

**Dr. Wendy Zierler Granted Tenure as Associate Professor
of Feminist Studies and Modern Jewish Literature at
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion**



Dr. Wendy Zierler has been granted tenure as Associate Professor of Feminist Studies and Modern Jewish Literature at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), as of July 1, 2009.

In announcing Dr. Zierler's tenure, Rabbi David Ellenson, HUC-JIR President, said, "Dr. Wendy Zierler is a gifted scholar, esteemed teacher, and devoted mentor to our students. Her expertise in feminist studies and modern Jewish literature enriches our students' understanding of Jewish texts, from the Bible through contemporary literature. Her guidance on literature and its interpretations for our Graduate School programs, as well as her leadership in convening *kallot* on gender, Judaism, and feminism have strengthened our academic offerings and informed student life."

Dr. Zierler has served as Assistant and Associate Professor at HUC-JIR since 2001. She received her Ph.D. from Princeton University (1995), B. A. from Yeshiva University, *summa cum laude* (1988), and is currently pursuing an M.F.A. in Fiction Writing at Sarah Lawrence College.

Dr. Zierler's areas of interest encompass gender and Judaism, feminist commentary on traditional texts, women's devotional writings from the Bible to the present day, modern Hebrew literature by women, feminism and ritual, Holocaust literature, and women's autobiographies.

The author of the Hebrew-language book *Behikansi Atah* (In My Entering Now, Selected Works of Hava Shapiro), edited with Carole B. Balin (2008), and *And Rachel Stole the Idols: The Emergence of Modern Hebrew Women's Writing* (2004), Dr. Zierler's articles have appeared in *Shofar*, *Nashim* (where she has served as Consulting Editor for two special issues dedicated to the theme of Gender and Books), *AJS Review*, *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History*, and *Judaism: A Quarterly Journal of Jewish Life and Thought*. She has contributed chapters to books and encyclopedias, including *The New Jewish Feminism* (ed. Elyse Goldstein), *My People's Hagaddah* (ed. Lawrence Hoffman), *To Speak Her Heart*, *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*, *Hebrew, Gender and Modernity: Critical Responses to Dvora Baron's Fiction* (ed. Sheila Jelen and Shachar Pinsker), *Encyclopedia Judaica 2nd edition*, *Jewish Women: An Historical Encyclopedia* (ed. Paula Hyman), *My People's Prayer Book, Volume 8*, *Kabbalat Shabbat* (ed. Lawrence Hoffman), *The Encyclopedia of Literature of the Holocaust* (ed. S. Lilian Kremer), *The Immigrant Experience in North American Literature* (ed. Katherine B. Payant and Toby Rose), *The Encyclopedia of the Novel* (ed. Paul Schellinger), *Jewish Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia* (ed. Paula Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore), and *Bakivun ha-negdi: Mar mani: Roman sihot* (a collection of essays on A.B. Yehoshua's Mr. Mani) (ed. Nitza Ben-Dov). She also writes fiction and poetry, which have been published in *To Speak Her Heart*, *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*, *CAJE Journal*, and *Critical Matrix: Princeton Working Papers in Women's Studies*.

She has presented lectures and conference papers throughout North America and Israel, including the College of William and Mary, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Association for Jewish Studies conferences, Yeshiva University Museum, Center for Jewish History, Union Theological Seminary, Florida Atlantic University, University of Washington, New York University, ALA Jewish-American Literature conference, the International Conference on Feminism and Orthodoxy, Nottingham University, International Conference on Feminist Literature in Bangkok, Thailand, Hong Kong University, MLA Convention, World Congress of Jewish Studies, and Ohio State University.

She was appointed to the Program Committee of the Association for Jewish Studies in 2008 and has served as its Modern Jewish Literature Section Head and as a Board member on its AJS Women's Caucus since 2005. She has served as an evaluator for the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Editorial Advisor for Behrman House publishers, referee for *Modern Jewish Studies*, *Nashim*, *Religion and Literature*, and *American Jewish History*, and Union for Reform Judaism Fiction Contest Judge. She has served on the faculty of the Wexner Graduate Fellows Retreat and Wexner Heritage Program, and lectured at congregations, Reform Movement conventions and conferences, throughout North America and Latin America.