



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

**MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.**

Series I: Wexner Heritage Foundation, 1947-2004.

Subseries 1: General Files, 1949-2004.

---

Box  
63

Folder  
6

Friedman, Herbert A. Announcement of emeritus status. 16  
September 1994.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the  
American Jewish Archives website.

---

**WEXNER HERITAGE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE CHANGES:  
RABBI HERBERT FRIEDMAN, FOUNDING PRESIDENT  
TO BECOME EMERITUS, SUCCEEDED BY RABBI NATHAN LAUFER**

---

**RABBIS MICHAEL PALEY, RAMIE ARIAN NAMED VICE PRESIDENTS**

Major changes in the leadership of the Wexner Heritage Foundation, which sponsors educational seminars, institutes and retreats for lay leaders of local and national Jewish organizations across the country, were announced this week by Leslie Wexner, chairman of the foundation.

The Foundation, which has provided education in the history, thought, practice and nationhood of the Jewish people to hundreds of Jewish men and women in 23 American cities since it was established in 1985, named Rabbi Herbert Friedman, 76, to the post of founding president emeritus. Rabbi Friedman, a former chief executive officer of the United Jewish Appeal, will be succeeded, effective October 1, 1994 by Rabbi Nathan Laufer, 37, currently the Foundation's vice president and chief operating officer.

In a statement announcing the changes in the leadership of the Foundation, Mr. Wexner said:

"In his new role as founding president emeritus, Rabbi Friedman will be able to devote his time, energy and remarkable talents to programs aimed at promoting Jewish continuity -- an issue that is at the forefront of the Jewish community's agenda today. We are delighted that Rabbi Friedman will continue to serve the Foundation as a key policy adviser and that he will retain his office at the Foundation's headquarters in New York."

Mr. Wexner added: "Rabbi Nathan Laufer, who has served with distinction as vice president and chief operating officer, is being promoted to the office of president and chief executive officer. We are confident that Rabbi Laufer will continue his exemplary work and expand the Foundation's educational programs throughout North America."

Rabbi Laufer, who was ordained by the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and received a J.D. degree from Fordham University Law School, previously served as director of educational programs for the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews. He joined the staff of the Wexner Heritage Foundation in 1986, shortly after it was established.

Rabbi Michael Paley, 42, on leave of absence from Columbia University, where he held the post of university chaplain for many years, will come to the Foundation as vice president. "With more than 500 men and women who have 'graduated' from our programs, the Foundation's alumni have reached the point of critical mass and require the attention of a high-calibre professional," Mr. Wexner said. "We are pleased that Rabbi Paley has agreed to come on board."

Rabbi Paley, a member of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, was a founder and director of the Edgar M. Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel and served as the Jewish chaplain at Dartmouth College.

Rabbi Ramie Arian, 44, who has been the Foundation's director of programs for the past five years, is being promoted to vice president for programs, a post in which he will continue to administer the Foundation's academic programs. He was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and formerly served as national director of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY).

"We are very proud of the religious and ideological pluralism of the Foundation's professional leadership, which we believe redounds to the benefit of our entire community," Mr. Wexner said.

9/16/94

