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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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\$7,000 GRANT FOR UM  
FACULTY MEMBER FROM MIEF

MISSOULA---

Laurel E. Pease, associate professor of accounting and finance at the University of Montana (UM), has been awarded a Montana Insurance Education Foundation (MIEF) research award valued at \$7,000.

The grant is the result of the growing concern with the lack of emphasis and understanding surrounding the insurance world and represents MIEF's initial effort to underwrite any specific form of research work.

In addition to partially satisfying his doctoral requirements, the grant will enable Pease to establish, through his thesis, a common field of understanding between insurance concerns and the people of Montana.

"Few Montanans are aware of the objectives of the insurance industry, and, as a result, they don't fully realize the beneficial contributions rendered by such firms to the economic prosperity of the state," Pease explained.

In recent months the MIEF, organizational arm of insurance men throughout the state, has instituted several programs to enhance the insurance industry's public image.

"In line with its policy for insurance education, MIEF has taken numerous steps since its formation in 1966 to clarify the objectives and professional standards of insurance agents," Pease said. "Most notably, the MIEF is subsidizing the addition of insurance books to the UM Library and is encouraging establishment of more-concentrated insurance courses within the UM School of Business Administration."

It is hoped these actions also will interest graduating seniors in insurance work as careers.

Pease, whose goals are closely parallel to those of the MIEF, will spend most of this summer and his spare time during the next two academic years preparing his thesis for publication.