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Alumni Retreat. "Reimagining American Judaism." 1996.

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The Wexner Heritage Foundation
Alumni Retreat

RE-IMAGINING AMERICAN JUDAISM

OCTOBER

18 *through* 20

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THE LODGE

OAK BROOK, IL.



THE FACULTY AND STAFF

Rabbi Ramle Arian
Vice President
Wexner Heritage Foundation, New York, NY

Rabbi Saul Berman
Stern College, Yeshiva University, NY

Dr. Tsvi Blanchard
Center for Learning and Leadership, NY

Dr. Ronald Brauner
Foundation for Jewish Studies, Pittsburgh, PA

Dr. Ellen Cannon
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL

Dr. Michael Chernick
Hebrew Union College, New York, NY

Ms. Debbie Friedman
Composer and Singer, New York, NY

Rabbi Shoshana Gelfand
Director of Programs
Wexner Heritage Foundation, New York, NY

Rabbi Daniel Gordis
University of Judaism, Los Angeles, CA

Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman
Hebrew Union College, New York, NY

Rabbi Irwin Kula
Center for Learning and Leadership, NY

Rabbi Nathan Laufer
President
Wexner Heritage Foundation, New York, NY

Dr. Deborah Lipstadt
Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Rabbi David Wolpe
Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, NY

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

Meeting Room

10:00 am-1:00 pm	Registration	Foyer
1:00-2:00 pm	Lunch Welcome <i>Rabbi Ramie Arian</i>	Prairie Ballroom
2:15-2:45 pm	Plenary Re-Imagining our Relationship with God <i>Rabbi Nathan Laufer</i>	Room 224
3:00-4:15 pm	Study Seminars Re-Imagining Torah 1. <i>Rabbi Saul Berman</i> 2. <i>Rabbi Tsvi Blanchard</i> 3. <i>Dr. Ronald Brauner</i> 4. <i>Dr. Ellen Cannon</i> 5. <i>Dr. Michael Chernick</i> 6. <i>Dr. Daniel Gordis</i> 7. <i>Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman</i> 8. <i>Rabbi Irwin Kula</i> 9. <i>Dr. Deborah Lipstadt</i> 10. <i>Rabbi David Wolpe</i>	Room 247 Room 281A Room 248 A Room 248 B Room 260 Room 281 B Room 282 Room 283 Room 278 Tack
4:15-5:15 pm	Time to prepare for Shabbat	
5:15-5:45 pm	Shabbat Songs and Candlelighting <i>Ms. Debbie Friedman</i> <i>Rabbi Ramie Arian</i>	Prairie Foyer
6:00-7:00 pm	Services Reform <i>Rabbi Ramie Arian</i> Conservative <i>Rabbi Shoshana Gelfand</i> Orthodox <i>Rabbi Nathan Laufer</i>	Fullersburg Forestview Tack
7:15-8:45 pm	Dinner	Prairie Ballroom

9:00-10:00 pm Plenary Room 224
**Re-Imagining Sacredness & Secularity:
 Discontinuity as the Key to Continuity**
Rabbi Irwin Kula

10:15 pm Oneg Shabbat Prairie Foyer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

7:30-9:00 am Breakfast Prairie Ballroom

8:00-11:00 am Orthodox Service Tack
Rabbi Saul Berman

8:30-11:00 am A Re-Imagined Conservative/Reform Forestview
 Service: The Aitz Hayim Experience
Rabbi Irwin Kula

11:00-11:30 am Kiddush Fullersburg & Foyer

11:45-12:45 pm Plenary Room 224
**Baby Boomers and Beyond:
 Re-Imagining Judaism for a Post-Ethnic Era**
Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman

1:00-2:15 pm Lunch Prairie Ballroom

2:30-3:45 pm Discussion Workshops

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|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1. <i>Rabbi Ramie Arian</i> | Room 281 B |
| 2. <i>Rabbi Saul Berman</i> | Room 247 |
| 3. <i>Rabbi Tsvi Blanchard</i> | Room 260 |
| 4. <i>Dr. Ronald Brauner</i> | Room 248 A |
| 5. <i>Dr. Ellen Cannon</i> | Room 248 B |
| 6. <i>Dr. Michael Chernick</i> | Room 281 A |
| 7. <i>Rabbi Shoshana Gelfand</i> | Room 282 |
| 8. <i>Rabbi Nathan Laufer</i> | Room 283 |
| 9. <i>Dr. Deborah Lipstadt</i> | Room 278 |
| 10. <i>Rabbi David Wolpe</i> | Room 264 |

4:00-5:00 pm Plenary Room 224
Re-Imagining for Whom?
Rabbi Daniel Gordis

5:00-7:00 pm	Free Time	
6:00-6:45 pm	Mincha /Ma'ariv Service (Orthodox)	Tack
7:00-8:30 pm	Havdallah & Dinner	Tent
8:45-10:00 pm	Debbie Friedman In Concert	Prairie Ballroom

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

7:00-7:30 am	Morning Service (Orthodox)	Tack
7:00-8:00 am	Breakfast	Prairie Ballroom
8:15-9:15 am	Plenary Towards a New American Judaism <i>Rabbi Saul Berman</i>	Room 224
9:15-10:15 am	Presenters Forum Moderator: <i>Rabbi Nathan Laufer</i> Panelists: <i>Rabbi Saul Berman</i> <i>Rabbi Daniel Gordis</i> <i>Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman</i> <i>Rabbi Irwin Kula</i>	Room 224
10:30-12:00 pm	Discussion Workshops 1. <i>Rabbi Tsvi Blanchard</i> 2. <i>Dr. Ronald Brauner</i> 3. <i>Dr. Ellen Cannon</i> 4. <i>Dr. Michael Chernick</i> 5. <i>Rabbi Shoshana Gelfand</i> 6. <i>Dr. Daniel Gordis</i> 7. <i>Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman</i> 8. <i>Rabbi Irwin Kula</i> 9. <i>Dr. Deborah Lipstadt</i> 10. <i>Rabbi David Wolpe</i>	Room 260 Room 248 A Room 248 B Room 281 A Room 282 Room 281 B Room 247 Room 283 Room 278 Room 264
12:00-12:30 pm	Evaluations	Workshop Rooms
12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch	Prairie Ballroom
1:00 pm	Departures	

Wexner Heritage Foundation

1996 ALUMNI RETREAT

PARTICIPANT LIST

David & Mona Abramowitz	Miami
Gerald Adelman	Chicago II
Brett & Wendy Avner	Columbus 93
Saby & Rosi Behar	Miami
Brad & Nancy Bell	Indianapolis
Nancy Beren & Larry Jefferson	Houston
Denis & Sarah Braham	Houston
Gerald Brody	Detroit
Alan & Janet Brown	Chicago I
Robert & Fran Berrin	Miami
Steven & Beth Catlett	Columbus 93
Paul Cherner	Chicago II
Bernard & Robin Cohen	Milwaukee
Elliot Cohen	Chicago I
Larry & Merle Cohen	Chicago II
Marcia Cohodes & David Goldsteen	Minneapolis
Mindy & Martin Davidson	Cleveland I
Vikki & Rich Evans	Houston
Sheryl Falik	Houston
Isaac Fisher	Miami
Naomi & Norman Fishman	St. Louis
Mari Forbush & Jeremy Mayberg	Minneapolis
Wendie & Tom Forman	Cleveland I
Gigi & Sam Fried	Columbus 93
Tod Friedman	Columbus 93
Nelson & Carole Genshaft	Columbus 85
Alan & Caron Goldstein	Indianapolis
Mark & Debbie Gottesman	Houston
Alan & Carol Greene	Chicago I
Gail & Bruce Greenspahn	Chicago II
Gary Gross	Cleveland II
Rubin & Eileen Guttman	Cleveland II
Dan & Cheryl Guyer	Detroit
David Harold	Detroit
Elliott Hartstein	Chicago II
Jeffrey Himmel	Chicago II
Renee Hochberg	Chicago I
Kathy & Larry Hurwitz	Pittsburgh



Cari & Ron Immerman	Cleveland I
Fran & Bob Immerman	Cleveland II
Jerry Ingber	Minneapolis
Michael & Michelle Isserman	St. Louis
Ari Jaffe	Cleveland II
Joe & Joy Kaplan	Houston
Roberto & Clarita Kassin	Miami
Brad & Holly Kasten	Columbus 85
Don Katz	Indianapolis
Daniel & Naomi Kayne	Columbus 85/93
Jonathan & Tina Kislak	Miami
Ann-Louise & Dennis Kleper	Chicago I
Mitchell Kline	Chicago I
Alan Kluger & Amy Dean	Miami
Maureen Komisar-Schatz & Allen Schatz	Milwaukee
Joseph & Amelia Kornfeld	Houston
Edward Kraus	Cleveland I
Raphael & Lulu Lavin	Chicago I
Jack & Susana Levine	Miami
Gil & Debbie Mann	Minneapolis
Neil & Gail Meyer	Minneapolis
Bonne & David Milenthal	Columbus 93
Karen & Rick Milenthal	Columbus 93
Glenn Miller & Ruth Rotenberg	Chicago II
Susan Moiseev	Detroit
Amy & Marc Morgenstern	Cleveland I
Steven & Dahlia Oppenheimer	Miami
Mitch & Barbara Orlik	Columbus 93
Eli & Joanne Papir	Miami
Ronald & Eta Paransky	Houston
Esther Fink Persky	Chicago I
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Lesli Koppleman Ross	Chicago I
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Carol Rubin	St. Louis

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Chuck & Yvonne Selcer	
Caryl & Steve Shideler	
Barbara & Michael Shuman	
Ellen Siegel	
Stephen Silberman	
Marc Silverstein & Charna Sherman	
Marc & Barbara Slutsky	
Bruce & Joy Soll	
Robert Sugarman & Marilyn Seskin	
Bonnie Sumner	
Peter & Joni Sussman	
Ellen & Dan Trachtenberg	
Carol Traeger	
Lisa & Charles Treister	
Ricky & Pam Turetsky	
Susan Ungar	
Nonie & David Vonnegut-Gabovitch	
Ric Wanetik & David Hagans	
Muriel Weber	
Mark & Patty Weiner	
Kalman & Enid Wenig	
Barry Werner	
Robert & Gail Wertheimer	
Linda White	
Joan Whitehill	
Robert & Roelie Whitehill	
Joe William	
Nancy Wolf	
Alan & Dara Yanowitz	
Andrew & Helaine Zack	
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	St. Louis
	Columbus 85
	Chicago II
	Cleveland I
	Chicago II
	Columbus 93
	Miami
	Milwaukee
	Minneapolis
	Houston
	Columbus 85
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	Miami
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	Indianapolis
	Columbus 93
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	Cleveland I
	Pittsburgh
	Houston
	Cleveland II
	Cleveland II
	Detroit

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St. Louis

Naomi Fishman

came to thank me for helping her daughter
several years ago. Secheer Med School at TAU
turned her down - although I tried very hard
(as did Bert Cohen). She went to Caribbean.

Now is at Univ. of Illinois Med School

But feels good that I tried to help
This changed her whole attitude toward being Jewish,
for which the mother is so grateful.

Miami

Joanne (+ Eli) Peppin

1. breaking her head trying to improve
big Hillel school (1400 pupils)

2. what should she do?

3. I told her to go over to Reform
day school + make it more traditional

4. or Build her own

Joe Kaplan

Houston -

PK-12

campus - 2 wings - $\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ PK-12 \end{smallmatrix}$ + non- $\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 4-12 \end{smallmatrix}$

with shared facilities, to avoid duplication

also

Dec 1981

3 years

policy decision has been made
details being worked on now

looking for land ✓ 200 acres

" " money ✓

"

quality same as St. John, best
private school in town

Columbus

Danny Kayne said they've made
decision to start communal day school K-2



Benton Marks - Indianapolis

10/18
As told by
Don Katz

2/ chairman of campaign

pres. BJE

constant traveller on missions to Israel
active in Hebrew Day School

Vrp Federch - and all committees

2/ chairm Is. Bonds
honoree of Israel Bonds Organization

Sandy night dinner

write letter - give it to Don for
delay to him

Give Mrs & Ramie

10/19/96.
Amman
Retreat

Everyone waiting for something to happen. Spark has been struck.

National mood is: worry Gen. Shabot told Knesset each chance of another plane-
up with Palestinians. (road accident)

Tunnel - ^{Jewish} right wing money from U.S. - also Moslem quarters old city
- minister of defense Yitzhak Mordecai + Silwan.

① notified only 5 min. before operation started

- ^{national} security agencies not consulted

- Olmert pushed for it, vs. recomm. of Jer. S.B. chief

- Gold didn't tell Hussein when G. visited Amman few days earlier because he didn't know anything about it

Nablus fight - over Joseph's tomb. - Yeshiva - 42 soldiers inside had to be rescued.

15 Israeli soldiers dead R.A. police didn't control mob; even shot

32 Palestinians
hundreds wounded.
including 58 Israelis

Cabinet blamed P.A.

Tanks sent into West Bank, for psychological effect.

③ Hebron - still

④ Closure - economic squeeze ^{shaping events.}

⑤ Bibi - a) ^{reacting} reacting, not ~~planning~~ ^{shaping events.} No plan.

Bibi said Meir was with a plan. Meridor said he never heard of it.

b) humiliated Arafat - wouldn't meet him - kept his helicopter waiting 3 hours. Finally Weizmann pressured Bibi.

c) badly organized - posts recent at UN, Moscow, Cairo, Ankara, New York. One-man show. No close advisers

~~d) Hussein + Mubarak won't talk to him.~~

~~Hassan (Morocco) + Tunisia have relations with Israel. Qatar + Oman also~~

** e) Peres now fighting him openly. Listed "foolish mistakes")

f) no achievements - still learning the job. Read Gell excerpts

g) victim of "oppression theory" - ^{Shades of Inquisition} got it from his father + Jabotinsky right-wing Zionism

g) N. focuses almost completely on U.S. relations; but makes mistakes here - i.e. speech to Congress saying we won't need foreign aid after 10 years.
Israel Harel

h) "Poor leadership" former chmn of settlers in West Bank man is "gravely dysfunctional" as prime minister
Many MK's from Likud, Geshet, Tsomet and NRP would have voted against N. to show their displeasure, but didn't because this would have threatened their own political future.

6) Arab moderates (Hassan & Mubarak) sour on Israel won't talk to N.

Hassan & Tunisia have frozen relations; Qatar & Oman ditto.

7) Chance of war - Shohak thinks Syrian surprise unlikely.