Dear Friends,

Our 2016-2017 academic year reflected continued excellence and impact as we prepared a new cadre of spiritual, professional, and scholarly leaders to enrich Jewish life throughout North America, travel, and around the globe, and sustain our thought leadership worldwide.

We awarded 122 degrees and rabbinic ordinations at our campuses in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, and New York. We awarded the 100th “broad-brimmed” rabbi to graduate from our Israel Rabbinic Program. We are proud that all of our graduates have found placement and are serving congregations, communities, and institutions with intellect, integrity, compassion, and creativity as they ensure the Jewish future.

Fifty-five first-year rabbinic, cantorial, and educator students were guaranteed full tuition to Koret Foundation Scholars for their required year of study in Israel through a $5.7 million grant from the Koret Foundation.

The Ann Joseph Foundation awarded $12 million to support the Executive MBA Program in Jewish Education, enabling two cohorts of working educators to pursue their graduate studies in this 24-month hybrid online and on-campus learning program.

The Weizmann-ADL Fellowship for Global Jewish Leaders, established by Jane and Stuart Weil, brought 25 students across North America, Europe, Russia, Ukraine, and Mexico, and prepared first-year students for global Jewish leadership.

In two major national initiatives, we convened Symposium One: Crafting Jewish Life in a Complex Religious Landscape, with over 200 leading scholars, faculty, and alumni addressing how to strengthen Jewish life in the context of growing fundamentalism, pluralism, and polarization; and welcomed college students to the Founders’ Fellowship for training as collaborative leaders to enhance progressive Jewish life on campus.

At our Cincinnati Campus, prominent national clergy, academics, and activists participated in the Poverty, Welfare, and Religion Symposium, while the Jewish Rabbi Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives received hundreds of requests from the Association for Jewish Studies; the most comprehensive collection of the largest learned society and professional association of Jewish Studies scholars worldwide.

The Taube Family Campus in Jerusalem hosted The Teachers’ Report’s programs preparing Jewish, Christian, and Muslim educators to build tolerance; Healing Hatred, a conference for religious leaders, psychologists, and educators to open new paths to healing in the context of religious conflict; and Feeding and Identity in Jewish and Christian Liturgy, an academic gathering of over 120 Jewish and Christian scholars and students from Europe and Israel.

At our Jack H. Skirball Campus in Los Angeles, the Zaufer School of Jewish Nonprofit Management launched the Master of Science in Organizational Leadership and Certificate in Jewish Organizational Leadership, offering accelerated and summer programs for professionals seeking to lead their careers.

At our New York Campus, faculty, students, and administration in the Wexner Working Group initiated a new class on spirituality in which students explore their own spiritual experience to become better leaders of prayer and participated in faculty-led various integrating dynamic prayer, such as meditation, yoga, and Torah study.

Our faculty produced significant volumes of scholarship, academic articles, and public lectures, and were noted for their American Values: Religious Voices, 100 Days, 100 Letters, a series of 100 letters written by leading scholars of religion to our nation’s leaders, co-created by Rabbi Andrea L. Weitz ’83, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Bible and Jewish Education, Jack, and Morton Mandel Provost Emeloff.

Visitors of all ages, faiths, and backgrounds attended our museum exhibitions and cultural programs, including Remember the Jews, The Berger Print Collection: Contemporary Holocaust Art, launched the Master of Science in Jewish Nonprofit Management, and hosted a series of AJRCCM lectures, and were featured in Our faculty produced significant volumes of scholarship, academic articles, and public lectures, and were noted for their American Values: Religious Voices, 100 Days, 100 Letters, a series of 100 letters written by leading scholars of religion to our nation’s leaders, co-created by Rabbi Andrea L. Weitz ’83, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Bible and Jewish Education, Jack, and Morton Mandel Provost Emeloff.

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Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion

instills leadership, fosters scholarship, and nurtures spiritual growth in an inclusive, pluralistic learning environment where tradition and innovation are the catalysts for leading and creating vibrant Jewish communities.

YOUR SUPPORT SUSTAINS EXCELLENCE

Philanthropy provides 38% of HUC-JIR’s income, supporting students, faculty, and research resources.

50 continuing education programs engage alumni throughout the world.

80% of students receive scholarships.

100% of new graduates have jobs within one year.

4 new faculty hires.

Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion

The New York Rabbinical Ordination Class of 2017

Our alumni and students have an impact on 50 countries, 1400 synagogues and organizations, and 7000 Jewish campers.

The New York Rabbinical Ordination Class of 2017

Countries represented:
- Australia
- Canada
- Israel
- South Africa
- United States

Median GPA 3.7

The New York Rabbinical Ordination Class of 2017

23 states represented

Undergraduate Majors

- Judaic/Religious Studies 29%
- Music/Performance 10%
- Other 10%

Fall 2017 Entering Class

- Undergraduate Majors
  - History/Political Science 5%
  - French 3%
  - Hebrew 3%
  - Sociology 3%
  - Spanish 3%
  - Business/Finance 5%
  - Psychology 5%
  - English/Communications 6%

- Judaic/Religious Studies 29%
- Music/Performance 10%
- Other 10%

Selected Undergraduate and Graduate Schools Where They Studied

- Brandeis
- UC Berkeley
- UCLA
- Case Western
- Dartmouth
- Duke
- Emory
- Indiana
- Macalaster
- Miami University Ohio
- Michigan
- Middlebury
- Muhlenberg
- Rochester
- Stanford
- Nova
- Wisconsin
- Yale

2016-2017 President's Report