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REVAMPED MINORITY PROGRAM GETS

THREE FULL-TIME ADVISORS

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT University of Idaho

MOSCOW -- A revamped Minority Advisory Services program will begin operation at the University of Idaho Aug. 8 when three newly appointed minority student advisors arrive on campus.

The three are Carmen M. Loera, a graduate of Boise State University, Jerome J. Mayfield, a graduate of Oregon State University, and John M. Wheaton III, a graduate of the University of Idaho, according to Dr. A. Jean Hill, dean of Student Advisory Services.

Loera will advise Chicano students, Mayfield, black students and Wheaton, Native American students. All three will report to Hill.

"This will be a rebuilding year for the minority program," Hill said, explaining that there would be three full-time counselors rather than a director and three-part-time graduate assistants working with minority students. She indicated no additional salary dollars are needed for the new staffing arrangement.

The minority program was formerly administered through the academic vice president's office. Charles Ramsey, former minority program director, resigned last spring.

Loera attended the University of Idaho for two years before transferring to Boise State where she completed a bachelor's degree in societal and urban studies with a focus on criminal justice administration. While at Idaho, she was the first female president of MECHA, the Chicano student organization, and served as a part-time student counselor under Ramsey.

Since graduation, Loera has served as a research analyst for the Idaho Law Enforcement Planning Commission, a volunteer counselor at Nampa High School and a volunteer juvenile counselor for the Boise Police Department.

Mayfield, who holds a bachelor's degree in liberal studies and is working on a master's degree in guidance and counseling, has experience in both recruiting and advising minority students. He is currently an advisor in the Educational Opportunity Program at the State University of New York (SUNY) College at Plattsburg and previously held a position there in the Veterans Cost of Instruction Program.

He has also been assistant undergraduate advisor at the OSU School of Business, an ethnic studies resource teacher at Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis, Ore., and a student recruiter in the OSU Educational Opportunity Program.

REVAMPED MINORITY PROGRAM

Wheaton, a graduate of Plummer (Idaho) High School and of the UI Upward Bound program, is a 1977 graduate in marketing. He has been a dean's list student and scholarship recipient, and president of the Native American Students Association in 1975.

Currently working part-time in the minority program, Wheaton has served as a youth counselor with a Bureau of Indian Affairs summer camp and as an Upward Bound counselor.

"The goal of the minority program is to increase the number of minority students at the university but equally to focus on retention of the students who come," Hill said. She expects that the emphasis in recruiting will be in Idaho and the Northwest, and says the counselors will do much more work with faculty members and resource agencies on the campus in assisting individual minority students.

"We're aiming for a more comprehensive, coordinated program," Hill said.

The university has approximately 40 Black, 30 Chicano and 30 Native American students. Idaho has approximately 35,000-40,000 Chicanos, 12,000-15,000 Native Americans and 1,700 to 1,900 Blacks.

The Minority Advisory Services will continue to be housed in offices located in the bottom floor of the Faculty Office Complex West.

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