



## The Center for Jewish Studies: Introduction and Update

The Center for Jewish Studies was established at the University of Florida in 1973 as part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For its first ten years, the Center was ably directed by Professor Barry Mesch, who coordinated the Jewish Studies Program, strengthened the Hebrew Language component, and created much interest in the program on the campus. Professor Mesch was assisted by his colleague in the Department of Religion, Professor Sheldon Isenberg, who served as the Center's Associate Director. From 1983 to 1985 Professor Austin Creel, Religion Department Chairman, was Acting Director.

In the Fall of 1985, Dr. Warren Bargad joined the Jewish Studies faculty and was appointed the new Director of the Center for Jewish Studies. Dr. Bargad, a Brandeis University Ph.D., formerly taught at the Boston Hebrew College, Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, and Spertus College of Judaica in Chicago, where he also served as Dean of the College. In January, 1986, the Center opened its new offices in Grinter Hall, which also houses the Center for Latin American Studies and the Center for African Studies. Ms. Carlene Smith is the Center's Administrative Secretary.

The motivating forces behind these recent developments are three-fold: the firm support and encouragement of Dean Charles F. Sidman of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; the Center's Endowment Fund campaign, organized by Professor Samuel Proctor, Distinguished Service Professor of History; and a generous matching grant by the Samuel M. Melton Foundation, which supports the Center's programs and activities.

During 1985-86, the Center accomplished several significant tasks with regard to the Jewish Studies Program. The Certificate Program in Jewish Studies was revised and has engendered much interest among undergraduate students. A proposal for a B.A. Major in Jewish Studies was prepared and currently is being considered by the College administration. In addition, an expanded schedule of course offerings in Jewish Studies has been made available for academic year 1986-87. The program's visibility also was enhanced by various campus events initiated or co-sponsored by

ville Jewish community. A listing of these presentations appears in these pages. A central feature of these activities will be the International Annual Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association in February, 1987. The Conference will focus on the Jewish communities of Latin America and on the issue of political repression.

1985-86 has been an excellent year

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the Center. These events attracted large audiences from both the University and Gainesville communities.

In addition to these academic and programming developments during 1985-86, the Center for Jewish Studies has received two significant endowment gifts: Mr. Benjamin Greenbaum and the Greenbaum Family of Tampa have endowed an Eminent Scholar Chair in Jewish Studies, and Mr. Gary R. Gerson of Miami has endowed an Annual Lecture Series. These donors and their generous contributions to the Jewish Studies Program are highlighted in this newsletter.

Looking to 1986-87, programming plans and other activities of the Center include a wide array of lectures by the Jewish Studies faculty and invited guests, an Israeli Film Festival, and a series of films on the Holocaust, including the recently acclaimed film, "SHO'AH," funded by the Gaines-

ville Jewish community. A listing of these presentations appears in these pages. A central feature of these activities will be the International Annual Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association in February, 1987. The Conference will focus on the Jewish communities of Latin America and on the issue of political repression.

### Jewish Studies Instructional Staff 1986-88

Warren Bargad, Director (Modern Hebrew Language and Literature)  
Alice Faber (Hebrew; Linguistics)  
Dora Friedman (Hebrew)  
Theodor Gaster (Religion; Folklore)  
Andrew Gordon (American Jewish Fiction)  
Howard Greenstein (Adjunct Lecturer: Jewish History)  
Sheldon Isenberg (Jewish Mysticism; Classical and Modern Judaism)  
Allan Lehmann (Adjunct Lecturer: Classic Jewish Texts)  
Barry Mesch (Jewish Philosophy; Hebrew Scriptures; Classical and Modern Judaism)  
George Pozzetta (Immigration and Ethnicity in American History)  
Harold Stahmer (Modern Jewish Philosophies)  
Barrie Straus (Women in Jewish Literature)



## The Jewish Studies Program

Administered by the Center for Jewish Studies, the Jewish Studies Program provides an interdepartmental curriculum which serves as a basis for understanding the broad spectrum of Jewish culture and civilization. Through course work in Religion, English, African and Asian Languages and Literatures, History and Philosophy, students may acquaint them-

selves with and specialize in areas within Jewish Studies such as biblical studies, Jewish history, literature, philosophy, mysticism, and Hebrew language and literature.

New offerings and academic opportunities in Jewish Studies are expected to increase student participation significantly over the next several years. Approximately 4,000 Jewish

students attend the University of Florida, and many non-Jewish students also participate in Jewish Studies courses.

The newly approved JST offerings include Individual Work, Special Topics, and a Seminar in Jewish Studies. New courses for 1986-87 feature: "Zionism and the State of Israel," "Responses to the Holocaust," "Classic Jewish Texts," "The Modern Hebrew Novel in Translation," and the JST Seminar on "I.B. Singer and S.Y. Agnon." Plans for future courses include "Women in Judaism," "Women in Jewish Literature," "American Jewish Fiction," and an expansion of offerings in modern Hebrew literature.



Students interested in the Certificate or Major in Jewish Studies should contact Dr. Bargad (392-9247, 401 Grinter Hall) or one of the members of the Jewish Studies faculty.

*The UF Jewish Studies core faculty, standing L-R are: Sheldon Isenberg, director Warren Bargad, Barry Mesch, Harold Stahmer; seated L-R are Alice Faber and Dora Friedman.*

## Gaster/Schachter: An Inter/view

Nearly one hundred and fifty students, faculty and community members witnessed a remarkable intellectual meeting on the evening of April 3, 1986, when the world-renowned scholar and author Professor Theodor Gaster and Professor Zalman Schachter-Shalomi of Temple University held a public dialogue sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies.

Gaster, whose academic career spans nearly sixty years, has pioneered works in Folklore and Religion, notably providing the first major English translation of the Dead Sea Scrolls. He also helped develop the disciplines of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, modern folkloristic studies, and contemporary comparative mythology. With degrees in Classics and Semitic Studies, Gaster has been a Fulbright Professor twice and twice

selected as a Guggenheim Fellow. Having retired in 1976 from the chairmanship of the Department of Religion at Columbia University's Barnard College, he has been teaching and writing at the University of Florida since 1982.

Schachter-Shalomi, Professor of Religion and Mysticism at Temple University, a scholar and author, is also a well-traveled lecturer and workshop leader. He serves also as director of the B'nai Or Religious Fellowship which he founded, and teaches at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. A keen observer of modern spiritual movements, he has played an increasingly effective role in establishing connections with and between spiritual leaders of a variety of traditions. His major contributions to the changing forms of modern Juda-

ism may be seen in the Havurah movement and now in the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

The "inter/view" format provided a rare opportunity for the public to experience two major academic figures in interaction. Student response was particularly enthusiastic, with great appreciation of the learning, sincerity and integrity of both participants. Each has concrete proposals for the transformation of modern Judaism and for its survival, each expressed despair about the current state of Jewish spirituality, and each differed significantly in the details of their diagnoses as well as in their prescriptions. Professor Sheldon Isenberg acted as moderator of this fascinating dialogue.



## Gerson Annual Lecture Series Begins

Gary R. Gerson of Miami, a University of Florida alumnus, has committed \$100,000 toward an Annual Lecture Series sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies. The series, which begins in the fall of 1986, will bring to the University distinguished guest lecturers in Jewish studies from throughout the United States and abroad. "The Gary R. Gerson Annual Lecture Series will become the cornerstone of the Center's annual programming," said Warren Bargad, Director of the Center for Jewish Studies. "The periodic presence of these scholars on campus will draw new attention to the Center, both locally and nationally, and will demonstrate the wide



Gary R. Gerson

range of scholarly endeavor to be found in Jewish Studies."

An honors graduate in 1954, Gerson one year later earned a Master of Business Administration degree. In an interview soon after making his gift, Gerson commented, "I have always felt strongly about the importance of Jewish education in secular institutions . . . and I am pleased to have this opportunity to benefit both this cause and my alma mater."

The Gerson Series will be inaugurated on September 23, 1986, with a lecture on "The Invention of Hebrew Prose" by the distinguished scholar Prof. Robert Alter of the University of California at Berkeley.

## A \$1 Million Gift to the Center for Jewish Studies

Benjamin Greenbaum, a Tampa businessman, has given the Center for Jewish Studies a gift of \$1,000,000. This gift is the largest ever made by an individual to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. At a reception given by the University for him and his family, Greenbaum noted that the gift was motivated primarily to create greater opportunities for the study and preservation of the Jewish heritage. Greenbaum also explained, "Three of my four children chose to attend the University of Florida . . .

**"My goal is not just to establish a Chair, but to go on and create a total school."**

I'm not doing this all by myself. And my wife, Helen, who passed on three years ago, would have wanted some of the money from our company to go to the cause of Jewish education, so I'm fulfilling her wish."

Of the total gift, \$600,000 will go toward establishing an Eminent Scholar Chair in Jewish Studies. This amount is supplemented by \$400,000 from the Florida Legislature's Eminent Scholar Program; the remainder will be used to establish an endowment to strengthen the University's Center for Jewish Studies. With this endowment, the Center will be actively seeking additional faculty members in order to establish firmly a B.A. program in Jewish Studies and to progress toward the possibility of graduate studies. As Greenbaum explained, "My goal is not just to establish a Chair, but to go on and create a total school."

**Late Bulletin:** The Interdisciplinary Studies Committee of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has approved in principle the establishment of a B.A. Major in Jewish Studies.

**AMUDIM Editor:** Pamela Innes  
**Assistant Editor:** Jill Bernstein



Benjamin Greenbaum shown here in the Price Library of Judaica.



# The Price Library the Univers

Beginning with this issue, AMUDIM will incorporate the Report of The Isser and Rae Price Library at the University of Florida. The Price Library published eight issues of the Report from 1981 through 1985.

Robert Singerman, Head of the Price Library, has recently returned from a most productive sabbatical leave. His work involved the compilation of a bibliography of every item of Jewish interest, including serials, published in all languages in the United States to 1900.

The total number of items comes to nearly 7,000, with each item annotated with the name of the institution which holds it.

In the summer of 1986 Greenwood Press (Westport, Conn.) published another major bibliographical work by Mr. Singerman: *Jewish Serials of the World: A Research Bibliography of Secondary Sources*. Arranged geographically, the volume contains 3,000 entries consisting of articles written about Jewish serials around the world. Mr. Singerman calls this work "an inventory of research" which attempts to create a new discipline: The History of the Jewish Press.

While retaining the Head Librarianship of the Price Library, Mr. Singerman has been appointed Acting Coordinator of the University Libraries' Department of Research Collections.

The following article by Singerman offers an overview of the Library's origins and holdings. It is abridged from "The Price Library of Judaica at the University of Florida," published in *Jewish Book Annual*, Vol. 43 (1985/86).

At the University of Florida, the Center for Jewish Studies was formed in 1973 and the concerned faculty began searching for the ideal core Judaica collection. Following the recommendation of the noted librarian/consultant Charles Berlin, and with funding support put together from a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant and State of Florida Quality Improvement Funds, the Libraries acquired in 1977 the Rabbi Leonard C. Mishkin library, at the

time the largest private library of Judaica and Hebraica in the United States. With a nuclear collection, the Libraries used National Endowment for the Humanities funds to hire a fulltime librarian-cataloguer-bibliographer to formulate priorities and policy statements regarding cataloguing, collection development, staffing, and circulation. The Libraries' Judaica bibliographer sought additional collections for acquisition and quickly supplemented the Mishkin collection with the Shlomo Marenof library (1978) and the inventory of Bernard Morgenstern's Lower East Side bookstore (1979). Currently holdings are 45,000 volumes.

The Price Library of Judaica is a branch library reporting to the Associate Director for Public Services. The decision to emphasize service and access and, thus, allow the collection to circulate required that the books be catalogued and processed for lending while balancing important considerations for special treatment of non-circulating rarities, bound and unbound serials, fragile pamphlets, and all uncatalogued materials in general.

For a collection to be useful to students and faculty, it must be catalogued to provide users with access. Local cataloguing practices, of course, will vary but most university libraries, regardless of their classification system, now participate in computer networks enabling them to originate and share cataloguing data, especially the authoritative Library of Congress cataloguing copy. On-line records in the OCLC and RLIN networks probably exist for well over eighty percent of the western-language titles most likely to be acquired by American libraries, with a somewhat lower success rate for seldom encountered languages, ephemeral tracts, and pre-1900 works. The RLIN system planned to have a Hebrew capability available by July 1, 1986, but catalogue card production will not be supported.

Separate units of the library system at the University of Florida divided



the responsibility for cataloguing materials in Hebrew or Yiddish and western languages. The cooperative effort was a highly productive one: approximately 25,000 titles were fully catalogued between May, 1979 and May, 1985. The Libraries took advantage of printed Library of Congress cards for vernacular cataloguing of the Hebrew and Yiddish titles (comprising about 60% of the total holdings of the Price Library of Judaica) and the OCLC database for cataloguing the Judaica in western languages. The OCLC database is an especially rich resource, receiving not only the authoritative Library of Congress records but also the original cataloguing of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America libraries, to name just two major contributors of copy.



# Library of Judaica at University of Florida



to the art and music libraries at the university? Will the map library house the maps of Israel or will the Judaica library? How does the ancient Near East as an area of scholarly investigation relate to Jewish studies and/or to biblical archaeology? Thought will also have to be given to the acquisition and storage of microforms. But where, in the microtext room of the typical research library or within the Judaica library?

Every library, new and old, needs to shape its identity as a place of study and resource for information. Publicity should be generated through a newsletter, press releases, informational handouts, lists of new acquisitions, and occasional publications. In addition to grants, gifts, exchanges, and private philanthropy to underwrite the acquisition of collections or individual rarities, opportunities should be created to endow and name the library or rooms within the library or establish book funds if the library is to grow when the inevitable periods of fiscal retrenchment and loss of state funding occurs. A portion of the librarian's time needs to be spent on cultivating friends and outside sources of support for the library, as well as linking the library's needs to the central university fund raising program, but this is a demanding task when support staff is limited.

The Price Library of Judaica is named for Isser and Rae Price and endowed by their sons, Samuel and Jack Price, of Jacksonville, Florida. It was formally dedicated in March of 1981.

The Price Library of Judaica is especially strong in social, political, intellectual and communal history, Hebrew and Yiddish linguistics and literature, Eretz-Yisrael, Zionism, Hebrew scriptures, Judaism and rabbinics, and homage, memorial, and jubilee volumes. Today's emerging areas of scholarly research interest—Latin American Jewry, the *'edot ha-mizrah* (oriental Jewish communities), Sephardica, demography and population research, masoretic and targumic studies, and Jewish languages—are

prime targets for intensified collecting. An enormous amount of uncommon pamphlets in all imaginable subject areas enhance the research potential of the Price Library. In many respects, these "here today, gone tomorrow" pamphlets should be considered the greatest rarities because of their fugitive nature and disregard for their preservation over the years.

For a comparatively young library, the Price Library of Judaica already possesses a well-rounded collection of significant magnitude, scope and depth. By no means a static collection, the Price Library will continue to grow and serve generations of scholars and students. Though young in years, the Price Library at the University of Florida has already taken its place alongside the deservedly well-respected and mature libraries on other American campuses. In the southeastern United States, the University of Florida can already boast of a regional center of library excellence in the field of Jewish studies.

As with any academic enterprise, the Price Library looks to private donors for continuing support. Such gifts help to expand the Library's collection and to maintain its stature as a major research library. A major gift of \$100,000, for example, will accomplish one of the following goals, at a cost of \$5,000 annually: (1) An Israeli approval plan for newly published books. The plan would reduce paperwork and ensure timely shipments of new titles as they are published. (2) Microforms of the Jewish press of the world. These resources include many journals which are virtually impossible to obtain in original format. (3) An endowment for the Price Library's current subscriptions to 300 periodicals. (4) Retrospective buying. Being a relatively new library, the Price Library needs to fill gaps in its collection in all languages.

Lesser gifts, of course, are welcome. Please contact Mr. Singerman at (904) 392-0308 or write: Robert Singerman, 18 Library East, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 32611.

The challenges of identifying Jewish library resources for acquisition are many. The bibliographer's resourcefulness in locating dealers at home and abroad who can service want lists, manage approval plans, or fill orders will have a direct and permanent impact on the overall quality of the collection. Similarly, designing the collection management policy statement for the newly established Judaica library will be a high priority to ensure that important subjects are not neglected or extraneous ones over-emphasized. The specific subject areas to be maintained at different levels of collecting intensity and in which languages and formats will need to be defined and continually monitored. Will the new library collect Jewish art books, slides and record albums, or will responsibility for their ordering and organization pass



## Events of 1985-86

Among the memorable programs sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies during 1985-86 was a presentation by Professor Nahum Sarna, Emeritus Professor of Biblical Studies at Brandeis University. Professor Sarna was an editor and translator for the Bible Translation Committee of the Jewish Publication Society of America and is general editor of its new Bible Commentary Project. In a public lecture entitled, "Job vs. God: An Inquiry into the Argument Against Evil," Professor Sarna offered new insights into various aspects of the Book of Job and the theological issues raised in the text. He also spoke in Professor Mesch's Hebrew Scriptures class on "The First Psalm: Textual Analysis and Interpretation." In both of his appearances, Professor Sarna succeeded in combining deep erudition with elegance, grace, wit and charm, which made a lasting impression on those in attendance.

**T.** Carmi was featured during the exciting 10th Annual Israel Cultural Festival, sponsored by the University of Florida's Jewish Student Union, Hillel, and the Center for Jewish Studies. One of Israel's leading poets, Carmi gave a reading of his poetry and lectured on the tradition of modern Hebrew poetry in Professor Bargad's class on Israeli literature. Carmi has written all his poetry in Hebrew and has translated many literary works including such classics as "Hamlet" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The recipient of many awards for his poetry, Carmi teaches Hebrew Literature at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. During 1985-86, he taught in the Judaic Studies Program at Yale University. His latest book of poems, from which he read, is "Ahat hi li" (One to me).

In late February, Ms. Julie Heifetz of St. Louis presented "Poems from the Ashes," a dramatic reading of poems which embodied the personal histories of Holocaust survivors and their childhood memories. Ms. Heifetz and her accompanist, Rod Stucky, a classical guitarist from the St. Louis Con-

servatory of Music and Performing Arts, have traveled widely performing for universities, synagogues, churches, Jewish Federations and Hillels. Ms. Heifetz has worked with the St. Louis Center for Holocaust Survivors to gather the personal histories of survivors, which she so effectively put into poetry and portrayed in her performance.

In March the well-known author and anthologizer, Howard Schwartz, presented "Jewish Fairy Tales and Tales of the Supernatural," a reading of poetry, tales, and short midrashic pieces. Schwartz, a professor of literature at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, read from several of his works, including *Vessels*, *Gathering the Sparks*, *Midrashim: Collected Jewish Parables*, and *The Captive Soul of the Messiah*. Professor Schwartz is co-editor, with Anthony Rudolph, of *Voices Within the Ark*, a comprehensive anthology of modern Jewish poetry.

## Jewish Studies Lecture Series, 1986-87

The Center for Jewish Studies is pleased to present a wide and notable array of University of Florida faculty and guests from other institutions for its 1986-87 Lecture Series.

Professor Kenneth Stein of Emory University opens the series on September 15 with a lecture on "The Dual Obligation and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1917-1986." Professor Stein did his doctoral degree at the University of Michigan. He has been an awardee of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a Mellon Faculty Fellow at Emory, where in 1979 he helped establish the International Studies Center. An expert on the land question in Palestine, Prof. Stein has been Director and is now a Fellow of Emory's Carter Center.

On September 23, Robert Alter, Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Lit-

erature at the University of California at Berkeley, is the inaugural speaker in the Gary R. Gerson Annual Lecture Series. Prof. Alter completed his graduate degrees in Comparative Literature at Harvard University and has taught at Berkeley since 1967. He has been a Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson and Danforth Foundations, a Senior Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities, twice a Guggenheim Fellow, and a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. A prolific author, writer, and lecturer, Prof. Alter has recently published his tenth book, *The Art of Biblical Poetry*. Professor Alter will speak on "The Invention of Hebrew Prose," an analysis of the development of Hebrew as a modern literary language in the late 19th century. He will also address the English Department on the topic of "Character in the Novel."



Dr. Robert Alter

Professors Aida Bamia, Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures, and Warren Bargad, Center for Jewish Studies, will present a joint program entitled: "The Image of the Israeli in Arabic Literature; The Image of the Arab in Israeli Literature" on October 15. A University of London Ph.D., Prof. Bamia's main area of interest is Algerian and North African Arabic literature. Much of Dr. Bargad's work has been in contemporary Israeli fiction and poetry. He is author of *Ideas in Fiction: The Works of Hayim Hazaz* and recently coau-



thored, with Stanley F. Chyet, *Israeli Poetry: A Contemporary Anthology*.

On November 4, Amos Oz, the eminent Israeli novelist, will present a lecture on "To Be An Israeli Writer Today." Born in Jerusalem in 1939, Oz has been a member of Kibbutz Hulda since 1957. After studying literature and philosophy at the Hebrew University in the 1960s, he has divided his time between writing, farming, and teaching in the kibbutz high school. The author of ten volumes, Oz has been active in the "Peace Now" movement since 1977. Several of Oz's works have been translated into English, including his most recent novel, *A Perfect Peace*. A film of one of his novels, *My Michael*, will be shown the week following his appearance on the campus.



Amos Oz

Professor Barry Mesch of the Department of Religion will present "Jewish Philosophy in the Fourteenth Century: The Union of Torah, Philosophy, and Politics" on December 4. Prof. Mesch has been with the University of Florida's Department of Religion since 1969 and was the first Director of the Center for Jewish Studies from its inception in 1973. His publications include *Studies in Joseph ibn Caspi, Fourteenth Century Philosopher and Exegete* (Leiden, E.J. Brill: 1975). A Columbia University and Jewish Theological Seminary graduate, Dr.

Mesch received his Ph.D. from Brandeis University in 1972. His areas of special interest are medieval Jewish philosophy, Bible, biblical exegesis, and the history of Jewish thought.

For the first program of Spring Semester on January 15, 1987, Professor Susan Handelman of the University of Maryland, will present a lecture on "Humor, Heresy, Hermeneutics: How the Rabbis Reread the Bible." Prof. Handelman is the author of the acclaimed study, *The Slayer of Moses: The Emergence of Rabbinic Interpretation in Modern Literary Theory*, which compares contemporary criticism with midrashic methods of textual interpretation. She is a graduate of Smith College and completed her Ph.D. at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Professor Sheldon Isenberg, Department of Religion, presents "Reflections of the Human Image in Traditional and Modern Judaism" on February 11. Prof. Isenberg taught at Duke and Princeton before coming to the University of Florida in 1973. His main areas of publication are in classical Targum, Hellenism and early Christianity; his areas of interest include the study of contemporary religion and philosophy.

On March 18, Professor Harold Stahmer will speak on "Franz Rosenzweig (1886-1929) and Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy (1888-1973): Friends in Time, Foes in Space." For a dozen years Prof. Stahmer taught Religion at Barnard College and Columbia University. The author of "Speak that I May See Thee!" *The Religious Significance of Language* and editor of *Religion and Contemporary Society*, he has been at the University of Florida since 1969, serving for ten years, 1969-79, as Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Professor Arthur Green, President of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Col-

lege in Philadelphia, will present "Typologies of Leadership in the Hasidic Movement" on April 2. Prof. Green is an authority in Jewish Mysticism and Hasidism. His study, *Tormented Master: A Life of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav* is a hallmark of research in Jewish religious history. A founder of the Havurah movement, Dr. Green is considered one of American Jewry's foremost intellectuals and leaders.

On April 22, Theodor Gaster, Visiting Professor of Religion, will close the Jewish Studies Lecture Series for 1986-87 with "Jewish Custom and Legend in the Light of Comparative Folklore." Associated for many years with Barnard College and Dropsie University, Gaster has been teaching at the University of Florida since 1982. Among his works are *Myth, Legend, and Custom in the Old Testament* and *Festivals of the Jewish Year*, an investigation into the origin and development of Jewish holidays and customs. A world-renowned scholar—and an unsurpassed raconteur—Dr. Gaster celebrated his eightieth birthday on July 21, 1986.

## Film Series 1986-87

### Israeli Films of Israeli Novels

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Oct. 8  | Three Days and a Child,<br>1966 (A.B. Yehoshua) |
| Oct. 22 | The House on Chelouche<br>Street, 1974*         |
| Nov. 12 | My Michael, 1980<br>(Amos Oz)                   |
| Nov. 19 | Rockinghorse, 1978<br>(Yoram Kaniuk)            |

\*An original screenplay.

### Films on the Holocaust and After

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Feb. 2-3       | SHO'AH (C. Lanzmann,<br>1985)            |
| Feb. 18-<br>19 | Our Hitler (H. J. Syberberg,<br>1978)    |
| Mar. 11        | Mein Kampf (E. Leiser,<br>1961)          |
| Mar. 25        | Let My People Go<br>(David Wolper, 1955) |



## CALENDAR

- Sept. 15 Kenneth Stein (Emory University)  
 "The Dual Obligation and the Arab-Israeli  
 Conflict, 1917-1986"  
 7:30 P.M., 103 Fine Arts Building
- Sept. 23 **The Inaugural Gary R. Gerson Lecture**  
 Robert Alter (University of California  
 at Berkeley)  
 "The Invention of Hebrew Prose"  
 8:00 P.M., Reitz Union Ballroom
- Oct. 15 Aida Bamia and Warren Bargad (University  
 of Florida)  
 "The Image of the Israeli in Arabic  
 Literature; The Image of the Arab  
 in Israeli Literature"  
 4:00 P.M., 427 Grinter Hall
- Nov. 4 Amos Oz, Israeli novelist  
 "To Be An Israeli Writer Today"  
 8:00 P.M., Gannett Auditorium
- Dec. 4 Barry Mesch (University of Florida)  
 "Jewish Philosophy in the Fourteenth  
 Century: The Union of Torah,  
 Philosophy, and Politics"  
 4:00 P.M., 427 Grinter Hall
- Jan. 15 Susan Handelman (University of Maryland)  
 "Humor, Heresy, Hermeneutics: How  
 the Rabbis Reread the Bible"  
 8:00 P.M., Gannett Auditorium
- Feb. 11 Sheldon Isenberg (University of Florida)  
 "Reflections of the Human Image in  
 Traditional and Modern Judaism"  
 4:00 P.M., 427 Grinter Hall
- Mar. 18 Harold Stahmer (University of Florida)  
 "Franz Rosenzweig (1886-1929) and  
 Eugen Rosenstock-Huussy (1888-1973):  
 Friends in Time, Foes in Space"  
 4:00 P.M., 427 Grinter Hall

(cont'd.)

- Apr. 2 **The Betty Schram Memorial Lecture**  
 Arthur Green (Reconstructionist Rabbinical  
 College)  
 "Typologies of Leadership in the  
 Hasidic Movement"  
 8:00 P.M., Gannett Auditorium
- Apr. 22 Theodor Gaster (University of Florida)  
 "Jewish Custom and Legend in the Light  
 of Comparative Folklore"  
 8:00 P.M., Gannett Auditorium

This past year has been a significant period of growth and progress for the Center for Jewish Studies. Many gifts, both large and small, have allowed the University of Florida to begin the establishment of a highly prestigious Center for Jewish Studies which will encourage the strong support and involvement of the entire Florida Jewish community.

These gifts have strengthened and aided the Center during this period of rapid growth and have provided a new sense of beginning for the Center. As we look to the future, there remains much to accomplish within the academic structure. The addition of new Jewish Studies course offerings and programs, new distinguished faculty, and, eventually, a Graduate Studies program are among the goals we hope to accomplish. These goals will help fulfill our vision of the Center and establish for it a distinguished place both at the University of Florida and within the international Jewish Studies academic community.

We cannot accomplish these goals alone. We depend on the support of generous friends to make this vision a reality for the students, faculty, and alumni of the University. Individuals and corporations interested in helping us by making a gift to the Center for Jewish Studies may contact Dr. Warren Bargad at (904) 392-9247, or write the Center at 407 Grinter Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611.

**The Center for Jewish Studies**  
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