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Winthrop University

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Islam Is the Subject of Friends of Dacus Library Program

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Cultural, historical, political and religious aspects of Islam will be discussed by Professors Mary Schweitzer and Howard Federspiel at the Friends of Dacus Library’s spring program on April 3.

The free program will be held at 4 p.m. in Plowden Auditorium.

Schweitzer is a cultural anthropologist who came to Winthrop in 1978. She was a visiting professor at the American University-Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, from 2002-03 and 2004-05 and in the Aga Khan (Muslim-Ismaili) Humanities Project in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in 2006. She has received Fulbright awards for travel, study and teaching in Colombia, South America, India and Albania, and traveled extensively in China, Peru, Bulgaria, Turkey and Mexico. She still teaches part time at Winthrop.

Federspiel was chairman of the political science department and director of International Studies at Winthrop in the 1970s. Since 1979, he has been professor of political science at The Ohio State University in Newark. He participated in the Mid-West Universities Consortium for International Activities at the University of North Sumatra from 1984-86, and in Jakarta, Indonesia from 1987-88, and from 1997-98 he was visiting professor of Islamic Studies at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Copies of his most recently published book "Sultans, Shamans, and Saints: Islam and Muslims in Southeast Asia" are available at the Bookworm. Since 2000, Federspiel has also published "Islam and Ideology in the Emerging Indonesian State" and "Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals of the Twentieth Century."

For more information, contact the library at 803/323-2131.