

Black leaders to speak at Furman forum on Civil War and civil rights

E. Richard Walton
12:09 AM, Jul. 24, 2011|

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, civil rights activist Cleveland Sellers and Isabel Wilkerson, the first black woman to win a Pulitzer Prize, will speak during a Furman University series on the Civil War and civil rights that will run from Tuesday until Aug. 16.

John W. McCardell Jr. will discuss "The Legacy of the Civil War: What about the War is Worth Remembering."

A talk titled "Fighting Jim Crow in the Day-to-Day Life of Black Southerners" will be presented by Robert Korstand, a professor of public policy and history at Duke University.

Clyburn and Sellers will be on a panel for "Traveling the Road to Civil Rights."

On Aug. 16, Furman University President Rodney A. Smolla will discuss "The Evolving Meaning of 'Civil Rights' in Contemporary America."

Wilkerson, who just published her book "The Warmth of Other Suns," will be

involved in a panel titled "Moving Forward on the Path of Equality in South Carolina."

Smolla said recently that he planned to increase the number of minority students at Furman and that some of those results would begin showing up in this fall's class. He also said he planned to increase the number of scholarships to minorities.

Also on Aug. 16, a panel on "Equal Justice and Opportunity" will be held.

Historian A.V. Huff, professor emeritus of history at Furman, will host the program, a university spokeswoman said.

The summer series is co-sponsored by Furman's Riley Institute and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman.

Each session will be held on a Tuesday at the Younts Conference Center on the university's campus and they are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

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