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Civil Rights and Civil Memory

Summary: Kirt Wilson, associate professor and director of Graduate Studies in Communication at the U-Twin Cities, will give the Spring Speech Symposium lecture, "Civil Rights v. Civil Memory: Rhetorically (re)constituting the Civil Rights Movement."

(February 14, 2006)-Kirt Wilson, associate professor and director of Graduate Studies in Communication at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Department of Communication, will give the Spring Speech Symposium lecture, "Civil Rights v. Civil Memory: Rhetorically (re)constituting the Civil Rights Movement." Wilson will give his lecture on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. in the Alumni Room of the Student Center at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Wilson will also meet with student groups and the Multi-Ethnic Student Program (MSP) office staff during his visit. An evening reception will follow the lecture, which is free and open to the public.

Wilson, a McKnight Presidential Fellow, holds a doctoral degree from Northwestern University in 1995 and a master's degree from Purdue University in 1991. He has received several awards including the prestigious Karl R. Wallace Memorial Award from the National Communication Association in 2002 and the New Investigator Award from the Rhetoric and Communication Theory Division of the National Communication Association in 2001. Wilson was also one of two recipients of the Arthur "Red" Motley Exemplary Teaching Award, the highest teaching award given by the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota in 2002.

His most recent book, published in 2002 and titled *Reconstruction's Desegregation Debate: The Politics of Equality and the Rhetoric of Place*, received the Winans-Wichelns book award from the National Communication Association in 2003.

Barbara Burke, associate professor and discipline coordinator for speech communication at UMM, commented, "he's a really nice guy, and a very energetic and entertaining public speaker."

The primary sponsor for this event is the speech communication discipline at UMM, with co-sponsorship by the UMM entities of the Division of Humanities, MSP, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, Circle of Nations Indian Association, Black Student Union, Imani, United Latinos, Women Of Color Association, and Asian Student Association.

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