

HUC-JIR/FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

Rabbi Yehoyada Amir, Ph.D., *André Neher and Jewish Thought in Post-Holocaust France* (Tel Aviv: Hakibbutz ha-Me'uchad and the Van Leer Institute). Neher was one of the leading Jewish philosophers in post-Holocaust France. Together with Emmanuel Levinas he conducted gatherings of French-Jewish intellectuals, mostly of very little attachment to their Jewish heritage, providing them with access to a modern, faithful, and humanistic approach to Judaism.

Dr. Gerald Bubis and Dr. Steven Windmueller, *From Predictability to Chaos?? How Jewish Leaders Reinvented Their National Communal System* (Center for Jewish Community Studies). A study of the merger leading to the creation of the United Jewish Communities, featuring interviews with volunteer and professional leaders at the national level who were engaged in the merger discussions between the Council of Jewish Federations, United Jewish Appeal and United Israel Appeal, each with essentially different roles in the Jewish community, which together functioned as fund raising, planning, and leadership bodies and monitored how American dollars were spent in Israel by non-governmental agencies.

Dr. Edward Goldman and Dr. Richard S. Sarason, eds., *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Vol. 74. This volume of 9 scholarly articles that focus on all areas of Judaic, biblical, and semitic studies includes **Stephen M. Passamaneck's** article, *The Jewish Mandate of Martyrdom: Logic and Illogic in the Halakhab.*

Dr. Jerome Lund, *The Old Syriac Gospel of the Distinct Evangelists, A Key-Word-In-Context Concordance* (Gorgias Press). A key-word-in-context concordance of the Old Syriac Gospel of the Distinct Evangelists (*Evangelion da-Mepharreshe*), preserved in two manuscripts, namely Codex Curetonianus (Brit. Lib. Add. 14451) and Codex Sinaiticus (Sin. Syr. 30), and the earliest translation of the Greek Gospel text to a Semitic language.

Rabbi Aaron Panken, *The Rhetoric of Innovation, Self Conscious Legal Change in Rabbinic Literature* (University Press of America, Inc). An examination of more than 1,000 occurrences of terms depicting legal innovation, this study maps the contours of legal change reported during the rabbinic period. The book examines temporal statements and clusters of statements and actions attributed to authority figures in the Tannaitic and Amoric periods, also reviewing the geographic distribution of these words and their divergent usages in documents edited in Roman Palestine and Babylonia. (see page 28)

Marc Saperstein, *Exile in Amsterdam, Saul Levi Morteira's Sermons to a Congregation of "New Jews"* (HUC Press). Saperstein provides a comprehensive analysis of the historical significance of texts and presents eight previously untranslated sermons of Saul Levi Morteira in their entirety, with full annotation.

In Memoriam

Sophie Gumenick, philanthropist, patron of the arts, and beloved mother of Jerome Gumenick, former member of the Board of Governors, who together with her husband, Nathan, ז"ל, ensured the continuity of Jewish leadership through the Nathan and Sophie Gumenick Scholarship Fund for worthy rabbinical students, established by her loving family.

Dr. Alvin J. Reines, (C'52) distinguished member of our faculty for 45 years and internationally renowned scholar in the fields of Jewish medieval philosophy, particularly the work of Maimonides, and contemporary Jewish thought, who developed the concept of polydoxy (a religion that is not based on infallible revelation), which laid the foundation for innovations in Reform Jewish life, including the ordination of women and the definition of Jewish status on the basis of patrilineal descent.

Bette Gillman-Rosenbaum, dedicated member of the Cincinnati Board of Overseers, Chair of the its Jewish Early Learning Cooperative Committee, and Overseer representative to the Professional Consultation Committee overseeing the Clinical Pastoral Education Program, whose devotion to Jewish education endures as an inspiration.

Charles Rutenberg, esteemed honorary member of the Board of Governors, whose commitment to the College-Institute's mission strengthened the development of HUC-JIR's presence in Florida.

Jean Tabach-Bank, cherished friend of the College-Institute and beloved wife of Brad Tabach-Bank, devoted member of the Los Angeles Board of Overseers.

Mary Tobias, beloved wife of Charles H. Tobias, Jr., honorary member of the Board of Governors, who was an intrinsic and esteemed part of the Cincinnati community.

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