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Lunch and Learn Sessions to Cover Integration Issues

Winthrop University

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Lunch and Learn Sessions to Cover Integration Issues

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – Winthrop University will commemorate the 50th anniversary of integration with a variety of programming Oct. 6-12. The week’s theme, Fulfilling the Promise, allows the community to come together, remember, and reflect on the contributions of the four pioneering African-American women who quietly integrated the Winthrop University, then Winthrop College, campus 50 years ago, and the many other esteemed African Americans who helped pave the way for the access and diversity that today characterizes the Winthrop experience.

During the week-long commemoration, two Lunch and Learn sessions will allow attendees to learn more about the benefits of integrated schooling, and desegregation and resegregation in the Carolinas. Attendees also will hear the personal integration experiences from Cynthia Plair Roddey ’67 and Delores Johnson Hurt ’68, two of the first African-American students, and Ellen Owens and Dorothy Barber, African Americans who were hired as Winthrop staff in 1970.

Below is more information about these two free Lunch and Learn sessions that are open to the public:

Contemporary Questions about Desegregation and Resegregation* (*Event to be rescheduled. Check back for date and time.)
Sponsored by: John C. West Forum on Politics and Policy

This discussion will feature Stephen Smith, professor of political science at Winthrop, and Roslyn Mickelson, professor of sociology at UNC-Charlotte. Mickelson will discuss what social science tells us about the benefits of integrated schooling and the harms of segregated education. Smith will follow up with information about desegregation and resegregation in North and South Carolina, particularly around the Charlotte area.

Oct. 9: Speak of the Times - A Conversation with Winthrop’s Firsts
11 a.m. – Noon, Tuttle Dining Room, McBryde Hall
Sponsored by: Office of the President and the 50th Anniversary Coordinating Committee

This panel discussion will feature Cynthia Plair Roddey ’67, Winthrop’s first African-American graduate student and the first African-American woman to enroll at the university; Delores Johnson Hurt ’68, one of the first undergraduate African-American students to enroll at Winthrop; and Ellen Owens and Dorothy Barber, African Americans who were hired as Winthrop staff in 1970. The session will be moderated by Nathaniel Frederick of the mass communication faculty.
Attendees should bring their own lunch; beverages and desserts will be provided.

For more information, please contact Judy Longshaw, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or email longshawj@winthrop.edu.