Tenth Annual
Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies

Challenging Boundaries:
History and Anthropology
in Jewish Studies

April 26-28, 2004

(All academic sessions are free and open to the public.
Pre-registration or RSVP are not required)

MONDAY, April 26
Logan Hall, Room 17, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

10:00 am
GREETINGS

David B. Ruderman
Director, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

Samuel H. Preston
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

10:15 am
THE SECOND LIFE OF DISCIPLINES

Chair: Robert St. George, University of Pennsylvania

Oren Kosansky, CAJS
Time and the Jewish Other: Past and Present in the Anthropology of Judaism

David Myers, University of California, L.A.
Beyond a History of "Suffering and Learning": From Text to Texture in
Jewish History

Discussants:
Steven Feierman, University of Pennsylvania
Harvey Goldberg, Hebrew University/CAJS

12:15 am  Lunch Break

1:45 pm  TEXTS AND CONTRA-TEXTS

Chair: David Stern, University of Pennsylvania

Yossi Chajes, University of Haifa/CAJS
He Said She Said: Reported Speech and Female Religious Virtuosity in Early Modern Rabbinic Literature

Ephraim Kanarfogel, Yeshiva University/CAJS
"For it is not in heaven": Dreams as a Determinant of Jewish Law and Practice in Northern Europe during the Middle Ages

Shalom Sabar, Hebrew University/CAJS
Art, Script, and Magic: The Protection of the Bride and Bridegroom in Jewish Marriage Contracts

Discussant: David Nirenberg, Johns Hopkins University

3:45 pm  Coffee Break

4:15 pm  THE VICISSITUDES OF SACRED PLACES

Chair: Aditya Behl, University of Pennsylvania

Yoram Bilu, Hebrew University/CAJS
Beyond the Ethnographic Present: The Rise and Fall of a New Sacred Place in Israel's Urban Periphery

Lucia Raspe, Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main/CAJS
The Graves of the Righteous in Medieval Ashkenaz: Pilgrimage, Ritual, and the Veneration of Saints

Elchanan Reiner, Tel-Aviv University/CAJS
Patterns of Oral Transmission: On the Evolution of Traditions of Holy Places in the Medieval Galilee

Discussant: Peter Schäfer, Princeton University

6:45 pm  Dinner and Evening Program (by invitation)
Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, 420 Walnut Street

Shalom Sabar, Hebrew University/CAJS
**TUESDAY, April 27**

**9:00am**

**NEGO TIA NG AUTHOR IT ATIVE PRACTICE**

Chair: **Roger Abrahams**, University of Pennsylvania

Dan Ben-Amos, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS  
*Kol Nidrei: How Rabbinical Judaism Haunted the Jews*

Michael Swartz, Ohio State University/CAJS  
*Sacrifice Then and Now: Sacrifice as a Paradigm for Ritual in Judaism in Late Antiquity*

Elliott Horowitz, Bar-Ilan University/CAJS  
*Ritualized Gesture: Is a Kiss Just a Kiss?*

Discussant: **Daniel Schroeter**, University of California, Irvine

**11:00 am**

**Coffee Break**

**11:30 am**

**MEDIATING THE REPRESENTATION OF JEWS**

Chair: **Benjamin Nathans**, University of Pennsylvania

Jack Kugelmass, Arizona State University/CAJS  
*Whiteface, Blackface, Jewface and the Politics of Dershowitz's Chutzpah*

Tamar Katriel, University of Haifa/CAJS  
*Speech Symbolism in the Making of Israeli Culture*

Andrea Schatz, University of Duisburg/CAJS  
*Crossing the Strait of Gibraltar: Ashkenaz, the Orient, and Cultural Translation in the 18th Century*

Discussant: **Matti Bunzl**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

**1:30 pm**

**Lunch Break**

**3:00 pm**

**MAKING TRADITION**

Chair: **E. Ann Matter**, University of Pennsylvania

Sylvie Goldberg, L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale, France/CAJS  
*In the Path of Our Fathers: Inventing Tradition, Defending Tradition, and the Setting of Jewish Time in Jerusalem and Babylonia*

Talya Fishman, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS  
*Ashkenazic Sacralization of the Newly Inscribed Oral Torah*
Ra'anan S. Boustan, University of Minnesota/CAJS

The Heavenly Cult of the Martyrs and the Persistence of Priestly Traditions in Late Antique Judaism

Discussant: Marina Rustow, Emory University/CAJS

5:45 pm  Cocktails (by invitation)

6:30 pm  Dinner and Evening Program (by invitation)
Logan Hall, Terrace Room, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Gruss Colloquium

WEDNESDAY, April 28

9:00 am  Logan Hall, Room 17, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

FORGING COLLECTIVE IDENTITIES

Chair: Beth Wenger, University of Pennsylvania

Jodi Magness, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/CAJS

The Historical and Social Setting of the Sardis Synagogue and Jewish Community

Riv-Ellen Prell, University of Minnesota/CAJS

Post-War Judaism: Authority and Practice

Chava Weissler, Lehigh University/CAJS

Ritualized Study in the Jewish Renewal Movement

Discussant: Jonathan Schorsch, Columbia University

11:00 am  Coffee Break

11:30 am  RETHINKING BOUNDARIES

Chair: David Ruderman, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

Harvey Goldberg, Hebrew University/CAJS

Menachem Ben-Sasson, Hebrew University/CAJS

Albert Baumgarten, Bar-Ilan University/CAJS

1:15 pm  Concluding Luncheon (by invitation)
Logan Hall, Terrace Room, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

For further information, contact the