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UM STUDENT WORKS
AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN LABORATORY
IN HAMILTON

MISSOULA---

Miss Carla Clausen, a University of Montana graduate student in microbiology, is taking advantage of the University's proximity to the U.S. Public Health Service's Rocky Mountain Laboratory (RML) to work on her doctorate.

Having completed the course requirements of the microbiology department at UM in Missoula, Miss Clausen is conducting her doctoral research at the RML in Hamilton.

Working at the laboratory offers her opportunities to learn new techniques and to keep pace with the fast-growing field of immunology.

Since 1965 the Public Health Service has awarded Miss Clausen fellowship grants to support this research.

Miss Clausen, daughter of Mrs. Ella Clausen, 412 Artemos Drive, Missoula, graduated from UM in 1957 with a bachelor's degree in bacteriology. She trained in medical technology at King County Hospital, Seattle, the following year, and worked as a technologist in California and Missoula before returning to UM for a master's degree in microbiology.

She spent the following two years in Sierra Leone, West Africa, as a member of one of the first Peace Corps Medical teams.

Completion of her doctorate in microbiology will enable her to supervise the bacteriology section of a large hospital laboratory, direct research projects or teach in a hospital-associated medical school.

In Hamilton, Miss Clausen works under the supervision of Dr. J.J. Munoz, an immunologist, and Dr. R. Kaye Bergman, a physiologist.

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For several years, Dr. Munoz and Dr. Bergman have been examining the organism which causes whooping cough, Bordetella pertussis (B. pertussis). Although whooping cough is no longer a problem in this country because of vaccine, it has been found that B. pertussis produces effects similar to allergic reactions.

During the past year, Miss Clausen has been investigating the type of antibody response that occurs when mice are immunized with extracts of B. pertussis and another substance. The antibody, or the substance which fights foreign bodies, has several unique properties. It is similar to the type of antibody which causes some allergic reactions in humans.

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