The Passions,” was groundbreaking, Sherman said. The book deals with the nature and scope of human emotion and its relationship to reason.

Solomon hails from Pennsylvania and earned a bachelor’s degree in molecular biology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1963. He holds master’s and doctoral degrees in philosophy/psychology from the University of Michigan and wrote his dissertation on unconscious motivation.