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Dr. Victor Duke to conduct seminar on drug use, abuse

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DR. VICTOR DUKE
TO CONDUCT SEMINAR
ON DRUG USE, ABUSE

MISSOULA--

Dr. Victor H. Duke, an associate professor of pharmacology at the University of Montana, said in a recent interview that persons who abuse themselves with drugs probably have basic personality defects which existed before they started excessive drug use.

The 44-year-old pharmacologist is director of a seminar entitled "Use and Abuse of Drugs," which begins Thursday (July 24) at UM and continues through Aug. 1.

The seminar is open to the public without credit. Drug users are invited. "There will be no attempt to philosophize on drug abuse," Dr. Duke said.

Class sessions will be from 1:20-4:40 p.m. in room 109 of the Chemistry-Pharmacy Building. Optional additional morning and evening sessions will be available.

The popular seminar has a pre-enrollment of about 60, including university and public school teachers, administrators, counselors, guidance personnel, law enforcement officials, school nurses and other interested persons. The seminar carries two credits.

Dr. Duke said emphasis will be on abuse agents in everyday use, such as marijuana and alcohol, especially insofar as adolescents and young adults are concerned.

Physical characteristics as well as the psychological, physiological and social effects of several drugs will be considered.

Said Dr. Duke, "Some persons may suffer permanent decrements in productivity by taking stimulants, depressants and hallucinogens. However, individuals so affected probably have personality defects which are basic to their compulsive drug behavior and which could be at least contributory to any effects seen after prolonged use of a drug.

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DR. VICTOR DUKE--2--

"We cannot talk about the individual drug reaction and the drug effects as separate entities," Dr. Duke said.

Concerning marijuana and alcohol, Dr. Duke said, "We should not compare the effects of marijuana and alcohol until we have more data on marijuana."

He added, "If I were to advise abstinence from any drug which is in abuse, I would advise most strongly against the intravenous injection of amphetamines. ('speed')."

UM faculty assisting Dr. Duke in the seminar will be Dr. Robert L. Van Horne, dean and professor of pharmacy; Dean J. Bowman, sociology instructor, and Dr. Robert R. Zimmerman, a psychology professor.

Dr. Duke received his bachelor's degree in zoology at Idaho State University, Pocatello, in 1949 and his bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the same institution a year later. He received his doctorate in pharmacology in 1961 from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

He has taught pharmacology at the University of New Mexico and the University of Wyoming before coming to UM to conduct the drug abuse seminar in July 1968.

Dr. Duke is a native of Salt Lake City, Utah. His mother is Mrs. Emma Jean Duke of Salt Lake City.

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