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New UM dean of students tells of tentative plans

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IMMEDIATELY

NEW UM DEAN OF STUDENTS
TELLS OF TENTATIVE PLANS

ehrich/vb
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state + cs

By Barbara Ehrlich

MISSOULA--

Dr. Robert R. Fedore, the new dean of students at the University of Montana, recently outlined his ideas about establishing "effective communications" to deal with problems facing University students.

Dr. Fedore was appointed to the UM position July 1, succeeding Andrew C. Cogswell who retired after 39 years of service with the University. He is the former associate dean of students at Michigan State University, East Lansing.

Although he said he has no finalized plans about dealing with problems at UM, "much hangs on the necessity to orient new students, particularly freshmen, to the University."

"A student's first year is especially important, so we'll do everything we can to help him adjust to university life," he explained.

The dean said he would like to establish a "task force type of procedure" which would work through the residence halls to deal with areas he regards as primary. These areas include drug abuse, the student's feeling of alienation from other students and society, human relations and environmental quality.

"We would like to use what resource people we have on campus from various departments and disciplines that relate to the student's problems in adjustment," he said.

"What we're really talking about is orientation to the University," he stressed, "These approaches are a part of that total. I feel strongly that the sooner we get started in this, the broader the basis students will have for decision making."

Dr. Fedore said he ultimately hopes "to educate the residence hall staff to become para-professionals. They have to acquaint themselves with these issues to better relate to students."

A native of Jackson, Mich., Dr. Fedore has been a staff member at Michigan State since 1962. He held positions as associate director of admissions and assistant to the vice president for student affairs before his most recent appointment in 1969.

He was awarded his B.A. (1950) and M.A. (1953) degrees from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Michigan State awarded him a Ph.D. in 1969.

Dr. Fedore and his wife, Patricia, have four children.