

**Dr. Walter Homolka Received Doctor of Humane Letters,
honoris causa, at Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion Graduation Ceremonies**

Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D., President of the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**, presented the Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, to **Dr. Walter Homolka**, Executive Director of **Abraham Geiger College** in Berlin. The degree was granted at HUC-JIR's New York Graduation ceremony on Thursday, April 30, 2009 at Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York.

In addition to serving as professor at Potsdam University and Rector at Abraham Geiger College, Germany's only rabbinical seminary, Dr. Homolka is a member of the Executive Board of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. He received his Ph.D. at King's College in London, and was ordained by the Leo Baeck College.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Dr. Homolka is the foremost spokesperson for liberal Jewish education in post-Holocaust Germany. His dedication to the ideals of religion have made him an emissary of Jewish-Christian dialogue and his numerous honors reflect the scope of his contributions to European Jewry."

For more information on the HUC-JIR Graduation, Investiture, and Ordination ceremonies in New York, Los Angeles, and Cincinnati, please visit <http://www.huc.edu/newspubs/pressroom/article.php?pressroomid=271>.

For more information, contact Jean Rosensaft, 212-824-2209 or jrosensaft@huc.edu.

View the national invitation for event details:
<http://www.huc.edu/external/email/09/03/graduation/>

*Founded in 1875, **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion** is the nation's oldest institution of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR educates men and women for service to American and world Jewry as rabbis, cantors, educators, and communal service professionals, and offers graduate and post-graduate programs to scholars of all faiths. With centers of learning in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, and New York, HUC-JIR's scholarly resources comprise renowned library and museum collections, the American Jewish Archives, biblical archaeology excavations, research institutes and centers, and academic publications. HUC-JIR invites the community to an array of cultural and educational programs which illuminate Jewish history, identity, and contemporary creativity and which foster interfaith and multiethnic understanding. Visit us at www.huc.edu.*