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Reception honoring Spence L. Wilson and Jonathan Judaken, Ph.D.

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Spence L. Wilson is the President of Kemmons Wilson, Inc., a private real estate development and investment company, and chairman of the board of Orange Lake Country Club, Inc. of Orlando, Florida. Mr. Wilson holds his undergraduate degree in economics from Vanderbilt University and M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Born and raised in Memphis, Mr. Wilson has always been committed to the success of the city as a whole and is a respected civic leader. At an early age Mr. Wilson “adopted” Rhodes College when, in 1971, he joined the Rhodes College Board of Trustees. He has served more than 40 years on the Rhodes Board of Trustees, nine years as chairman, and his involvement has had a lasting impact on the institution in many ways. He has been a tireless supporter of the faculty, including hosting the first faculty and trustee retreat at Orange Lake, sending Search and Life faculty abroad, and later developing and implementing the Spence L. Wilson Faculty International Travel Fund.

Knowing the impact of service on the Memphis community and our students, he established the Spence L. Wilson Service Scholarship Program. He is also a longtime member of the Charles E. Diehl Society, the Benefactors’ Circle and the Walter D. Bellingrath Society. He was awarded the honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 2009 from Rhodes College.

Mr. Wilson’s commitment to the college—particularly to our faculty and students—is exemplified through The Spence L. Wilson Distinguished Chair in Humanities, and is a natural outgrowth of his involvement and love for our faculty and his long-term commitment to the humanities and the Memphis community.



PRESIDENT AND MRS. WILLIAM E. TROUTT

cordially invite you to a reception

honoring

SPENCE L. WILSON

and

the inaugural holder of

THE SPENCE L. WILSON CHAIR IN HUMANITIES

JONATHAN JUDAKEN, Ph.D.

Tuesday, the eleventh day of October

Two thousand eleven

Burrow Hall

Rhodes College

six o’clock in the evening

Please Reply
Kristen Hunt
901-843-3596 *or*
huntk@rhodes.edu



Dr. Jonathan Judaken is Rhodes College’s first Spence L. Wilson Chair in Humanities. In his position, Dr. Judaken will play a key role in strengthening the intellectual dialogue among faculty and creating new interdisciplinary synergies that will provide Rhodes students with enhanced opportunities to explore life’s big questions. He will also help develop new courses of study and engage and support students in meaningful research and other scholarly activity.

Dr. Judaken comes to Rhodes from The University of Memphis where he was the Dunavant Professor of History and Director of the Marcus Orr Center for the Humanities. His field of interest includes European cultural and intellectual history, Jews and Judaism, ‘race’, ‘tolerance’ and religion. Much of Dr. Judaken’s research focuses on patterns that underpin prejudice and the assumptions of those who have intervened on behalf of African Americans and Jews in the 20th century. He has produced a wide range of publications, including a book titled *Jean-Paul Sartre and the Jewish Question: Anti-antisemitism and the Politics of the French Intellectual* that examines the contexts in which philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre wrote about Jews and Judaism over the 20th century.

In addition, Dr. Judaken is U.S. consulting editor for the *Patterns of Prejudice* journal and has been a scholar in residence at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. He has held memberships in the Association for Jewish Studies, American Historical Association, American Academy of Religion, French Historical Studies and International Society for the Study of European Ideas, among others.

Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, Dr. Judaken holds a B.A. in philosophy from the University of California, San Diego and M.A. and Ph.D. in history from University of California, Irvine.

