James W. Gebhart Memorial Fund established in the Montana State University Endowment Foundation

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A James W. Gebhart Memorial Fund has been established in the Montana State University Endowment Foundation to provide annual awards for outstanding students in science education and conservation, Dr. Sherman J. Preece of the Botany Department announced.

The awards honoring the science educator and conservationist, who served on the MSU education faculty from 1955 until his death July 14, will consist of books, purchased with interest earned by the memorial fund, according to Dr. Preece, spokesman for the fund committee.

Checks should be made payable to the MSU Endowment Foundation and be accompanied by a note indicating the contribution is for the Gebhart Memorial Fund, Dr. Preece said.

Dr. Gebhart was enroute to Missoula from Pakistan when he was fatally stricken in Cleveland, Ohio. He had been on leave from MSU since January 1962 to organize a science department at Punjab Agricultural College in Lyallpur, an assignment undertaken for Washington State University and the U. S. International Cooperation Administration.

The fund committee is also considering a proposal to dedicate an outdoor area in the state as a memorial to Dr. Gebhart's contributions to conservation education, Dr. Preece reported. The committee will pursue this proposal at future meetings, he added.

In addition to Dr. Gebhart's widow, the committee includes Charles MacDonald, U. S. Forest Service, Stevensville; Miss Lillian Hornick, USFS, Missoula, and the following MSU faculty members: Dean Arnold W. Bolle, Dean Linus J. Carleton, Dr. R. A. Diettert, Dr. Leslie W. Pengelly, Emeritus Prof. J. W. Severy, Dr. Vernon O. Sletten, Dr. George F. Weisel Jr. and Dr. Preece.

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