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Bolle praises plans for \$1.2-million facility at Lubrecht

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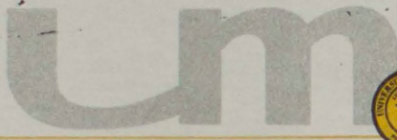
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BOLLE PRAISES PLANS
FOR \$1.2-MILLION
FACILITY AT LUBRECHT

MISSOULA, Mont.--

Dr. Arnold W. Bolle praised Thursday the preliminary plans for the proposed construction of the \$1.2-million Conference Center and Research Facility at Lubrecht Experimental Forest.

Addressing members of the University of Montana Foundation during the group's annual two-day summer meeting at Lubrecht, 30 miles northeast of Missoula, Dr. Bolle, who is dean of the UM forestry school, also announced Thursday the appointment of a consultant who will assist in organizing the Foundation's Center for Natural Resources.

The Foundation meeting continues through Friday at Lubrecht.

Newly named consultant for the UM Center for Natural Resources is Dr. Wendell A. Mordy, who has been director of the Desert Research Institute at the University of Nevada, Reno, since 1960.

The Center's Board of Trustees okayed appointment of Dr. Mordy at a meeting in Missoula Wednesday.

Purpose of the Center for Natural Resources is to promote interdisciplinary research of natural resources in the northern Rocky Mountain region, which extends from Wyoming to Northern Canada.

Other speakers Thursday during the Foundation meeting at Lubrecht included Merritt N. Warden, Kalispell, the 1969 Foundation president, who said he is pleased with the Foundation's progress.

Among its income for 1969, Warden said the Foundation will realize cost income of \$39,300 from three programs funded by the federal government at UM--the Community Action Program, \$223,000; the Indian Adult Education Program, \$850,000, and the Upward Bound and Head Start programs, \$138,000.

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Dr. Bolle said he hopes the proposed Conference Center and Research Facility at Lubrecht can be funded soon, "so construction can begin before the end of 1970." He said only private funds obtained through the UM Foundation will be used for the new complex.

The three main areas of the proposed complex and the estimated costs include the Conference Center, \$292,020; Field Laboratory, \$297,380, and the lodging facilities, \$350,000. Other portions of the development will include a bridge, a home for the site manager and a maintenance facility.

During Thursday's Foundation sessions Theodore J. Wirth, who heads Theodore J. Wirth and Associates, a Billings architectural and land planning firm, said his firm designed the proposed building and facilities at Lubrecht to blend in with the natural environment.

"The proposed buildings at Lubrecht," Wirth emphasized, "have been designed as a single story, interconnected structure, stressing the vertical elements, reflecting the trees and highlighting a rough timber-and-stone design. Natural earthen colors found in the Lubrecht environment will be featured."

Dr. Bolle praised Wirth's concept of design for the proposed structure "because the features will be very functional and won't interfere with the natural surroundings."

"The laboratory," Dr. Bolle continued, "will implement the goals of the Center for Natural Resources by promoting research toward a greater understanding of the traditional uses of forested land--timber, water, range, recreation and wildlife."

Gerhard M. Knudsen, an administrative assistant for the Center for Natural Resources, said the entire complex will encompass about 430 acres and will be located on the northern boundary of Lubrecht and south of the Blackfoot River.

"The rustic contemporary theme of the Conference Center and Research Facility," Knudsen said, "will afford scientists an area free of disturbance where they may concentrate solely on their investigations."

Wirth said he feels the proposed facility's design may "stimulate general awareness and concern for the preservation and use of natural resources and environment."

Other speakers at the Foundation meeting at Lubrecht Thursday included Philip J. Hess, an associate professor of journalism at UM, who also is UM radio-television director; Dr. John J. Craighead, leader of the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, and Thomas J. Collins, UM Foundation director.

University President Robert T. Pantzer is slated to give his "State of the University" address Friday at the Lubrecht meeting. Dr. Norman E. Taylor, UM vice-president for research, will discuss "Research Activity and Current Problems."

Calvin L. Murphy, Foundation treasurer, will give his report Friday. Murphy also is UM business manager.