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Holcomb to discuss humane economics paper

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HOLCOMB TO DISCUSS
HUMANE ECONOMICS PAPER
APRIL 26 AT UM

MISSOULA---

Peter M. Holcomb, a former employe at the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center near Darby, will discuss his paper, "Humane Economics," Thursday (April 26) at 4:10 p.m. in room 211 University of Montana Business Administration Building. The discussion is open to the public without charge.

In an abstract of his paper, Holcomb says "economic assessment of technology has been misleading (because) it does not account pollution, social change, ecological, and aesthetic deterioration as costs, but it does account war technology as valuable."

Holcomb proposes that economics, like language, is an artificial system which can be constructed to permit assessment of technological activities according to a consensus of human values.

"There are other ways than economic accounting to assess technology but none of them hold much hope for improving the human condition as long as a contrary economic incentive holds sway over the individual people and individual nation-states of our planet," Holcomb says.

The paper will be presented May 31 to the First International Congress on Technology Assessment in the Hague, Netherlands.

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