

University Center at Binghamton

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Judaic Studies Program
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JUDAIC STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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Welcome Back

To all our Judaic Studies students, faculty, and friends in the University and the broader community a warm and hearty welcome and our best wishes for the coming academic New Year.

Two of our Faculty members who were away last year on sabbatical and research leave respectively, Professors David Biale and Deborah Hertz are back with us once again. Also, the Binghamton students who participated in the Haifa Program which we sponsored during the Spring Semester are back.

All at Judaic Studies are looking forward to what promises to be a full and exciting year with educational, cultural and social activities.

Program Under New Directorship

Dean David Gitlitz has appointed Professor Yedida K. Stillman who served last year as acting director, to a three year term as head of the Program. David Biale who has been director since coming to Binghamton in 1977, resigned in order to take up new responsibilities as director of Graduate Affairs in the History Department.

Program Off To A Strong Start

The Judaic Studies Program got off to a strong start this semester with a rich offering of 18 courses with a total enrollment of 457. Included in this offering is a new course on the History of Jewish Music which is being taught by Brian Rozen of the Music Department.

We are already working on our course offering for the spring semester and are looking forward to at least one or two new courses as well as some old favorites. We are also hoping to having Visiting Judaic Faculty but more of this in the coming NEWSLETTERS.

October Guest Speakers

During the month of October, the Judaic Studies Program will be presenting the first two in its annual series of guest speakers. On

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Saturday, October 12 (Lecture Hall 14 at 3:15) Professor Sami Smoocha of Haifa University will give a talk as part of the Parents Weekend Program on the subject "Israel and South Africa: A Comparison." He will give a more detailed lecture on the subject on Monday, October 14 from 7 - 9 in Lecture Hall 9. Professor Smoocha was born in Baghdad, Iraq and received his B.A. from Bar Ilan University in Israel and M.A. and Ph.D. from UCLA. He is the author of two books and numerous articles on intergroup relations in Israel and has just completed several months as Visiting Professor at the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies. Professor Smoocha is no stranger to SUNY Binghamton or to the Judaic Studies Program here. He was the SUNY-Haifa Exchange Professor during the academic year 1979-1980. While here, he will be the guest at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Fritz Lowenstein. Professor Smoocha's visit is co-sponsored by the SWANA Program.

Professor Gideon Toury of Tel-Aviv University will be on Campus during the week of October 6. He will be giving a workshop on the subject of Translation Theories. He will also be available for consultation.

Professor Toury who was born and educated in Israel is an expert on translation theories and is the managing editor of the Israeli Journal HA-SIFRUT (literature). He is the author of 2 books and many articles in Hebrew and English. Professor Toury will be staying at the home of Professor Don and Maya Peretz. Professor Toury is also no stranger to Binghamton. He has been a visiting lecturer at the Translation Center which is co-sponsoring his visit.

A Word of Thanks

All of us here at Judaic Studies wish to express our heartfelt thanks for the strong show of support which so many of you made in response to our appeal at the end of last semester. Your generous contributions will enable us in this time of severe budgetary constraints to continue offering the kind of high quality communal programming. It also sends a clear message to the Administration both here and in Albany that this is a program with broad communal appeal and interest and one which is worthy of greater support from the University.

I wish to thank the following people: Bess Sinclair, Jennie A. Eber, Maya and Don Peretz, Connie and Alan Liss, Marilyn and Joe Aigen, Bruce and Rosalyn Becker, Rabbi Barri Starr, Helen and Paul Drozdow, Naomi and Richard Shore, Brian and Susan Savitch, Suzy Benjamin, Hillel Academy, Isidore Friedland, Marcia B. Cohen, Pauline and Philip Piaker, Charles Rosenthal, Jackie Jacobs, Hanna and Shelemyaha Zacks, Gerald and Susan Hubal, Isabelle and Joe Levene, Sara R. Cohen, Howard Schilit (Rockville, MD), Flora and Bernie Rosefsky.

It is still not too late for those who have been meaning to but have not been able to. As the old Rabbimic dictum has it "The Gates of Heaven are always open."

Shalom Ve-Lehitra'ot