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ANNUAL BUGBEE LECTURE AT UM FEATURES RUTGERS PROFESSOR

MISSOULA –

Philosophy Professor Bruce Wilshire of Rutgers University will deliver the 13th Annual Bugbee Lecture on Thursday, April 26, at The University of Montana.

The lecture, “Henry Bugbee, Philosopher of Intimacy,” will begin at 8 p.m. in Room 119 of the Gallagher Building. The event honors the late UM philosophy Professor Emeritus Henry G. Bugbee, who first joined UM’s philosophy department in 1957 and twice served as department chair during his 20 years at the University.

"Professor Wilshire thinks of Henry Bugbee as one of the original and deep thinkers in United States philosophy," said Albert Borgmann, UM professor of philosophy. “He uses Bugbee’s work as a bridge to Native American thought, which he also includes in American philosophy."

In addition to the evening lecture, Professor Wilshire will present an afternoon Philosophy Forum titled “Conceptual Difficulties in Understanding Genocide” at 3:40 p.m. in the Gallagher Building, Room 119. Both the evening lecture and the afternoon forum are free and open to the public.

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Wilshire earned his doctorate at New York University, where he began his academic teaching career as well. He joined the Rutgers University faculty in 1969 and has been a philosophy professor there since 1975. He is among the most productive and influential philosophers in the continental tradition of American philosophy and has written extensively on topics in aesthetics, American philosophy, phenomenology and existentialism. His most recent book, "The Primal Roots of American Philosophy," connects the work of thinkers such as Thoreau, Emerson, Dewey and James with Native American beliefs and practices.

The UM Department of Philosophy established the Bugbee Lecture in 1989 to preserve and promote the unique reflective style of Henry Bugbee, who had a profound influence on other philosophers. Bugbee's best-known publication is "The Inward Morning: A Philosophical Reflection in Journal Form," in which he reflects on a wide range of human experience, drawing on his days at sea, his times fishing the rivers of the Northwest and his thoughtful consideration of literature. Henry Bugbee died in December 1999.