Looking for something new to read? Why not try:

- Laws in the Bible and in Early Rabbinic Collections: The Legal Legacy of the Ancient Near East by Samuel Greengus
- Genesis 1 as Ancient Cosmology by John H. Walton
- Donkeys in the Biblical World: Ceremony and Symbol by Kenneth C. Way

Do you have a book to recommend? Please forward title and author information to gradschool@huc.edu.
Alumni In Residence: March 5–7, 2012

Dr. Martin Abegg (HUC, Ph.D. 1993) will serve as our distinguished Alumnus in Residence for 2012. The SGS, which sponsors this program, invites an HUC alumnus/alumna of note to campus to present their scholarship to faculty, students, and members of the community. The program this year is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, March 5–7, 2012.

Dr. Abegg is Professor of Religious Studies and Co-Director, Dead Sea Scrolls Institute at Trinity Western University in British Columbia, Canada. Dr. Abegg was awarded his Ph.D. from the School of Graduate Studies in 1993, where he studied with Dr. Ben Zion Wacholder, z”l.

http://www.ca/academics/faculty/profiles/abegg-martin.html

Currents: Student Presentations

We are especially proud this year of the following students of the School of Graduate Studies:

Sarah Dorsey Bollinger
ASOR Annual Meeting
“An Investigation of the Actions of the Captive Woman in the Law in Deuteronomy 21:10-14”

Kevin Ha
SBL Annual Meeting
“The Judah Story: A Preview of the Resolution in the Joseph Narrative”

Ben Noonan
SBL Annual Meeting
“Identifying the Gemstones of the High Priest’s Breastplate”

Carl Pack
SBL Annual Meeting
“Dashing a Foot, Trashing a Tradition: On the Use of Psalm 91 in Matthew 4”

Sung Jin Park
ETS National Meeting
“A New Methodical Approach on Biblical Hebrew Poetry in Light of Generative Analysis”

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Seminary. The two new students in the Pre-Doctoral M.A. program are: Rebecca Harris, who holds an M.A. from Regent University; and Sarah Rapaport, who has a B.A. from Tufts University (she is attending our LA campus). Currently, there are 51 students enrolled in our various graduate programs.

2011 Annual SBL Alumni Luncheon
A long tradition of the SGS, the SBL Alumni Luncheon was held in San Francisco on November 20, 2011. Dr. Andrew Riley, Vice-President of the Graduate Alumni Association and Dr. James Bowley, alumni member of the Board of Governors of HUC-JIR addressed the attendees. In my role as director I updated our guests on the state of the SGS, special events, and the like. We look forward to seeing an even larger crowd of alumni at next year’s SBL meeting in Chicago.

Recruitment and Admission for 2012–2013
We are currently reviewing applications for admission to the M.A. and Ph.D. programs of the SGS. We anticipate a strong applicant pool with interest in our ancient as well as modern areas of study.

A special fellowship jointly sponsored by the SGS and the American Jewish Archives’ Editing Dead Sea Scrolls program has been announced for students pursuing a Ph.D. in “The American Jewish Experience.” The fellowship offers a stipend of $12,000, which is higher than the normal stipend offered by the SGS. The announcement, describing the fellowship and program, has been posted on various websites and sent to hundreds of college and university departments of Jewish Studies and American History in North America.

and will occasion a special lecture honoring the memory of his teacher and mentor.

Please join us for this special memorial service on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 on the campus of HUC-JIR. The program will begin at 12:30PM in the Schorier Chapel. To RSVP, please contact the School of Graduate Studies at: gradvch@huc.edu.

Graduate Student Association Updates

Greetings,

My name is Phil Bollinger and I am a third year graduate student on the Cincinnati campus. As the president of the Graduate Student Association I have the privilege of representing the graduating student body. If you were to ask one question about me you would get: “Who is Phil Bollinger?”

Since then he has pursued a Ph.D. in “The Garden of Love in Song of Songs: Universal Archetype or Theological Allusion?”

SBL Midwest Regional Meeting “1260FM of Maccabees: An Accretion System as Colometric Division of Biblical Hebrew Poetry”

Christine Palmer
Annual Kudzuck-Harris Symposium “Fashioning Jews: Clothing, Culture and Commerce”

“The Disinherited Priesthood: A Look into Biblical Israel’s Unshod Priest”

Matthew Semler
Jews and the Civil War Conference, College of Charleston, SC “Cincinnati Jewry and the Coming of the Civil War”

In Spring 2011 we inaugurated a fund raising campaign for Ph.D. scholarships. We earmarked our alumni as potential donors since they would be most interested in this wonderful resource. Another exciting opportunity for several graduate students is the 2012 Summer in Israel Program where we will be touring in and around Jerusalem and digging side by side at Tell Dan in beautiful northern Israel.

A New Approach to Fundraising

In Spring 2011 we inaugurated a fund raising campaign for Ph.D. scholarships. We earmarked our alumni as potential donors since they would be most sympathetic to the cause. Solicitation through letters and phone calls yielded over 50 donors. We also owe thanks to HUC faculty alumni for their generous support. We hope to increase the percentage of alumni involved in our current campaign. Our various 2010-2011 fundraising efforts helped us to modestly increase student stipends from an annual $9,000 to $10,000. Our goal over the next few years is for the SGS to offer Ph.D. scholarship stipends that are competitive with other prestigious colleges and universities.

Many alumni expressed delight with the work we have accomplished and were encouraged to continue their generous support. We plan to actively engage in this scholarship campaign again this academic year. Because the SGS Alumni Association now offers membership to all alumni and is no longer collecting dues, all are encouraged to contribute to the SGS Scholarship Fund. Our current students will be conducting another Phone-A-Thon this March. Our alumni are our strongest supporters and their continued commitment to the SGS will assure the successful future of our Ph.D. programs.

Accolades to:

Dr. Chris Kraus, on receiving an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities (Nov. 11).

Rabbi Oshrat Morag (ABD), on receiving several recently published articles, including “Theology of Experience: The Heart of a Feminist Theology in the CCAR Journal” (Summer 11).


Mr. Matthew Semler (Candidacy), on receiving the Jacob Rader Marcus Fellowship from the American Jewish Archives for the 2011-2012 Academic Year.


Dr. Michael A. Meyer, on the recent publication of his article, “Women in the Thought and Practice of the European Jewish Reform Movement,” in Marion A. Kaplan and Deborah Dash Moore, eds., Gender and Jewish History (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2011), 139-157.

Dr. John Johnson (Residency) on the publication of his entry, “Maccabees, Books of” in the forthcoming Lexham Bible Dictionary.


Do you have an achievement to announce? Please forward to gradschool@huc.edu.

Because the SGS Alumni Association now offers membership to all alumni…all are encouraged to contribute to the SGS Scholarship Fund.”