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Cover: HUC-JIR students in action – First-year rabbinical student Thalia Halpert Rodis holding the Torah at the Kotel in Jerusalem during a Women of the Wall Hodesh service; third-year Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music student Laura Stein in the mountains near her High Holy Days student pulpit in Aspen, CO; and third-year rabbinical students Eric Rosenberg and Max Chaiken leading worship at HUC-JIR/Los Angeles.
The Babylonian Talmud (Shevuot 39a) captures a debate about the lines between individual initiative and communal responsibility. At the conclusion of the page, a famous aphorism emerges that shapes the Jewish sense of community even to this day: *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh ba-zeh*; “The entire Jewish community is obligated one to another.”

Whether in Hebrew or English, the form of this statement is fascinating. There is an intentional blending of the plural and singular, the individual and the communal, implying that no single member of our community can ever truly be separated from any other. The text further suggests, through its use of the root arev, two potential interpretations. First, that each member of our community literally has an obligation – an actionable legal obligation that must be satisfied – to support the other members of the community. Another interpretation reads arevut as the quality of being combined with others, so that even our individual identities can never be complete in the absence of our neighbors.

Throughout this *President’s Report*, you will see moving evidence of the extraordinary ways that HUC-JIR melds the individual with the community. As the leading force in Jewish higher education today, we cherish the individuality of each of our students. At the same time, we integrate our students into meaningful collective learning experiences, mixing together their skills and capacities.

We help our students become the leaders of tomorrow who will build sacred community for others. We act on our responsibility to the world around us with innovation and commitment, integrity and concern. In these pages, you will see some of the many ways we accept and fulfill our sense of obligation to the entire Jewish community.

Each and every one of the wonderful contributions from members of the HUC-JIR family recorded in this publication has also fulfilled this ancient responsibility. For this expression of support for our mission, we are grateful from the bottom of our hearts.

With appreciation,

Rabbi Aaron D. Panken, Ph.D., President
March 2016 / Adar II 5776
## Summary Financial Figures

### Condensed Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$299,901,807</td>
<td>$293,788,277</td>
<td>$262,909,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>60,189,180</td>
<td>55,421,470</td>
<td>55,996,783</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>239,712,627</td>
<td>238,366,807</td>
<td>206,912,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$299,901,807</td>
<td>$293,788,277</td>
<td>$262,909,389</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Condensed Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating Revenue, Gains and Other Support</td>
<td>$43,818,105</td>
<td>$(2,563,932)</td>
<td>$5,758,258</td>
<td>$47,012,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$(41,081,412)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$(41,081,412)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Operating Revenue (Expense)</td>
<td>2,736,693</td>
<td>$(2,563,932)</td>
<td>5,758,258</td>
<td>5,931,019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonoperating Revenue (Expense)</td>
<td>$(4,056,467)</td>
<td>$(144,561)</td>
<td>$(384,171)</td>
<td>$(4,585,199)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>$(1,319,774)</td>
<td>$(2,708,493)</td>
<td>5,374,087</td>
<td>1,345,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>50,030,421</td>
<td>67,848,744</td>
<td>120,487,642</td>
<td>238,366,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
<td>$48,710,647</td>
<td>$65,140,251</td>
<td>$125,861,729</td>
<td>$239,712,627</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HUC-JIR Revenues 2014-15

- Fund Raising: 43.4%
- MUM Dues: 18.9%
- Investment Income: 16.1%
- Tuition & Fees (Gross): 12.7%
- Contracted Services: 5.0%
- Other: 3.9%

### HUC-JIR Expenses 2014-15

- Instruction: 34.6%
- Academic Support: 17.1%
- Institutional Support: 15.5%
- Maintenance: 10.8%
- Stipends & Scholarships: 10.3%
- Institutional Advancement: 7.4%
- Depreciation: 4.3%
2014-2015
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My heartfelt thanks to each of you for your generous support of our mission: preparing leaders for the Reform Movement, the Jewish people, and the larger world.

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DOR CHADASH – AN ENDOWED FUND FOR THE NEW GENERATION
This fund, whose annual income will be directed to the financial aid budget, will help to meet the scholarship needs of our students for generations to come.

Joan and Howard Gellis
In memory of Marilyn and Mike Grossman
Michael Spritzer, Blaire Goldstein, Jeffrey Spritzer; In memory of Marjorie Spritzer

* Gifts and new pledges to the College-Institute for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015
* of blessed memory
JOAN AND PHILLIP PINES
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES DEDICATED

The Joan and Phillip Pines School of Graduate Studies (PSGS), named with a transformational gift from Joan Pines and her family through the Phillip and Joan Pines Charitable Foundation, was dedicated at the Cincinnati campus on October 26, 2015. Founded in 1947 by Rabbi Nelson Glueck, Ph.D., as an institution of higher learning for students of all faiths, it has conferred more than 500 M.A., D.H.L., and Ph.D. degrees over the past six decades. The Pines’ endowment gift will strengthen the creation and wide dissemination of knowledge about Jews and Judaism both within and beyond the bounds of the American Jewish community. It will also further the academic study of Judaism in the context of religious studies among students of all faiths in a pluralistic learning environment that models and shapes interpersonal and interfaith relationships. Joan Pines, HUC-JIR Governor and Chair of the Central Region Board of Overseers, stated, “I truly believe that the future of liberal Judaism, in this country and beyond, lies in the hands of HUC-JIR and, by extension, in our hands. This is one of the most important reasons for all of us to support this amazing institution, which will continue to be here, with our help, for many future generations.”

⇒ Read more at huc.edu/report/pines
Thanks to a transformational gift from Marcie and Howard Zelikow, the Zelikow School of Jewish Nonprofit Management held its naming and dedication on February 8, 2015 at HUC-JIR’s Jack H. Skirball Campus in Los Angeles. The first Jewish communal service graduate program to be established in America forty-eight years ago, the Zelikow School continues to be the premier graduate school preparing nonprofit professionals today for leadership careers in the Jewish community. With this gift, it is now poised to broaden its impact, both geographically and across the range of Jewish professional fields. Marcie Zelikow, HUC-JIR Governor, stated, “We are in the business of Jewish leadership that will create vision for the future while maintaining the Jewish values and tradition that we cherish, proactive leadership that will keep us in the forefront of innovative approaches and solutions and ignite our communities’ evolution. That’s why this school is so important to the future of HUC-JIR and the future of all of Jewish institutions. It can become a national and international center of excellence for Jewish leadership capable of dealing with whatever the world presents.”

Read more at huc.edu/report/zelikow
A braham’s radical monotheistic beliefs led him to smash the idols in his father’s shop, thereby changing the course of human history. Inspired by Abraham’s bold action, twenty students from East Coast universities, including Harvard, Brandeis, Penn, and UVA, are HUC-JIR’s inaugural Smashing Idols Fellows. This new program is conceived and directed by fifth-year rabbinical students Elle Muhlbaum and Benjamin Ross. A three-day retreat at HUC-JIR/New York on March 24-27, 2016 kicks off the yearlong Fellowship.

“This is a unique opportunity for dynamic, young Jewish leaders to network, workshop their ideas, learn best practices, and go back to their colleges inspired and empowered to energize progressive Jewish life on campus,” says Muhlbaum. Ross adds, “The Fellows will emerge with strengthened leadership skills and collaborative strategies to pilot a new initiative on their campus in 2016-2017, with resources from the Fellowship and support from their Smashing Idols peers.”

Read more at huc.edu/smashing-idols
A LEADERSHIP MODEL IN THE STYLE OF MOSES

Fourth-year rabbinical student Lindsey Danziger is one of 34 HUC-JIR rabbinical students who have made the Jewish community of Cincinnati their classroom by serving two dozen institutions as Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati Fellows. She shares her vision for leadership, developed through her service learning at the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and at Rockdale Temple, where she is mentored by Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran ’93.

“Rabbi Isaac Luria, a 16th-century mystic, gave us the concept of tzimtzum – contraction. Leaders with true vision know that it is about inspiring their communities and then stepping back, creating a holy window – room for others to lead.

When Moses found himself a fugitive from Pharaoh’s kingdom, he was given the opportunity to try his hand at shepherding, only to discover that he was a natural. A shepherd does not lead from the front of the pack, but rather, from within or even from behind.

Tractate Menachot of the Babylonian Talmud gives us a later tale of Moses, who sits patiently by God’s side while God writes out every letter of the Torah by hand. Moses notices that some letters are decorated with elaborate crowns and acknowledges that he will never understand what these crowns signify. Suddenly, he time travels to the first century of the Common Era and finds himself in a rabbinic house of study where the great sage Rabbi Akiva explains the meaning of the crowns, saying, “this is a tradition given to Moses at Sinai.” Moses’ legacy is just as it should be – not exactly how he left it, not in his own words, or even how he could ever have imagined it turning out. Rather, others collaborated and took the opportunity to try their hand at shepherding, only to discover that they were a natural.

The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati Fellowship provides a leadership model in Moses’ style. We are blessed to work with leaders who give us the support of Torah’s letters but leave us the freedom to interpret the crowns for ourselves. May we continue providing those we lead with a holy window, the space to find their own voices, while inspiring and supporting them in the quest to fill it with something amazing.”

Read more Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati Fellows’ reflections at huc.edu/report/ssl
AN exciting gathering of scholars of diverse religions, political philosophy, law, the visual arts, music, technology, and more, will convene for this first symposium of its kind. Dr. Alyssa Gray, Emily S. and Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman Chair in Rabinonics and Professor of Codes and Responsa Literature (left), is faculty co-chair with Rabbi David Aaron, Ph.D., Professor of Hebrew Bible and History of Interpretation and Director of Scholarly Publications (right). She explains, “HUC-JIR will lead the way in advancing Jewish thinking about creating and sustaining a revitalized and vibrant progressive Jewish culture. Our goal is to bring artists and scholars before our audience of Jewish clergy, educators, scholars, communal leaders, and students to help us explore two dimensions of crafting Jewish life in a complex religious landscape. The first is the increasing strength, demographics, and passion of fundamentalist religion around the world today, and the challenge for progressive Judaism of how to nurture and channel our own very real and different religious passion so that we may form durable communities that will create and sustain new forms of religious engagement. This will lead directly into the second aspect of the theme: exploring with our visiting artists and scholars of the arts, technology, and traditional halakhah (Jewish law) how we might employ these modalities in creating an increasingly vibrant progressive Jewish culture.”

Read more at huc.edu/symposium-one
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Our faculty, students, alumni, Governors, and Overseers were among the 5,000 leaders
of our Reform Movement participating in this milestone gathering in Orlando, FL. Our faculty
taught over 40 extraordinary, inspiring sessions that
focused on the theme of “Transforming Texts” and
attracted over 1,500 learners. Our exhibit area was
a popular destination with its displays featuring our
recruitment initiatives, our groundbreaking College
Commons livestreaming programs for synagogues,
and our Jerusalem campus as a destination for Reform
congregational visitors.

See Rabbi Aaron Panken’s plenary address
and the video about HUC-JIR’s global impact at
huc.edu/report/panken
Launched three years ago by Suzanne and John Golden, Governor and former Co-Chair of the Board of Governors Israel Committee, this innovative program places HUC-JIR’s Israeli rabbinical students and recently ordained Israeli rabbis in North American Reform congregations for a mentored residency. The tenth Golden Hanassi Fellow to date, David Benjamin, is serving at Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles, CA, hosted by Rabbi Zoë Klein ’98.

A former career officer in the IDF legal division and active reservist who immigrated to Israel from South Africa 27 years ago, Benjamin says, “Israelis can learn much from the level of organization and professionalism that characterize American Jewish institutions. Reform Judaism in North America is on the ideological and cultural cutting edge in thought, liturgy, music, and ritual.”

“Benjamin was exposed to a community abuzz with activity, with hundreds of people of all ages choosing to participate in Jewish programs and gatherings,” describes Rabbi Klein. “He saw what unapologetic, proud, happy, vibrant, bold Reform Judaism looks like. I think his rabbinate was strengthened by being encouraged to dream big. We as a community became invested in Benjamin and his work and want to be there to support and encourage him. The Golden Hanassi Program creates a vibrant team of lifelong supporters for these Israeli rabbinical students as they pioneer the future of Reform Judaism in Israel.”
Children of Judy Lucas

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T his new initiative, launched in the Spring of 2015, offers HUC-JIR alumni a broad range of opportunities for continuing education through live webinars, in-person events, and access to archived recordings of programs. The sessions are taught by faculty, and ancillary materials are available for alumni to use in teaching, a sermon, or a meeting. Several hundred alumni from throughout North America and around the globe have participated in 24 sessions over two semesters.

Learn more at huc.edu/alonilearn
Every Passover, in partnership with the World Union for Progressive Judaism, our rabbinical, cantorial, and education students participate in a service trip to Belarus, Russia, and Crimea. In pairs or small groups with a translator, they lead Passover seders and educational programs while learning the history and experiencing the renaissance of Jewish life in the Former Soviet Union.

Second-year rabbinical student Tobias Divack Moss recalls, “We stopped at the 10 km mark outside of Crimea’s capital city at the memorial site of mass shootings conducted by the Nazis against the Jews. The community leader Kira Grublyte told us the story of the new monument and the young trees that lined the walkway – everything has been constructed, planted, maintained, and protected by the individual members of the Jewish community.”

Read more at huc.edu/report/pesach
Over 1,500 precious works of Jewish ceremonial art and fine art from the B’nai B’rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum have been acquired by HUC-JIR through a partnership with B’nai B’rith International and with the support of the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati. As these works are carefully catalogued, they will be presented to the public in small changing exhibitions. Ultimately, they will be displayed in galleries designated as the B’nai B’rith Collection. “The acquisition of this historic collection creates unprecedented opportunities for community engagement on local, regional, national, and international platforms. Integrating this collection and making it accessible through digital technology will be a priority, as the Skirball positions itself as a center of Jewish art and culture,” noted Skirball Museum Director Abby Schwartz (at left).

Read more at huc.edu/report/klutznick
The newly dedicated, light-filled Barbara and Norman Gross Atrium provides an elegant welcome and enhanced security for HUC-JIR/New York’s community of students, faculty, and visitors. Associated with HUC-JIR for over forty years, Governor Emeritus and attorney Norman Gross has served on the Board of Governors, working closely with five of its presidents. He was a key participant in the real estate acquisition, planning, and construction of the New York campus, dedicated in 1979, and provided significant guidance with the creation of the Brookdale Center and Croll Center for Jewish Learning and Culture at the campus. Barbara Gross is a long-standing member of the HUC-JIR Museum’s Advisory Committee. Barbara and Norman Gross said, “We are extremely happy to share this occasion today with our children and grandchildren to demonstrate how precious HUC-JIR is to us and how important this institution is in ensuring that future generations will be blessed with the opportunity to live fulfilling Jewish lives.”

Read more at huc.edu/report/gross

Barbara and Norman Gross (center) and their family.
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The Kalsman Institute on Judaism and Health in Los Angeles partnered
with Cedars-Sinai for the second biennial Festival of Learning. “Over
3,000 participants gathered for 100 free events - lectures, workshops, and
experiential classes - led by health professionals, clergy, and teachers from
across the Jewish community to examine our traditions and their impact on
well-being,” said Joel Kushner, Psy.D., Kalsman Institute Director. Programs
helped participants develop spiritual practices, physical activities, and practical
tools to support health within a foundation of Jewish values, demonstrating
that “Judaism is a powerful resource that provides both hope and wellness
to people in all stages of their lives,” said Jonathan Schreiber, Cedars-Sinai’s
Director of Community Engagement. Read more at kalsman.huc.edu
Alan and Joy Greenberg, HUC-JIR Governor (1) chaired a festive evening of appreciation and celebration in New York on May 5, 2015 honoring the major benefactors to the “Campaign: Assuring Your Jewish Future” – Edward R. Ackerman Family; Leona Aronoff-Sadacca, Western Region Overseer; Michele and Martin Cohen, HUC-JIR Governor; Friedman Family Foundation; Dorian, Katja, and Lloyd Goldman for the Joyce and Irving Goldman Family Foundation; Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati; Jack,* Joseph,* and Morton Mandel; HUC-JIR Governor Joan and Phillip* Pines; Eastern Region Overseer Elizabeth and Arthur Roswell (2); The Skirball Foundation; HUC-JIR Governor Bonnie and Daniel Tisch; UJA-Federation of New York; and HUC-JIR Governor Marcie and Howard Zelikow.

“A Celebration of Jewish Leadership” gala in Los Angeles on May 19, 2015 honored distinguished benefactors of HUC-JIR. (From left) Dr. Joshua Holo, Dean; Western Region Overseer Leona Aronoff-Sadacca; Dvora Joseph Davey, representing the Jim Joseph Foundation; Western Region Overseer Marcia Burnam; HUC-JIR Governor Emeritus and Western Region Overseer Kenneth and Wendy Ruby.
WHERE IS GOD IN
REFORM JUDAISM?

A new Digital Seminar, designed to spark discussions and learning in the synagogue classroom, explores Biblical, Rabbinical, Medieval, and Modern approaches to this question. This four-part video series features half-hour conversations with HUC-JIR scholars Rabbi Rachel Adler, Ph.D.; Rabbi Tamara Cohn Eskenazi, Ph.D.; Rabbi Reuven Firestone, Ph.D.; Rabbi Joshua Garroway, Ph.D.; Dr. Kristin Garroway; Dr. Sharon Gillerman; Dr. Joshua Holo; Rabbi Richard Levy; and Rabbi Dvora Weisberg, Ph.D. Follow-up videos about Reform Judaism and annotated transcripts of the video material are also provided, offering enrolled synagogues with opportunities for deeper conversation and educational programming for adults and adolescents, or for professional development. “By providing digital content to synagogue learners, the College Commons connects the dots between HUC-JIR’s thought leadership of Reform Judaism and the congregations worldwide who live it,” explains Joshua Holo, Ph.D., Dean of the Jack H. Skirball Campus, HUC-JIR/Los Angeles.

Synagogues can register for the Digital Seminar at huc.edu/report/digital-seminar

* of blessed memory
Easern Region Overseer Morris Kramer (left) says, “I feel strongly that it is very important to provide adequate financial support to our students through the scholarship program so that they can devote a maximum effort to their studies and professional development, without the financial burden of tuition expenses. I have been particularly happy to provide four years of scholarship support to Emma Goldin Lutz (right), knowing how much time and effort she has put into her training to be an ordained cantor. Her outstanding senior recital was cogent evidence of the positive results of a student’s total immersion in her work and training.”

“I will forever be grateful for the Morris Kramer Scholarship for the past four years at HUC-JIR,” states fifth-year cantorial student Emma Goldin Lutz. “Mr. Kramer is one of my biggest cheerleaders and has attended every practicum and recital during these years. His generosity has allowed me to focus deeply on my studies, which will enable me to bring so much more to my career as a congregational cantor.”

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is the single largest cumulative organizational donor to HUC-JIR since 1913. WRJ provides annual scholarship aid to North American rabbinical, cantorial, and education students studying in Cincinnati, Los Angeles, and New York, scholarships for Israel Rabbinical Program students in Jerusalem, cantorial prizes to Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music students, subsidies for students to participate in HUC-JIR’s Pesach Project in the Former Soviet Union, and prizes to exceptional faculty members. “WRJ has been committed to nurturing congregations and ensuring a robust future for Reform Judaism for more than a century, and our proud support of HUC-JIR through our YES Fund remains the central, foundational element of this commitment,” says Blair C. Marks, WRJ President.
The 1875 Society recognizes and honors friends of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion who inform us that they have included the College-Institute or have left a gift in their will, estate plan, or other deferred gift arrangement. Named to commemorate the year HUC-JIR was founded, the 1875 Society acknowledges these generous individuals who have chosen to leave a legacy to ensure a thriving future for Reform Judaism and the Jewish people.

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“We have included a significant donation to HUC-JIR through our estate planning. We believe that by ensuring the vitality of HUC-JIR, we will be providing for the needs of our children, our grandchildren, and clearly beyond to our larger community,” say Wendy and Kenneth Ruby, Western Region Overseer, Governor Emeritus, and Past President of Stephen S. Wise Temple in Los Angeles.
L’DOR VADOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The L’Dor VaDor Scholarship Fund, an endowment, honors HUC-JIR alumni in perpetuity for their years of dedicated service to the Jewish People. Initiated by our rabbinical alumni, their congregations, families, and friends, this fund has grown to celebrate the distinguished achievements of our cantorial, education, and Jewish nonprofit management alumni.

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Names in bold type represent the newest funds established within the 2014-2015 academic year. These funds are cumulative, with contributions still being received for the honorees’ named funds. We are grateful to continue to receive gifts made to these funds in the name of our honorees.
Faculty | Administration Highlights

Rabbi Rachel Adler, Ph.D., Rabbi David Ellenson Professor of Jewish Religious Thought and Professor of Modern Jewish Thought and Feminist Studies, co-authored with Robin Podolsky “Sexuality, Autonomy, and Community in the Writings of Eugene Borowitz,” Journal of Jewish Ethics, 1 Winter 2015.

Hagit Arieli-Chai, Hebrew Language Coordinator, lectured on three modes of communications and the variety of technological tools that can be incorporated to teach and assess students’ performance at the National Association of Professors of Hebrew Conference at the University of Memphis.


Rabbi Carole B. Balin, Ph.D., Professor of History, and Wendy Zierler, Ph.D., Sigmund Falk Professor of Modern Jewish Literature and Feminist Studies, published To Tread on New Ground: Selected Writings of Hava Shapiro (Wayne State University Press).


Cantor Richard Cohn, Director, Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, served on the faculty of the Clergy Leadership Program of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, focusing his work primarily in the area of communal prayer.


Rabbi Jerome K. Davidson, Instructor in Rabbinical Leadership and Social Responsibility and Homiletics, was the recipient of a lifetime achievement award from Truah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, for his ongoing work on behalf of social justice and human rights.

Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D., Chancellor Emeritus, was appointed Director of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies at Brandeis University.

Rabbi Tamara Cohn Eskenazi, Ph.D., was appointed Effie Wise Ochs Professor of Biblical Literature and History at the Skirball Campus, HUC-JIR/Los Angeles.

Rabbi Reuven Firestone, Ph.D., was appointed the Regenstein Professor of Medieval Jewish and Islamic Studies at the Skirball Campus, HUC-JIR/Los Angeles.

CANTOR RICHARD COHN WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE DEBBIE FRIEDMAN SCHOOL OF SACRED MUSIC.

HUC.EDU/REPORT/COHN

ERIK LUDWIG WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE ZELIKOW SCHOOL OF JEWISH NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT.

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Rabbi Joshua D. Garroway, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Early Christianity and the Second Commonwealth, presented “Paul: Within Judaism, Without Law” at the Lautenschläger Colloquium on “Law and Lawlessness in Early Judaism and Christianity” at Mansfield College, Oxford.

Sharon Gillerman, Ph.D., was appointed the Kutz Professor of Jewish History at the Skirball Campus, HUC-JIR/Los Angeles.

Lisa D. Grant, Ph.D., Professor of Jewish Education, and Michal Muszkat-Barkan, Ph.D., Parallel Associate Professor of Jewish Education, published “Like a Distant Cousin: Bi-Cultural Negotiation as Key Perspective in Understanding the Evolving Relationship of Future Reform Rabbis with Israel and the Jewish People” in Journal of Jewish Education, 81:1 (2015).

Alyssa Gray, Ph.D., Emily S. and Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman Chair in Rabbinics, was promoted to Professor of Codes and Responsa Literature at HUC-JIR/New York.

Rabbi Jo Hirschmann, BCC, CPE Coordinator, was certified as an Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) Associate Supervisor.

Leah Hochman, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Jewish Thought and Director of the Loucheim School for Judaic Studies, presented three sessions on Jewish-Christian relations at Kirchentag, the biennial meeting of German Protestant churches, in Stuttgart, Germany, including a session devoted to an interfaith conversation between HUC-JIR rabbinical and education students and Germans of diverse faiths.

Rabbi Shirley Idelson, Ph.D., Dean, HUC-JIR/New York, participated on a panel “Tikkun Olam: Jewish and Contemplative Practices to Repair the World” at the conference of the Association for the Contemplative Mind in Higher Education at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

Dganit Jenshil was appointed Director of Community Relations, HUC-JIR/Jerusalem.


Rabbi Jan Katzew, Ph.D., Director of Service Learning, presented at the annual conference of the Network for Research in Jewish Education on “Innovation in a Legacy Institution: The Jewish Foundation Fellows Project.”

Rabbi Naamah Kelman, Dean, HUC-JIR/Jerusalem, participated in The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities panel on “The Tolerant Aspect in Judaism to the Other and Ways to Its Advancement.”

Sharon Faye Koren, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medieval Jewish Culture and Dr. Norman J. Cohen Chair for an Emerging Jewish Scholar, was granted tenure at HUC-JIR/New York.

Susan G. Kulick, J.D., was appointed National Director of Gift Planning.

Adriane Leveen, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer in Hebrew Bible and Lead Judaica Specialist in the Jim Joseph Education Initiatives, responded to Robert Alter’s presentation of “Translating Biblical Poetry: Ancient Hebrew Verse and the Constraints of English” at the NIDA School of Translation Studies Research Symposium.

David Levine, Ph.D., was appointed the Israel and Ida G. Bettan Chair in Rabbinics at HUC-JIR/Jerusalem.


Rabbi Dalia Marx, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Liturgy and Midrash, was granted tenure at HUC-JIR/Jerusalem and presented “Use of the Discarded Past to Create the Future: Renewal and Incorporation of the Old Eretz-Israel Rite in Contemporary Prayer Books” at the Oxford Summer Institute in Modern and Contemporary Judaism on “State and Spirit: The Impact of Sovereignty on Judaism.”


Rabbi Aaron D. Panken, Ph.D., published “A Talmudist Manifesto,” discussing the important roles that Talmud has to play in the Reform Jewish community and that Reform Judaism has to play in the development of Talmudic studies, in CCAR Journal: The Reform Jewish Quarterly, Summer 2014.


Evie Rotstein, Ed.D., Director, New York School of Education, served as Scholar-in-Residence at Congregation B’nai Israel in Bridgeport, CT in honor of the twentieth anniversary of educator Ira Wise, and spoke on “Authentic Leadership in Jewish Education.”

Rabbi Richard S. Sarason, Ph.D., Director of the Pines School of Graduate Studies and Professor of Rabbinic Literature and Thought, was appointed the Deutsch Family Professor of Rabbinics and Liturgy, and published “The Past as Paradigm: Enactments of the Exodus Motif in Jewish Liturgy,” in Pamela Barmesh and W. David Nelson, eds., Exodus in Jewish Experience: Echoes and Reverberations (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books).

Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller, Professor of Cantorial Arts, composed “Unetanah Tokef/ Let Us Give Ourselves Over” for two cantors, congregation, and piano, a commission from The Temple, Congregation Ohabai Sholom of Nashville, TN, and Cantor Tracy Fishbein that was premiered during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at The Temple.

Rabbi David Sperling, Ph.D., was appointed the Julian Morgenstern Professor of Bible and Near Eastern Literature at HUC-JIR/New York.

Phyllis Volan was appointed Director of Development, Central Region.
IN MEMORIAM


Frances A. Hess, Governor Emerita

Dr. Eugene B. Borowitz, Distinguished University Professor and Sigmund Falk Professor of Education and Jewish Religious Thought

Professor Gerald Bubis, Founding Director of the School of Jewish Communal Service (now Zelikow School of Jewish Nonprofit Management) and Alfred Gottschalk Professor Emeritus of Jewish Communal Studies


Rabbi Dvora Weisberg, Ph.D., Director of the Rabbinical Program at the Skirball Campus, HUC-JIR/Los Angeles, was promoted to Professor of Rabbinics, and served as a Visiting Fellow in the Summer Collaboratory at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Bible, delivered “Biblical Metaphors of God as ‘Self’ and ‘Other’” as part of a session on “Metaphoric Othering in Prophetic Literature” at the Society of Biblical Literature.

Rabbi Margaret Moers Wenig, Instructor in Liturgy and Homiletics, was inaugurated as the first Jewish President of the Academy of Homiletics.

Lillian M. Wohl, Ph.D., Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Musicology, published “So We Don’t Lose Memory: Jewish Musical Performance After the AMIA Bombing” in Natasha Zaretsky and Annette Levine, eds., Landscapes of Memory and Impunity: The Aftermath of the AMIA Bombing in Jewish Argentina (Leiden: Brill).

Wendy Zierler, Ph.D., was appointed the Sigmund Falk Professor of Modern Jewish Literature and Feminist Studies at HUC-JIR/New York.

American Jewish History: A Primary Source Reader
Rabbi Gary P. Zola, Ph.D., and Marc Dollinger, Ph.D., Editors
Brandeis, 2014

Naming God: Avinu Malkeinu Our Father, Our King
Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman, Ph.D.
Jewish Lights Publishing, 2015

So Is Life
Cantor Ellen Dreskin, Cantor Rosalie Boxt, Josh Nelson, and Dan Nichols
2015

American Jewish Archives Journal, Volume 66, No. 1 & 2
Rabbi Gary P. Zola, Ph.D., Editor
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, 2014

NGSBA Archaeology, Volume 3
David Ilan, Ph.D., Editor-In-Chief
The Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology, 2015

The Jews in Christian Europe: A Source Book, 315-1791
Jacob Rader Marcus and Marc Saperstein
HUC Press, 2015

Hebrew Union College Annual 84-85 (2013-2014)
Edward A. Goldman and Richard S. Sarason, Editors
HUC Press, 2015

Devotion & Commandment: The Faith of Abraham in the Hasidic Imagination
[re-issue]
Arthur Green
HUC Press, 2015
Rear Admiral R. Timothy Ziemer (left), President’s Malaria Initiative Coordinator, was awarded the 2015 Roger E. Joseph Prize at Ordination in New York on May 3, 2015, by Rabbi Panken with members of the Joseph family (from left) Sarah Leopold, Ellen Joseph, Linda Karshan, Roxane Leopold, and Roger Karshan. Under his leadership, worldwide malaria deaths have dropped 40 percent, saving over 400,000 lives.
The Dr. Bernard Heller Prize in Arts, Letters, the Humanities, and Religion was established twenty-five years ago in memory of a great rabbi, 1920 graduate of HUC-JIR/Cincinnati, and member of the HUC-JIR faculty in New York by the Co-Trustees of the Dr. Bernard Heller Foundation. The 2015 ceremony marked the final time that the Heller Prize was presented annually to an organization or individual whose work, writing, or research reflects significant contributions in these areas. Ruth O. Freedlander (right), Co-Trustee, presented the 2015 Dr. Bernard Heller Prize to Menachem Z. Rosensaft (left), Founding Chairman, International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, and Senior Vice President, American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants: “Menachem Rosensaft has devoted his life to advancing Holocaust commemoration and education, bringing Nazi war criminals to justice, promoting the Israeli peace process, and fighting racism and bigotry. He is the guardian of Holocaust memory and his mission is a bridge between the Shoah and our fervent hopes for a bright future for the Jewish people and our beloved State of Israel.”
2014-2015

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Jonathan Cohen, Rabbi, Ph.D., L.L.B., Dean, Cincinnati
Joshua Holo, Ph.D., Dean, Los Angeles
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2014-2015

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