

Dr. Miriam Dean-Otting to Receive Founders' Medallion at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in Cincinnati

Dr. Miriam Dean-Otting, Professor of Religious Studies at **Kenyon College**, Ohio, will receive the Founders' Medallion from the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**. The degree will be granted at HUC-JIR's Cincinnati Graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at Isaac M. Wise Temple.

Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D., announced HUC-JIR alumni recipients who will be awarded honorary Doctorates of Divinity, Music, Jewish Religious Education, and Jewish Communal Service, as well as the Founders' Medallion, in recognition of their 25 years of distinguished professional service.

Dr. Dean-Otting studied Classics and Religion at Kenyon College, graduating in 1974. She went on to study at HUC-JIR in Cincinnati, where she pursued a Ph.D. with a focus on Hellenistic Judaism, completing her degree in 1983. In 1979 she was awarded a Deutscher-Akademischer Austauschdienst Fellowship that supported dissertation research in Cologne, Germany for 15 months. Dr. Dean-Otting has been teaching in the Department of Religious Studies at Kenyon College since 1984. In addition to several classes on the Jewish Tradition, Professor Dean-Otting teaches courses on the Holocaust, Women in Religion, The Hebrew Bible, Prophecy, and Religion and Nature. At Kenyon she is also part of the faculty in Environmental Studies. Dr. Dean-Otting is the author of one book and several articles on a wide range of topics. She is currently writing a book on Prophets and Prophecy. She and her husband, Charles J. Otting, are the parents of two grown sons, Nathaniel and Jacob.

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>.

*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.*

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