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National Defense Education Act summer language institute to be held at Montana State University

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Fifty-two teachers will exchange their mother tongue for a second language during a National Defense Education Act summer institute at Montana State University, June 18 through August 10, according to Dr. Robert M. Burgess, chairman of the MSU Department of Foreign Languages.

For the third successive year, the University has received U. S. Office of Education approval to conduct the institute for high school teachers of French and Spanish, he announced Wednesday. The institute's $79,620 budget comes from funds allocated under NDEA authorization, he explained.

The majority of participants will be chosen from the Northwest, but any secondary teacher of French or Spanish is eligible to apply, Dr. Burgess said. Public-school teachers will receive stipends of $75 plus $15 for each dependent. Private-school teachers will not receive stipends but may attend without paying institute fees.

This year, as in 1960 and 1961, Dr. Burgess will direct the institute and Dr. Douglas C. Sheppard of the language faculty will again be assistant director. They will be aided by a staff of five visiting professors, six native speakers and two language laboratory assistants, plus a number of visiting lecturers.

Every effort will be made to re-create the atmosphere the participants would find if they were living in a country where French or Spanish is the native tongue, Dr. Burgess noted. They will speak the language in the dormitories and at the dining tables as well as in the classroom, and each language group will be quartered with native speakers.

The actual practice in speaking and understanding will supplement a seminar in language teaching and demonstration classes where latest techniques of language instruction will be related to cultural aspects of French and Spanish-speaking countries.

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