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NEWS

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PUBLIC IS INVITED TO DRUG SYMPOSIUM MONDAY, TUESDAY AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Five doctors, each of a different discipline, will be the professional participants in a public symposium on drugs Monday and Tuesday (May 22,23) in the University Theater at the University of Montana.

UM Student Body Pres. Loren Haar explained that the student government initiated the program to educate UM students and other interested persons concerning the illegal use of drugs.

"It is my contention," Haar said, "that the drug problem is perpetuated by ignorance. We feel that we have on our panels some of the best authorities in the field and plan to present a totally objective study that will not draw conclusions--just present facts."

Stephen Carroll, student chairman and moderator for the discussion, said the program will be academic in content: "We feel that the truth is the only means of putting drug and narcotic usage in proper perspective and thus we seek to present only the truth. We hope that the symposium will clear away the myths, rumors and ballyhoo that surround the subject of drugs."

Dr. Larry Elison, an associate professor of Law at UM, will discuss the "Legal Implications of Illicit Drug Usage" during the first session, beginning at 8 Monday evening. Dr. Elison is vice chairman of Montana's Criminal Law Commission which developed the recently enacted state Code of Criminal Procedure. Commission members are now revising substantive criminal codes, including statutes dealing with drugs.

Dr. Laurence Gale, administrative vice president of the University of Montana, will be the final speaker during the symposium's first session. His topic will be "General Aspects of Drug Abuse," relating the difference between narcotics and psychedelics. Dr.

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Gale holds a Ph.D. in pharmacology.

Dr. Abraham Hoffer, associate professor in the School of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan and director of psychiatric research for the provincial department of public health, will lead the second session at 8 Tuesday evening. His address, "The Psychological Effects of Drug Usage," will include some findings of his research endeavors and their implications.

A consultant on drug addiction to the World Health Organization, Dr. Joel Fort of Oakland, Cal., will discuss the "Sociological Implications of Drug Usage." He is director for the Center for Treatment and Education on Alcoholism in Oakland and a lecturer in the School of Criminology at the University of California.

The final professional participant, Dr. John Pfaff, will tell of "Psychological and Toxicological Effects of Drug Usage." Dr. Pfaff is a medical pathologist and director of laboratories in Columbus Hospital, Great Falls. He has been a lecturer in the FBI-Montana Law Enforcement Academy since 1963.