

## **Rabbi Keith H. Stern to Receive Doctor of Divinity at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in Cincinnati**

**Rabbi Keith H. Stern**, Senior Rabbi at **Temple Beth Avodah**, Newton, Massachusetts, will receive a Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, 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.

Rabbi Stern was ordained at HUC-JIR/Cincinnati in 1984 and received his Master of Arts in Jewish Communal Service from HUC-JIR's School of Jewish Communal Service in Los Angeles in 1982. He also holds his MSW from the University of Southern California.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Rabbi Stern's commitment to synagogue life as congregational rabbi has enlightened the congregants he serves. As rabbi of Temple Beth Avodah for more than a decade, he continues to serve with boundless energy and concern and has dedicated his rabbinate to the teaching of Torah to Jews and non-Jews sharing his love of Judaism with the community at large."

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](http://www.huc.edu).*