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Gerald W. Kimble named Director of Montana State University Computer Center

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FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Dr. Gerald W. Kimble has been named director of the Montana State University computer center, MSU President H. K. Newburn announced. As associate professor of mathematics, Dr. Kimble will also teach courses in an instructional program related to computing and data processing.

The new director has arrived on campus to oversee preparation and construction of physical quarters for the facility, which will be housed in the Liberal Arts building, and to plan for operation of the center. The IBM 1620 automatic digital computer is scheduled for installation in July or August. It will be used primarily for instruction and research at the University but may also be available for use by industries and federal and state agencies in the area.

Nearly three-fourths of the cost of the $131,000 computer center has been made available by the National Science Foundation and the equipment manufacturer, according to Dr. Newburn. The MSU Endowment Foundation is winding up a campaign to raise the balance through solicitation of gifts from individuals and business firms. The Endowment Foundation fund-raising committee is headed by Jack Corette, Butte.

Dr. Kimble comes to MSU from the mathematics faculty of Long Beach State College. He has been a mathematician for the Department of Meteorology at the University of California at Los Angeles and a research engineer for Hughes Aircraft Co. at Fullerton, Calif. In the latter position he was responsible for system design and logical design of radar tracking equipment. From 1951 to 1955 he was a computer specialist with the U. S. Air Force, and from 1949 to 1951 he did computations at the U. S. Bureau of Standards Institute for Numerical Analysis at UCLA.

(more)
Dr. Kimble is a native of Bakersfield, Calif. He holds a B. A. in physics from the University of California at Berkeley and M. A. and Ph. D. degrees in mathematics from UCLA. While working for his doctorate he was employed by UCLA in numerical analysis research.

Dr. Kimble's wife will join him in Missoula soon.

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