



Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4850: Daniel Jeremy Silver Papers, 1972-1993.

Series II: Subject Files, 1956-1993, undated.

Reel
27

Box
9

Folder
356b

National Foundation for Jewish Culture, correspondence,
memoranda, and notes, 1978-1979.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

M E M O R A N D U M

February 14, 1979

TO: The Executive Committee

FROM: Amos Comay, President

The two major issues which I believe we need to address ourselves to are:

- A - The Fund for the Arts; and
- B - The development of a constituency and broader fund raising base for the Foundation.

A - FUND FOR THE ARTS

In the fourteen months since the Foundation announced its intention to create a Fund for the Arts there has been considerable activity, in the way of inquiries from prospective artist-applicants, additions to the roster of endorsing artists and selection panelists, expressions of interest from various artist groups and foundations, etc. But in the crucial area of patron and campaign structure there has not been sufficient progress to permit the actual launching of the program. The administration of the project has been sporadic, handled on a part-time basis in an effort to curb costs since the only cash available has been from advances made by two Board members.

The first "game plan" called for obtaining commitments from NFJC Board members of \$50,000-\$60,000 a year (\$150,000-\$200,000 for three years) as an essential base for an outside prestigious lay structure, especially

[Feb 14, 1979]

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in New York. The required major intensive effort by the President, top leadership and staff to attain this goal did not materialize.

The second "game plan" called for establishing a prestigious lay structure in New York as an essential base for internal and external fund raising, engaging a full time or part time staff person for that purpose. The brief experience with the individual hired reinforced earlier impressions that successful effort in New York requires special contacts, some evidence of credibility in the form of funding commitments, prestigious backers, actual grants, etc. Although some progress was made in several areas, in the primary objective of building a campaign structure of prestigious figures, this effort made no headway because again the intensive involvement of the Foundation's top leadership and staff did not materialize.

The present impasse in which the Foundation finds itself with regard to the Fund for the Arts is most unhealthy, and it is urgent that our leadership carefully consider the situation and try to recommend a suitable course of action. Following are three options for consideration:

Option 1 It has been suggested that the Fund for the Arts be "put on the back burner" until more favorable conditions develop. In reality this is a euphemism for abandoning the program since "more favorable conditions" will not develop spontaneously -- they will develop only if we create them.

Option 2 Revised goal and timetable. Since it is clear that the original goal of \$250,000 a year in grants is not attainable at this time, and the credibility of the program could be established by building a record of actual grants awards - even if on a less ambitious scale than originally projected - this option proposes that

[Feb 14, 1979]

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- a) We aim at grants aggregating between \$35,000 and \$50,000 to be awarded in 1979.
- b) The NFJC President, top leadership and staff undertake a commitment to raise \$40,000-\$50,000 cash this year (hopefully with equal commitments for the second and third years) from Board members and others, abandoning for the present the \$30,000 share concept.
- c) Establish selection panels and invite applications in limited arts fields, confining ourselves to those in which a successful grantee's work can be given high visibility as show case for further development.
- d) Successful accomplishment of these more modest objectives will permit original goals to be undertaken by an "in business" enterprise with some of the glamor and appeal needed to attract the resources we seek. It should also make available governmental and private foundation funding sources.

Option 3 Incorporate the Fund for the Arts as a potential beneficiary of the Approach "B" - Development of Constituency and Broader Fund Raising Base.

B - DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTITUENCY AND
BROADER FUND RAISING BASE

The primary purpose of such a program is not as a substitute for the Fund for the Arts. You will recall that I identified it as a high priority when I assumed the presidency of the Foundation. Some months ago the Finance Committee strongly recommended the development of such a program as a necessity to deal more adequately with those needs which cannot be met by our limited funding from the Joint Cultural Appeal and the local federations. Sooner or

[Feb 14, 1979]

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later we must develop a constituency which will help provide us with the additional support needed to carry out our major objectives in the advancement of Jewish culture in America.

Such a program could be initiated by the creation of a series of Friends of the Foundation groups in a selected number of cities in which Board members would be prepared to help set up membership events. Membership contributions would not only be a source of additional income but could serve to provide a constituency of concerned individuals who would be helpful in connection with federation allocations; and some might become interested to assist in furthering various new Foundation projects.

If we should decided to proceed with Option 2 on the Fund for the Arts we would need to address the question of timing with regard to initiating a Friends program. Undertaking both projects simultaneously might be more than we could handle since each project will require major commitment from the Foundation's top leadership and staff.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

Office of the President

MEMORANDUM

February 14, 1979

To: Executive Committee

From: Amos Comay

You have already heard from Harry Barron that I would like to consult with the Executive Committee on Sunday, February 25th. The matters on which I need your thinking are outlined in the enclosed Memorandum. Your views will help determine how these issues are to be presented to the Board at the Annual Meeting on March 15th.

Our session on February 25th will be held at the Foundation office in New York, commencing at 11 a.m. We should certainly be able to adjourn no later than 2:30 p.m. We'll arrange to have some sandwiches and coffee to tide us over the lunch period.

I very much hope you will be with us on February 25th. If that should not be possible, I shall appreciate getting your views on the issues in the Memorandum prior to the meeting. Many thanks for your help.

enc

File

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

February 22, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

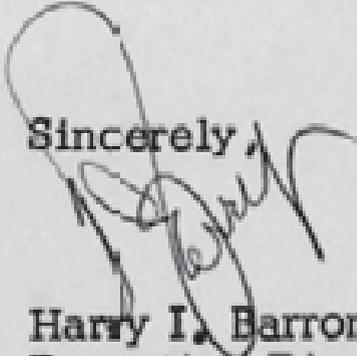
You may remember that I had told you of a meeting Amos Comay had tried to set up with members of the Executive Committee for Sunday, February 25th. When we were first considering the matter I tried to check with you and learned that you were on vacation. Then, realizing that you would just be getting back and unlikely to take off a Sunday morning, I didn't follow through with you.

When I spoke with Amos about this the other day he reacted as I knew he would: that you ought to receive the material which went out to the other people and that we should ask you for your reactions. Accordingly, I am enclosing a copy of Amos' Memorandum of February 14, 1979 and would strongly urge your response.

Incidentally, the meeting of February 25th had to be cancelled after all since a number of people who had originally indicated their intention to be present subsequently found that they could not make it.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


Harry I. Barron
Executive Director

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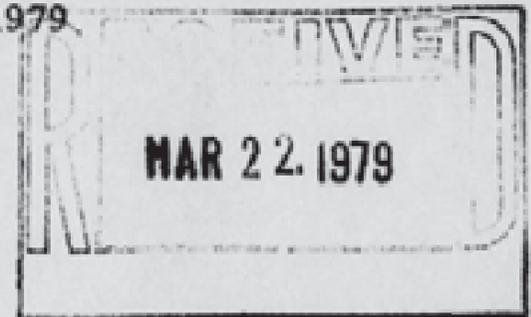
נועצה למען הספר היהודי באמריקה יידישער ביכערראט סון אמעריקע

JWB Jewish Book Council

Involved With the Quality of Jewish Life... Worldwide

15 EAST 26TH STREET . NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010 . (212) 532-4949

March 19, 1979



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Mr. Harry I. Barron
Executive Director
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

As I indicated to you, The Jewish Book Council is hampered in the publication of the Jewish Book Annual because of budgetary limitations. I regret especially that we can offer only a token honorarium (usually \$50) to our contributors. This often makes it impossible to attract the kind of literary experts and bookmen we would like.

At present the annual budget for the Annual is approximately \$11,000, the bulk of which goes to the printer. Last year only some 10% of this sum went for honoraria. The income realized from sales is totally inadequate to our needs and we must rely on additional grants.

Thus far we have succeeded in obtaining annual grants from two foundations: The Littauer Foundation (\$1300, of which \$700 is applied towards the Annual) and the Matz Foundation (\$600). If we could obtain two or three annual grants of approximately \$1,000 each from additional foundations we could do much more to enhance the Annual as "The American Year Book of Jewish Literary Creativity."

I shall be happy to act on any suggestions you may have.

Cordially,

Jacob Kabakoff

JWB
President
ROBERT L. ADLER

Executive Vice-President Emeritus
HERBERT MILLMAN

JK: fn

Executive Vice-President
ARTHUR ROTMAN

*Coordinator of Jewish Educational
and Cultural Programs*
HAROLD ARIAN

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

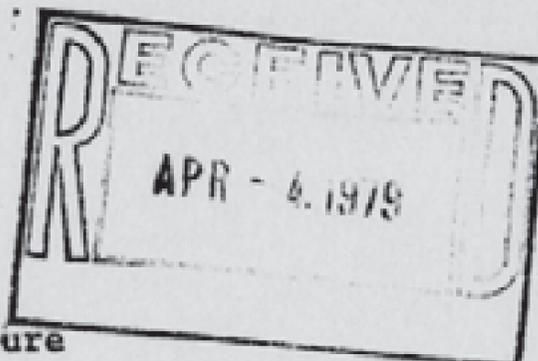
Association of Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs . Serving Jewish Military Families (Member, USO)

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

Faculty of Arts & Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
3718 LOCUST WALK CR



March 27, 1979

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
National Foundation for Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry applies, herewith, to the National Foundation for Jewish Culture for a short-term subsidy for its journal, Contemporary Jewry. The Association, established six years ago, now has over 200 sociologist members. Its presidents have been Professors Mervin Verbit, Marshall Sklare, Samuel Z. Klausner, and currently, Celia Heller. The Association aims to advance the understanding of institutional and cultural processes associated with growth and change in Jewish society including religion, economy, polity, family, the arts and literature. This end has been pursued through scholarly activities including academic conferences, the publication of Contemporary Jewry, and the sponsorship of an annual prize for excellence in a student research paper.

Our conferences have been held at least once, sometimes twice a year in conjunction with the meetings of other professional societies such as the American Sociological Association and the Society for the Study of Social Problems. On these occasions, we read scientific papers and conduct the business of the society. The enclosed program of our latest conference, "Methods in the Study of Modern Jewry," illustrates the interdisciplinary character of our field: this particular program draws upon sociologists, linguists, historians, and folklorists.

Contemporary Jewry has been disseminating research by sociologists and other scholars on the modern Jewish experience. It is distinguished from Jewish Social Studies by its focus on the social scientific rather than a more traditional historical approach; it differs from American Jewish History (formerly American Jewish Historical Quarterly) in that its substantive domain emphasizes the modern and contemporary periods and extends beyond American society and the historical record. Moreover, its methodological breadth seeks to confirm sociological generalizations emerging from its interdisciplinary character. For the last three years, Contemporary Jewry has been published under an agreement with the Transaction Periodicals Consortium at Rutgers University. This arrangement has assured us of quality assistance in editing, layout, production and mailing as well as increased visibility in the academic community. Following is a list of selected recent articles. A complete copy of one issue is enclosed.

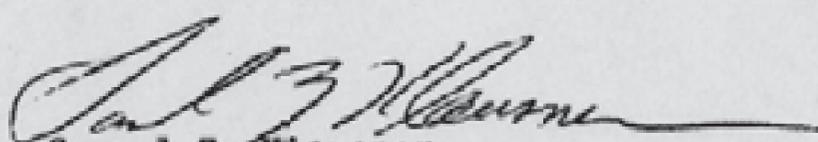
Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
Re: Contemporary Jewry

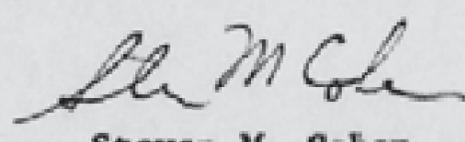
March 27, 1979
Page Two

- "American Jewish Leadership" by Nathan Glazer
"Israeli-Diaspora Relations as a Problem in Center-Periphery Linkages"
by Irving Louis Horowitz
"The Jewish Prince: Some Continuities in Traditional and Contemporary
Jewish Life" by Zena Smith Blau
"Recent Soviet Immigration to the United States" by Barry Levenfeld
"Ghetto, Shtetl, or Polis: The East European Jewish Community in the
Works of K. E. Franzos, Sholem Aleichem, and S. Y. Agnon" by
Miriam Roshwald
"An Uneasy Alliance: Jews and Blacks in the U.S., 1945-1953" by David
G. Singer
"The Impact of Geographic Mobility Upon Jewish Community Participation"
by Charles Jaset
"An Appraisal of the Components and Consequences of Jewish Identification"
by Bernard Lazerwitz

We request \$3,000 each year for a three year period. We would apply \$1,000 of this amount as a direct publication subsidy to improve the format of the journal and to print additional copies as part of a development campaign. We would allocate \$1,500 for direct membership and library promotion, and would apply \$500 to subsidize our academic conferences to stimulate further research in the field. We aim for approximately 1,000 members and 500 library subscriptions. With this level of circulation, the journal will be viable without subsidy. The journal would appear quarterly, carried by the regular dues of the membership and advertising.

Please do not hesitate to call either of us (Klausner: 215-243-7682; Cohen: 212-350-4902) should there be any questions. We thank you for your consideration.


Samuel Z. Klausner
Editor
Professor of Sociology
University of Pennsylvania
3718 Locust Walk/CR
Philadelphia, PA 19104


Steven M. Cohen
Associate Editor
Associate Professor of Sociology
Queens College
Flushing, New York 11367

Enclosures
SZK/SMC/jr

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2283

April 5, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

I enclose with this note a letter and materials from the Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry; a recent note from Jack Kabakoff regarding the Jewish Book Annual, and copy of material and study now being conducted by Paul Ritterband on the current state of Judaic Studies in America.

1) How would you like to respond to the request from Klausner and Cohen for a three-year subvention?

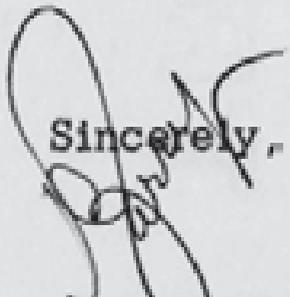
2) Do you have any comments about how we ought to try to be helpful to the Jewish Book Annual?

3) Is there any point in obtaining findings from this new Ritterband questionnaire study before our projected conference? What moral claims do we have on the material that will emerge from this study?

4) Have you seen the latest AJS News Letter which contains Arnold Band's summary of the survey?

Warm regards.

Sincerely,


Harry J. Barron
Executive Director

HIB:bg
encls.

METHODS IN THE STUDY OF MODERN JEWRY

sponsored by the

Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry

Sunday, March 18, 1979, 12:30 - 5:00 P.M.

Petite Terrace*
Statler Hilton
7th Avenue & 32nd Street
New York

12:30 P.M.

Session 1: Assembling Data on Difficult-to-Locate Jews

"Identity, Boundaries, and Research Strategy"
Egon Mayer, Department of Sociology, Brooklyn College

"New Approaches to American Jewish Local History: Atlanta, 1845-1915"
Steven Hertzberg, Institute for Research in History

"New Methods in the Study of European Jewry: The Case of Vienna, 1880-1914"
Marsha Rozenblitt, Dept. of History, University of Maryland, College Park

Discussant:
Sigmund Diamond, Department of Sociology, Columbia University

Presider and Organizer:
Steven M. Cohen, Department of Sociology, Queens College

2:45 P.M.

Session 2: Studying Jewish Culture

"The Geography of Yiddish Language and Culture: Regional Variation and Historical Inference"
Marvin I. Herzog, Department of Linguistics, Columbia University

"Methods in the Study of the Jewish Theater, Past and Present"
Emanuel Levy, Department of Sociology, Hunter College

"In Search of Sephardic Folktales"
Reginetta Haboucha, Department of Romance Languages, Lehman College

Discussant:
Bernard Rosenberg, Department of Sociology, City College of New York

Presider:
Samuel C. Heilman, Department of Sociology, Queens College

Organizer:
Steven M. Cohen, Department of Sociology, Queens College

*Courtesy, Eastern Sociological Society

[with Apr 5, 1979]

THE CITY COLLEGE
OF
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10031

DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH STUDIES

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF JUDAIC STUDIES
SCHOLARS AND TEACHERS



If you would like to receive a copy of the preliminary report, please check here []

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

1-4

What is your current status in the academic world? Please check as many as apply.

- 5[] Full-time faculty
- 6[] Part-time faculty
- 7[] Full-time graduate student
- 8[] Part-time graduate student
- 9[] Other _____
(Please specify)

Are you engaged in any non-academic professional activities? Please check as many as apply.

- 10[] Congregational Rabbi
- 11[] Hillel Director or University Chaplain
- 12[] Jewish educator
- 13[] Jewish Communal Organization Executive
- 14[] Other _____
(Please specify)

Please list (beginning with the most recent) the academic and professional degrees which you have been awarded or for which you are working, the institution granting each, and the year in which each was obtained or is expected.

<u>DEGREE</u>	<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>YEAR GRANTED OR EXPECTED</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

How long have you been employed on a full-time basis in higher education? How long have you been employed at your present institution? How many years have you held your present rank?

15-17

	In Higher Education	At your present Institution	In your present rank
1. 0-2 years	[]	[]	[]
2. 3-5 years	[]	[]	[]
3. 6-10 years	[]	[]	[]
4. 11-15 years	[]	[]	[]
5. 16-20 years	[]	[]	[]
6. More than 20 years	[]	[]	[]
7. Do not hold a full-time position	[]	[]	[]

Where is your current appointment?

Institution _____ Department _____

What kind of appointment do you now hold?

- 18
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1[] Regular with tenure | 3[] Acting |
| 2[] Regular without tenure | 4[] Visiting |
| | 5[] Other _____ |
- (Please specify)

What is your present rank?

- 19
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1[] Instructor | 5[] Distinguished "Named" Professorship |
| 2[] Assistant Professor | 6[] Lecturer |
| 3[] Associate Professor | 7[] No ranks designated |
| 4[] Professor | 8[] Other _____ |
- (Please specify)

20-21 If tenured, in what year were you awarded tenure? _____

22 If not tenured, is your present position tenure track?

- 1[] Yes
2[] No

During the present term, how many hours per week, on the average, are you actually spending in connection with your staff position in each of the following activities: (If on leave indicate what your activities were last year)

	None	1-4	5-8	9-11	12-16	17-25	26-34	35 or More
23. Administration	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
24. Scheduled teaching (actual hours)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
25. Preparing for teaching (including reading papers, grading)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
26. Advising and counseling students	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
27. Research and scholarly writing	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
28. Committee work	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Within the past two years, have you received an offer of another job or a serious inquiry about your availability for another position?

- 29
- 1[] An offer
2[] Not an offer, but a serious inquiry
3[] Neither

During the current term how many hours per week are you spending in formal instruction in class? (If on leave, indicate what your normal teaching load would be.)

30

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------------|
| 1[] | None | 6[] | 11-12 |
| 2[] | 1-4 | 7[] | 13-16 |
| 3[] | 5-6 | 8[] | 17-20 |
| 4[] | 7-8 | 9[] | 21 or more |
| 5[] | 9-10 | | |

Within the past two years, have you sought, or made a serious inquiry about another position?

31

- 1[] Sought another position
 2[] Not sought, but made a serious inquiry
 3[] Neither

In general, how do you feel about the institution at which you are now a faculty member?

32

- 1[] It is a very good place for me
 2[] It is a fairly good place for me
 3[] It is not the place for me

During the past two years, have you considered leaving academic life permanently?

33

- 1[] Yes, I have given it serious consideration
 2[] Yes, I have considered it, but not seriously
 3[] No

If you have considered leaving academic life, what would you prefer doing?

II

THE FIELD OF JEWISH STUDIES

Please list your current memberships in scholarly or academic organizations. (Please print)

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

What is your membership category in the Association for Jewish Studies?

34

1[] Regular 2[] Associate 3[] Student

Do you specialize in any particular country or region in your research? Please specify _____

During the current academic year (or last year if you are on leave) how many courses did you teach in Jewish studies and how many did you teach in other areas? Please circle the appropriate number in each row?

35

Jewish Studies Courses 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 or more

36

Other Courses 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 or more

We have listed below some of the various fields which make up the area of Jewish studies. Please tell us which of these was (is) your major area of doctoral training, current teaching and current research. Please check only one in each column.

	Field of Doctoral Training	Major area of under-graduate teaching	Major area of graduate teaching	Field of current research
01. Bible	[]	[]	[]	[]
02. Hebrew language	[]	[]	[]	[]
03. Hebrew literature	[]	[]	[]	[]
04. History	[]	[]	[]	[]
05. Philosophy and Thought	[]	[]	[]	[]
06. Rabbinics	[]	[]	[]	[]
07. Religion	[]	[]	[]	[]
08. Semitic Philology	[]	[]	[]	[]
09. Sociology	[]	[]	[]	[]
10. Yiddish language	[]	[]	[]	[]
11. Yiddish literature	[]	[]	[]	[]
12. Other	[]	[]	[]	[]
13. _____	[]	[]	[]	[]
14. _____	37-38	39-40	41-42	43-44

(Please specify)

In which of the following periods are your current teaching and research activities concentrated? (Check as many as apply)

45-52

	Teaching	Research
45. First-commonwealth	[]	[]
46. Second-commonwealth	[]	[]
47. Tannaitic	[]	[]
48. Amoraic	[]	[]
49. Medieval	[]	[]
50. Renaissance	[]	[]
51. Modern	[]	[]
52. Contemporary	[]	[]
	1	2

What languages do you use in your work? (Check as many as apply)

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 53. [] Akkadian | 63. [] Persian |
| 54. [] Arabic | 64. [] Polish |
| 55. [] Aramaic | 65. [] Portuguese |
| 56. [] English | 66. [] Russian |
| 57. [] French | 67. [] Serbo-Croatian |
| 58. [] German | 68. [] Spanish |
| 59. [] Hebrew | 69. [] Sumerian |
| 60. [] Italian | 70. [] Ugaritic |
| 61. [] Ladino | 71. [] Yiddish |
| 62. [] Latin | [] Other |
- (Please specify) _____

80/1

How would you characterize your major methodological orientation? (Check as many as apply)

- 5. [] Anthropological
 - 6. [] Cultural History
 - 7. [] History of Ideas
 - 8. [] History of Religions
 - 9. [] Linguistic
 - 10. [] Literary Criticism
 - 11. [] Participant Observation
 - 12. [] Philological
 - 13. [] Philosophical
 - 14. [] Political Science
 - 15. [] Quantitative
 - 16. [] Social History
 - 17. [] Sociological
 - 18. [] Textual Analysis
 - [] Other
- (Please specify) _____

On this page we have presented a list of journals and proceedings which some scholars in the field find useful. Please indicate whether you subscribe to or look at these journals and whether you have submitted articles to them.

	I subscribe to and/or look at regularly	I have submitted to this journal regularly
19. American Historical Review	[]	[]
20. American Jewish Archives	[]	[]
21. American Jewish History	[]	[]
22. American Sociological Review	[]	[]
23. APSR	[]	[]
24. Bitzaron	[]	[]
25. Hadoar	[]	[]
26. Harvard Theological Review	[]	[]
27. He'avar	[]	[]
28. HUC Annual	[]	[]
29. Jewish Quarterly Review	[]	[]
30. Jewish Social Science	[]	[]
31. Journal of the AOS	[]	[]
32. Journal of Biblical Literature	[]	[]
33. Journal of Hebraic Studies	[]	[]
34. Journal of Jewish Studies	[]	[]
35. Journal of Near Eastern Studies	[]	[]
36. Journal of Semitic Studies	[]	[]
37. Journal of Religion	[]	[]
38. Journal of the AAR	[]	[]
39. Judaism	[]	[]
40. Katedra	[]	[]
41. Kiryat Sepher	[]	[]
42. Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook	[]	[]
43. L'Shonenu	[]	[]
44. Numen	[]	[]
45. Orientalia	[]	[]
46. PMLA	[]	[]
47. Proceedings of the AAJR	[]	[]
48. Revue des Etudes Juives	[]	[]
49. Sefarad	[]	[]
50. Sinai	[]	[]
51. Siphrut	[]	[]
52. Slavic Review	[]	[]
53. Speculum	[]	[]
54. Tagim	[]	[]
55. Tarbitz	[]	[]
56. Textus	[]	[]
57. Tsiyon	[]	[]
58. Vetus Testamentum	[]	[]
59. YIVO Annual of Jewish Social Science	[]	[]
60. Other (Please specify)	[]	[]

Who was (is) your dissertation sponsor? (Please print)

In what department did you do (or are you doing) your doctoral work?

Do your interests lie primarily in research or teaching?

61

- 1[] Very heavily in research
- 2[] In both, but leaning toward research
- 3[] In both, but leaning toward teaching
- 4[] Very heavily in teaching

How many books or monographs have you published or edited, alone or in collaboration?

62

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1[] None | 5[] 4 |
| 2[] 1 | 6[] 5-9 |
| 3[] 2 | 7[] 10 or more |
| 4[] 3 | |

How many articles have you published in academic or professional journals?

63

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1[] None | 5[] 11-20 |
| 2[] 1-2 | 6[] 21-30 |
| 3[] 3-4 | 7[] 31-50 |
| 4[] 5-10 | 8[] More than 50 |

How many articles have you published in Jewish communal journals?

64

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1[] None | 5[] 11-20 |
| 2[] 1-2 | 6[] 21-30 |
| 3[] 3-4 | 7[] 31-50 |
| 4[] 5-10 | 8[] More than 50 |

How many of your professional writings have been published or accepted for publication in the last two years?

65-67

	Books	Articles	Other Writings
One	[] 1	[] 1	[] 1
Two	[] 2	[] 2	[] 2
Three	[] 3	[] 3	[] 3
Four	[] 4	[] 4	[] 4
Five	[] 5	[] 5	[] 5
Six-Ten	[] 6	[] 6	[] 6
More than Ten	[] 7	[] 7	[] 7
None	[] 8	[] 8	[] 8

1621

Whose work in your field do you follow most closely? Please name up to three people. Please indicate whether you have a personal contact with each of these people? (Please print)

NAME	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PERSONAL CONTACT	
		1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No

Please tell us the names of up to three people whom you feel to be the most influential in your field. Please indicate whether you have a personal contact with each of these people. (Please print)

NAME	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PERSONAL CONTACT	
		1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No
_____	_____	1 [] Yes	2 [] No

How important to you is the esteem of:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not at all Important
68. The colleagues in your department	[]	[]	[]	[]
69. The membership of the AJS	[]	[]	[]	[]
70. The membership of your disciplinary association	[]	[]	[]	[]
71. The Jewish community	[]	[]	[]	[]
72. Specialists in your field	[]	[]	[]	[]
73. Your dissertation sponsor	[]	[]	[]	[]
74. Other Judaica scholars	[]	[]	[]	[]
	1	2	3	4

III

VALUES AND COMMITMENTS

The statements that follow deal with the moral obligations felt by some Judaica scholars. Please indicate the extent to which these statements reflect your own sense of what you ought to be doing.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
5. Present Judaism in as favorable light as possible	[]	[]	[]	[]
6. Refrain from hurting students' religious sensibilities	[]	[]	[]	[]
7. Present the facts	[]	[]	[]	[]
8. Help Jewish students develop a positive Jewish identity	[]	[]	[]	[]
9. Be objective	[]	[]	[]	[]
10. Promote a love of Judaism	[]	[]	[]	[]
11. Show students the beauty of the Jewish tradition	[]	[]	[]	[]
12. Encourage students to be religious	[]	[]	[]	[]
13. Help younger scholars along in their work and career	[]	[]	[]	[]
14. Make oneself available to the Jewish community as a lecturer or consultant	[]	[]	[]	[]
15. Do research and publish	[]	[]	[]	[]
	1	2	3	4

What are the obligations of an organization of Judaica scholars?
(Check as many as apply)

16. [] Publish a good journal
 17. [] Make kosher food available at annual meetings
 18. [] Support the struggle for Soviet Jewry
 19. [] Take a stand on Israel-Arab relations
 20. [] Encourage universities to make new appointments in Jewish studies
 21. [] Give recognition to significant scholarly achievement in the field
 22. [] Encourage Jewish religious observance
 23. [] Run an employment service
 24. [] Serve as an intellectual resource for the Jewish community
 25. [] Have collective Birkat Hamazon after communal meals

How often have you done the following:

	Never	Only once or twice in my entire career	Occasionally	Frequently	Just about all the time
26. Talked with colleagues about Jewish matters of concern to them	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
27. Lectured to students under Hillel or other Jewish student group sponsorship	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
28. Counseled students on personal problems relating to their Jewishness	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
29. Served on a committee or advised administrators or colleagues on matters relating to the quality or character of Jewish life on campus	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
30. Advised students on sources to assist in their personal Jewish growth and exploration	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
31. Spoken publicly at a university function as a representative of the Jewish community on campus	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Please indicate whom you voted for in each of the last two presidential elections.

32-33

- | 1972 | 1976 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1[] McGovern | 1[] Carter |
| 2[] Nixon | 2[] Ford |
| 3[] "Left" third party | 3[] McCarthy |
| 4[] Other candidate | 4[] Maddox |
| 5[] Not eligible to vote | 5[] "Left" third party |
| 6[] Did not vote | 6[] Other candidate |
| | 7[] Not eligible to vote |
| | 8[] Did not vote |

Would you describe your overall political inclinations as:

34

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1[] Far left | 5[] Somewhat conservative |
| 2[] Very liberal | 6[] Very conservative |
| 3[] Somewhat liberal | 7[] Far right |
| 4[] Moderate | 8[] None of these |

IV

JEWISH BACKGROUND

What sorts of Jewish education did you receive as you were growing up? (Check as many as apply)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 35.[] Sunday School | 40.[] Yeshiva High School |
| 36.[] Private Tutor | 41.[] Hebrew College |
| 37.[] Afternoon Hebrew School | 42.[] Yiddish Elementary School |
| 38.[] Hebrew High School | 43.[] Yiddish Secondary School |
| 39.[] Yeshiva Elementary School | |

44

Were you ordained? 1[] Yes 2[] No

Listed below are a few ritual observances which are primarily observed in the home. Check the observances usually practiced in your parents' home while you were growing up and in your home at the present time.

- | | Parents' Home | Your Home |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| 45. Lighting of candles on Friday night | [] | [] |
| 46. No ham or bacon served at home | [] | [] |
| 47. Use of two sets of dishes for milk and meat products | [] | [] |
| 48. Have or attend a Passover Seder | [] | [] |
| 49. No bread eaten in home on Passover | [] | [] |
| 50. Lighting of Chanukah candles | [] | [] |
| | 1 | 2 |

51 Are you a member of a synagogue? 1[] Yes 2[] No

How frequently do you attend synagogue services? (Check one)

52

1[]	Never	5[]	Once a month
2[]	Just for a Bar Mitzvah and other occasional celebrations	6[]	A few times a month
3[]	Only on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur	7[]	Once a week
4[]	On Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and other holidays	8[]	A few times a week
		9[]	Daily

We have listed here five personal traditional Jewish religious practices. Please indicate whether they were observed by your parents during your childhood and whether you observe them now.

	Observed by your parents during your childhood	Observed by you now
53. Fast on Yom Kippur	[]	[]
54. No meat eaten in non- kosher restaurants	[]	[]
55. No lights turned on and off on the Sabbath	[]	[]
56. Do not handle money on the Sabbath	[]	[]
57. Fast on Ta'anit Esther	[]	[]
	1	2

What denomination Jew do you consider yourself to be?

58

1[]	Non-denominational	5[]	Traditional
2[]	Reconstructionist	6[]	Orthodox
3[]	Reform	7[]	Secularist
4[]	Conservative	8[]	Other _____

V

BIOGRAPHICAL

What is your marital status?

59

1[]	Never married
2[]	Married, living with spouse
3[]	Separated
4[]	Divorced
5[]	Widowed

Do you have children?

- 60
- | | | | |
|------|-------|------|-------------|
| 1[] | None | 5[] | Four |
| 2[] | One | 6[] | Five |
| 3[] | Two | 7[] | Six or more |
| 4[] | Three | | |

- 61 Are you: 1[] Male 2[] Female

62-63 How old are you? _____

What was your father's principal occupation when you were in high school?

- 64-65
- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------|
| 01[] | College or university teaching, research or administration | 08[] | Managerial, administrative |
| 02[] | Rabbi | 09[] | Owner, small business |
| 03[] | Secular elementary or secondary school teaching or administration | 10[] | Other white collar: clerical, retail sales |
| 04[] | Jewish elementary or secondary school teaching or administration | 11[] | Skilled wage worker |
| 05[] | Other professional | 12[] | Semi and unskilled wage worker or farm laborer |
| 06[] | Semiprofessional | 13[] | Armed Services |
| 07[] | Owner, large business | 14[] | Farm owner or manager |
| | | 15[] | Not employed outside the home |

What is your basic institutional salary, before taxes and deductions, for the current academic year?

- 66-67
- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 01[] | Below \$10,000 | 07[] | \$25,000-\$29,999 |
| 02[] | \$10,000-\$11,999 | 08[] | \$30,000-\$34,999 |
| 03[] | \$12,000-\$13,999 | 09[] | \$35,000-\$39,999 |
| 04[] | \$14,000-\$16,999 | 10[] | \$40,000-\$49,999 |
| 05[] | \$17,000-\$19,999 | 11[] | \$50,000 and over |
| 06[] | \$20,000-\$24,999 | | |

In recent years, how much have you earned over and above your basic salary? Please estimate as a percentage of your basic salary.

- 68
- | | | | |
|------|-----------|------|--------------|
| 1[] | 0% | 5[] | 30%-39% |
| 2[] | Under 10% | 6[] | 40%-49% |
| 3[] | 10%-19% | 7[] | 50% and over |
| 4[] | 20%-29% | | |

What was your total family income, before taxes, in calendar year 1978?

- 69
- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|--------------------|
| 1[] | Below \$10,000 | 6[] | \$30,000-\$39,999 |
| 2[] | \$10,000-\$14,999 | 7[] | \$40,000-\$49,999 |
| 3[] | \$15,000-\$19,999 | 8[] | \$50,000-\$99,999 |
| 4[] | \$20,000-\$29,999 | 9[] | \$100,000 and over |
| 5[] | \$25,000-\$29,999 | | |

In what country were:

You born _____

Father born _____

Mother born _____

How many of your grandparents were born in the United States?
(Please check one)

- 70
- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1[] | One |
| 2[] | Two |
| 3[] | Three |
| 4[] | Four |

80/3



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND HELP. PLEASE RETURN THIS IN THE MAIL AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN.

April 10, 1979

Dr. Harry L. Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd St.
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

If we can provide a challenge grant to the Association For The Sociological Study of Jewry of half the amount they request I think it would be a nice thing. Certainly, we could find \$1500 a year for three years in our grants budget. These are all men who have worked closely with us and they represent people who are often consulted by the communities. I think it would be a plus and we could show them off at G. A.

The JWB Book Annual is another matter. Why should JWB get all kinds of credit and not foot the full bill? I am also not convinced about the ongoing significance of this project. That is another matter.

On the ^{Ritterband}~~Robenstein~~ material, I have such feelings about the man that I do not want to get started with him. The kind of information that he asks for is narrow and would be of little use for our purposes. I do not think you have to pay any attention to the study.

Finally, yes, I have seen the AJS News Letter. It might be interesting to have this material xeroxed and available for our meeting in June.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

490-2280

THIS LETTER ALSO SENT TO DR. STEVEN M. COHEN

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

April 30, 1979

Dr. Samuel Z. Klausner
Editor
Professor of Sociology
University of Pennsylvania
3718 Locust Walk/CR
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Sam:

Rabbi Silver and I have discussed your letter to him of March 27th regarding a grant from this Foundation to the Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry. We are mindful of the growth and development of the Association as well as of the accomplishments through its Conferences and the publication of Contemporary Jewry. We would very much like to be helpful to the Association but we are faced with severely limited financial resources.

Would it be helpful to you if the National Foundation for Jewish Culture would provide you with a challenge grant of \$1500 a year for a three-year period with the understanding that the Association would match this grant with a similar amount from other sources? I believe we could undertake such a program if it would accomplish the purposes you have in mind. We shall look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Harry I. Barron
Executive Director

HIB:bg

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

April 30, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

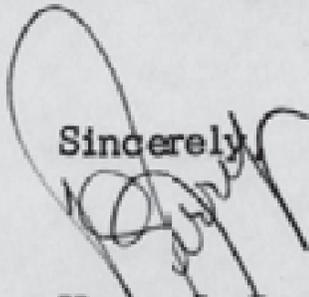
Perhaps you know that a Festschrift honoring Joe Blau has been in the making for some time now and the editor, Maurice Wohlgelemer, came to see me the other day to ask whether there was some way in which we could be helpful to them.

It seems that Columbia University Press which will be publishing the volume is holding up the works pending receipt of a subsidy of \$7000. The group has now raised about half of this amount and is desperately trying to find the rest as quickly as possible, hoping to get the volume published while Joe is still alive. As you know, he has had several major operations and the prognosis is not very bright. I have given Wohlgelemer a number of suggestions but I am wondering whether we couldn't find something like \$1000-\$1500 for this volume. As you will see from the enclosed Table of Contents, there are a number of interesting essays that should prove to be worthwhile contributions. It certainly compares very favorably with the latest issue of the AJS Review to which we contributed \$10,000.

It would certainly seem to me that this kind of expenditure as well as the idea of a challenge grant of \$1500 for the Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry could offset one of our smaller doctoral dissertation grants.

Do let me have your thinking on this at your early opportunity.
Warm regards.

Sincerely,


Harry I. Barron
Executive Director

HIB:bg
encls.

[with Apr 30, 1979]

i

HISTORY, RELIGION, and SPIRITUAL DEMOCRACY

ESSAYS IN HONOR OF JOSEPH L. BLAU

MAURICE WOHLGELERNTER



James A. Martin, Jr.

David R. Blumenthal

Peter Hare

Howard Radest

Co-Editors

[Apr 30, 1979]

ii

For

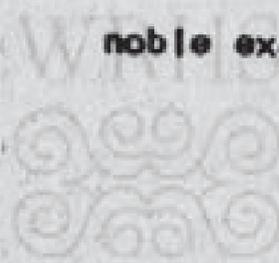
JOSEPH L. BLAU

colleague, teacher, friend

who unified, clarified and revealed

and who always set for us a

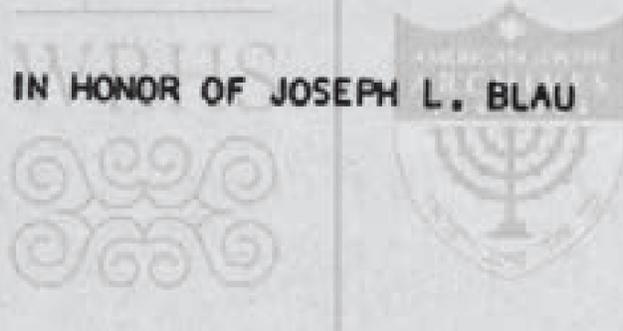
noble example



[with Apr 30, 1979]

HISTORY, RELIGION, and SPIRITUAL DEMOCRACY

ESSAYS IN HONOR OF JOSEPH L. BLAU



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Editors wish to extend ^{their} deepest thanks to the following, who, through their heartwarming generosity, have made the publication of this volume possible:

Professor and Mrs. Salo W. Baron

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Dulberg

Mr. Bernard Goldstein

Dr. Corliss Lamont

Mr. H.R. Shepherd

Ms. Corinne Weslock

Dr. Viola D. Weslock

Wurzweiler Foundation:

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, Chairman

Mr. Fred Grubel, Executive Secretary

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Preface

This jubilee volume is a labor of love. Wishing to express their love, a group of former teachers, colleagues and students of Joseph L. Blau felt that the written word would best reveal and confirm it. Hence, what all the participants in this volume have to say--each one uniquely expressing thoughts inspired in some tangible way by their celebrant--is the very committed and permanent expression of that love.

Furthermore, the participants--especially the editors--were motivated to publish this Festschrift for yet another reason. Reviewing Professor Blau's three decades and some at Columbia University prior to his recent retirement, they concluded, as did other editors on another occasion, that "too often, distinguished academic careers pass virtually unnoticed into the waves of time. Ironically, the fault--if that word can be used--is the professor's: he performs his duties so well for so long that consistent excellence is taken for granted." The editors of this Festschrift simply refused to take that excellence for granted. Always aware that, in the life of a man, especially an academician, there can be no more painful, nay, frightening, moment than when, after a long and distinguished career, he finally walks out of the halls of his university for the last time, too often unsung, unheralded and unaccompanied by either students or colleagues, much less teachers, and thus terribly alone, the editors intend this volume to serve as a reminder to this scholar that his splendid accomplishments have not been "washed away by the waves of time." On the contrary, they are lastingly recorded here so that he need never again feel the particular loneliness that often takes over the end of a distinguished academic career.

In fact, the idea of publishing this volume occurred at the very moment of Dr. Blau's greatest loneliness. When, in the summer of 1977, he underwent major surgery and was, naturally, deeply perturbed about its outcome, we thought that nothing could possibly add as much encouragement to his recovery as a jubilee collection, a promising reminder that all of us do indeed care. Whether this decision added anything to his subsequent recovery can hardly be argued with any certainty. What is, however, certain is that it helped immeasurably in persuading him that, because others, too, shared his anxieties, he was not--nor need ever be--starkly alone.

Soon after that difficult summer, a small group--James A. Martin, Jr., David R. Blumenthal, Peter Hare, Howard Radest and I--met to refine the plan and content of this work. Together, we confirmed three basic decisions. First, the volume would be so arranged that each of the sections would reflect, in some measure, the four major areas of Blau's scholarly concern: the philosophy of religion, the history and philosophy of Judaism, American philosophy and social philosophy. Second, toward that end, each section editor would, after receiving articles from former students and colleagues of Dr. Blau, assume the responsibility for reading and editing them and preparing them for final publication. In addition, each editor would then contribute a brief introduction to his section, describing the nature of its content and its relation to the general theme of the Festschrift. Third, on completing his own assignment, each editor would then read and comment on the other sections. In that way, the co-editors would, in part, share in the general editing of the entire volume, thus insuring that, whenever possible, each section would somehow be connected to every other.

That these assignments were, for the most part, executed as planned

[with Apr 30, 1979]

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is due, in no small part, to the diligence, determination and dedication of the co-editors. They labored long to cooperate with each other and with me to maintain always a sort of unity in our diversity. Since all but one resides away from New York City, the group had to travel considerable distances to attend editorial meetings, helping, thereby, to resolve some of the myriad details that usually accompany the publication of such Festschriften. This work, then, is, in many ways, the coordinate result of their sterling efforts.

It will not, of course, escape the attention of the reader that what links, interestingly, the work of the co-editors and their respective participants is not only the occasion of this celebration but also the dream that pervaded all of Dr. Blau's life: the uniting of people of totally different training and differing temperaments to work harmoniously toward a specific goal. The fruitful joining together of this disparate group of widely representative writers and thinkers--a humanist, a Catholic priest, a Presbyterian deacon, an orthodox rabbi, an ethical culturist to name but a few--is, therefore, as much a celebration of Blau the cultural ecumenist as Blau the man. And this may be, ultimately, the greatest tribute to his work in, among other areas, the philosophy of religion.

As editor-in-chief, I assumed, at the very outset, the responsibility for planning the nature of the entire volume, for coordinating the efforts of the co-editors, for writing the general introduction--a brief study of Blau's major intellectual interests--and, finally, for seeing the entire work through the various stages of editing, production and publication. Though this editorship demanded interminable hours and an unending preoccupation with nettlesome minutiae, I was fortunate in being able to lean, when necessary,

on my co-editors, whose active support and, above all, warm friendship made of this at times seemingly impossible project a genuine labor of love. And were it not, also, for the meticulous attention given to the typing and final copy editing of the completed manuscript by Sam DeKay, Secretary of our Editorial Committee, this volume might never have been submitted on schedule, a schedule demanding publication in Fall 1979, to coincide appropriately with the celebrant's seventieth birthday.

The editing of this book has placed me under many happy obligations. I am particularly grateful to all the contributors who answered our requests for their essays, comments and reflections with avidity and alacrity.

Professor and Mrs. Solo W. Baron were especially helpful in many ways during every stage of the book's progress.

Eliseo Vivas, Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, Northwestern University; Elie Wiesel,

Further, I am indebted to my colleagues at Baruch College, City University of New York, Emile Capouya, Edward M. Potoker, (Grace Schulman) and Michael Schwartzman, who carefully read my Introduction amid their own pressing work, giving me the advantage of their criticism and encouragement.

Frederick M. Keener

Professor of English, Hofstra University

I offer warmest thanks to Louis Levy, Acting Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, whose concern and assistance have always been a source of inspiration to me. To my trusted friend Andrew Lavender, Chairman, Department of English, for giving every draft of everything I write detailed and affectionate readings--he is, in fact, my unnamed co-author--and for his abiding concern for my welfare, I owe him more than I can every hope to express.

For encouragement and other aid, I am very grateful to a number of colleagues and friends--Philip Austin, William F. Bernhardt, Jane Galloway, (Gerald Green) Matthew Goldstein, Robert McDermott and Michael Wyszogrod. My greatest

[with Apr 30, 1979]
x

Inspiration remains, as always, my revered teacher and spiritual guide, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik. I am also very mindful of the generous help and counsel granted to me by my friend and colleague Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein.

~~I am indebted to several other, unnamed, individuals who have helped me in various ways.~~

To my wife, Esther, and to our children, Debra, Elli and Beth, I am forever indebted for their love, abiding faith, and for their prayerful hopes for the future.

Eleanor Blau, for reasons too numerous to mention, most certainly deserves to share in this celebration.

The final sentence of this brief Preface, however, is reserved for Joseph L. Blau himself, to whom this book is dedicated with love, a love meant to echo that recorded at the close of his own Preface to Judaism in America: "In a sense, then, my students are my unnamed co-authors. To all of them, past and present, I dedicate this work with love."

M.W.

Baruch College
of the
City University of New York
December 20, 1978

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS



562 West 113th Street New York, N.Y. 10025 Cable Address Cupress

March 5, 1979

Professor Maurice Wohlgelernter
Department of English
Baruch College, CUNY
17 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10010

Re: History, Religion and Spiritual Democracy

Dear Maurice:

Now that the final manuscript for the Blau Festschrift has been turned over to the Press we shall joyfully proceed to edit it as soon as it can be fitted into our schedule. We will be unable, however, to send the manuscript to the printer for typesetting until we have received the subsidy called for by the contract, \$7,000. The manufacturing estimate, by the way, suggests that the book will run to about 464 pages, instead of the 300 to 400 we had discussed. If you can trim anything we would appreciate your doing so, because even with the subsidy we face pricing problems.

I know you are as anxious as we are to see the publication of this work, and I hope we can all look forward to the speedy conclusion of the financial arrangements so that work on the book can be completed without delay.

Sincerely,

John D. Moore
Editor in Chief

JDM/dr

cc: William F. Bernhardt

May 3, 1979

Dr. Harry I. Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

I don't think we ought to plunge ahead with the Festschrift honoring Joe Blau without some overall policy. It will not be an indispensable tool for Jewish scholars. How will we turn down the next such request that comes down the pike? Joe is a nice fellow, but Columbia and his students ought to care enough about him to see that it is developed. My vote would be no. Incidentally, I disagree that it compares favorably with the latest issue of the AJS Review, which is not saying much for either publication.

As always,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

May 16, 1979

Dr. Harry L Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd St.
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

I am sure you have seen the letter Michael Meyer sent me. I would like a memo of your discussions with him on JCA. Did you discourage him or was he simply unwilling to walk this path? My feeling is that we ought not to undertake any further funding of the AJS Review. Most endowment grants are for a limited time and then the institution must find ways to up the cost. My answer to Mike Meyer is enclosed.

Where are we as far as monies that will be spent next year?

As always,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

Encl.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

May 21, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, O. 44106

Dear Dan:

I am sorry I missed your return call on Friday. I had to be out of the office for a few minutes at just that time.

The primary purpose of this letter is to review with you some of the thinking I have been doing, at Harry's request, on the conferences we had talked about. Harry has had discussions with a number of people in the fields of community organization, Jewish Education, etc. who would know the job situation and prospects for academics, and there is nothing he has learned that gives cause for optimism. It appears that there is little in a young Ph.D.'s training which qualifies him for any Jewish communal position unless he or she first obtains some specific professional preparation. In addition, there has been very little thinking about the numbers of job openings likely to develop in any particular field over the next few years.

Based on this information, I am suggesting the following scenario on which I would like your comments. I propose we get in touch with Eli Ginzberg at Columbia who I think you know is one of the leading manpower experts in this country, to see if he can suggest anything based on his knowledge of how to proceed in this specific area. At the same time, we would begin preparing for a major national conference, to be held in June, 1980 on "Planning in the Field of Jewish Scholarship". At this conference which might be one or two days, the following subjects could be discussed:

- 1) Manpower - supply and demand;
- 2) Imbalances among the various disciplines in Jewish Studies;
- 3) Establishing support priorities for funding organizations;
- 4) Integrating Judaic Studies and General Humanities;
- 5) The Jewish community and Judaic Studies - mutual obligations;
- 6) Creating new opportunities for Jewish scholarship.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver

-2-

May 21, 1979

In order to plan for this conference I suggest that we hold a planning meeting of such individuals as Meyer and Fox, Eli Ginzberg, and others who might contribute to this session to provide a concrete format and select those who will participate in the later conference. I think that based on this planning meeting and our conferences with Eli Ginzberg you will have the basis of a report to our Board, while the conference itself will provide an opportunity for elaboration on a host of related areas, public exposure, and participation by our lay leadership.

Though Harry knows in general what I have been thinking I thought it would be good for me to solicit your comments prior to solidifying this into a concrete proposal and plan.

AA:bg



Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Abraham Atik", is written over a faint, circular official seal or stamp.

Abraham Atik
Assistant Director

Remanaged
PLOYER BOND

May 31, 1979

Mr. Abraham Atik
Assistant Director
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Abe:

This will simply acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 11. We talked over most of the issues over the telephone. I have not heard from you on a date for the meeting we contemplate.

I would only add that I do not want another study to emerge.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp



HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
Cincinnati • New York • Los Angeles • Jerusalem

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Office of the Dean

3101 CLIFTON AVENUE • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220
(513) 221-1875

March 9, 1979

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
Congregation Tifereth Israel
The Temple
University Circle and Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Danny:

I have just spoken on the phone to Harry Barron to inform him that because something of an emergency just came up this very morning, I have to cancel my trip to New York for the meeting of the Fellowship Committee at the National Foundation.

I am very distressed at having to make this decision, but there is just no way I can be away from the College on April 2. Believe me that I was looking forward to the meeting with the greatest anticipation at finally having a chance to be involved with the Foundation. Thanks to your effort this almost became a reality. And now due to circumstances quite beyond my control, I can't make it.

It is difficult for me to find suitable words to apologize for having to cancel out so late in the day. Let me be so forward nonetheless to hope that you won't hold this against me and that next year, God willing, no similar emergency will arise and I will be able to participate. (I had already sent in my grade sheets on the applications that had been sent to me, and some of them were very impressive. It was good to see how many first rate young people are coming along in some of our fields.)

All good wishes. Forgive me.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Paper

HHP:rmn

May 21, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, O. 44106

Dear Dan:

I am sorry I missed your return call on Friday. I had to be out of the office for a few minutes at just that time.

The primary purpose of this letter is to review with you some of the thinking I have been doing, at Harry's request, on the conferences we had talked about. Harry has had discussions with a number of people in the fields of community organization, Jewish Education, etc. who would know the job situation and prospects for academics, and there is nothing he has learned that gives cause for optimism. It appears that there is little in a young Ph.D.'s training which qualifies him for any Jewish communal position unless he or she first obtains some specific professional preparation. In addition, there has been very little thinking about the numbers of job openings likely to develop in any particular field over the next few years.

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- 4) Integrating Judaic Studies and General Humanities;
- 5) The Jewish community and Judaic Studies - mutual obligations;
- 6) Creating new opportunities for Jewish scholarship.

M. J. Silver
The Temple

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver

-2-

May 21, 1979

In order to plan for this conference I suggest that we hold a planning meeting of such individuals as Meyer and Fox, Eli Ginzberg, and others who might contribute to this session to provide a concrete format and select those who will participate in the later conference. I think that based on this planning meeting and our conferences with Eli Ginzberg you will have the basis of a report to our Board, while the conference itself will provide an opportunity for elaboration on a host of related areas, public exposure, and participation by our lay leadership.

Though Harry knows in general what I have been thinking I thought it would be good for me to solicit your comments prior to solidifying this into a concrete proposal and plan.

AA:bg



Cordially,

Abraham Atik
Assistant Director

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

President

Michael A. Meyer
Hebrew Union College —
Jewish Institute of Religion

Vice-Presidents

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Brandeis University

Editor, AJS Newsletter

Arnold J. Band
University of California
Los Angeles

Executive Secretary

Charles Berlin
Harvard University
Widener Library M
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
617-495-2985

May 10, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jereny Silver
The Temple
University Circle & Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

For a number of months now I have been concerned with securing the financial position of the Association for Jewish Studies. As you know, I have especially sought to put the AJSreview on a firm basis, lest the scholarly annual, which has already made a marked contribution, be imperiled when the current National Foundation for Jewish Culture grant expires with the publication of volume 5.

My conversations with yourself and Harry Barron have as yet borne no fruit. After exploring the possibility of AJS membership in the Joint Cultural Appeal, I have become convinced that, given its current structure, the JCA is most unlikely to vote for the inclusion of a new member, which would mean reducing the share of the present beneficiaries. In addition, it may in fact be more appropriate for the AJS, as an academic rather than a cultural organization, to remain outside the JCA.

The best path to follow, therefore, seems to be to request that the National Foundation make an ongoing commitment to the AJSreview. I believe that the catholicity of our publication, representing as it does all disciplines in the area of Jewish studies, gives it an unusual status unlike that of more specialized journals. At the same time, the AJS does not possess an endowment, as do some other Jewish scholarly bodies, and cannot hope to support the Review from its own funds without raising membership dues to prohibitive levels. The long standing and fundamental interest of the National Foundation in the advancement of Jewish studies in American institutions of higher learning makes it the most logical source for ongoing funding.

May I therefore hereby request officially that the National Foundation for Jewish Culture commit itself to ongoing financial support of the AJSreview on the basis of actual costs incurred,

[May 10, 1979]

-2-

subject, of course, to periodic reviews. While I do not want to appear importunate, and while I am aware of the other demands upon the funds of the National Foundation, the responsibilities of my office and my own commitment to the future of AJS publication activity require that I be able to assure the Board of Directors of the AJS with regard to the financing of our AJSreview when it meets again this December. I would therefore be most grateful if a decision could be reached as soon as proper procedure will allow.

I am writing this letter to you, Dan, because of your commitment to the AJS, our long standing personal relationship, and your active role in the work of the National Foundation. Please feel free to share its contents with all who are relevant to the decision making process. I hope I may look forward to a response in the very near future.

Warmest personal regards.

Cordially,

Mike

Michael A. Meyer

MAM:nc

cc: Dr. Harry I. Barron
Dr. Nahum M. Sarna
Dr. Frank Talmage
Dr. Charles Berlin



May 16, 1979

Rabbi Michael A. Meyer
Hebrew Union College -
Jewish Institute of Religion
3101 Clifton Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220

Dear Mike:

I am in receipt of your letter of May 10 and will take up the matter with the powers that be at the Foundation. I am not a prophet but I would doubt that the Foundation would want to undertake a permanent commitment of this type. The purpose of endowment monies is to stimulate new activity and then for the organization responsible to find appropriate ways of maintaining a project if it has proven its worth.

Please do not take this as the final answer. It is written in friendship and it is my feeling that you ought to be canvassing many other ways of ~~supporting~~ the Review.

As always,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

July 12, 1979

Dr. Harry Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

It was a long meeting but I think it achieved what needed to be done, at least in respect to the matters I brought up. We ought to make the routine plans to send out the fellowship announcements as we do each year. I will expect to receive from Abe a detailed outline of his proposal for the Conference which I will then look over and respond to. I would hope to receive this document by the 22nd of the month. I am enclosing a copy of the letter I sent Mike Meyer to bring you up-to-date.

My expenses to New York were \$160.00. See you soon.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

Encl.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE
122 EAST 42ND STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017 • 490-2280

(SEE ATTACHED LIST OF THOSE TO WHOM THIS LETTER WAS SENT)

MEMORANDUM

COPY

June 12, 1979

To:

From: Harry I. Barron, Executive Director

Subject: Consultation on Judaic Scholars' Employment Crisis

In the course of our work with the scholarly community we have become increasingly aware of a problem which we believe has important implications for the Jewish community and concerning which we are seeking your counsel. Simply put, a significant number of doctoral students in Jewish Studies will not be able to find academic positions because of demographic realities and budgetary cutbacks. By the nature of their training, these individuals represent a reservoir of talent of both analytic skills and Judaic knowledge which we feel the Jewish community can ill afford to lose.

In order to develop some possible steps to deal with this situation we are inviting a small number of key organization heads to meet with us on June 26, 1979, at 11 a.m. at our offices. In addition to getting a brief presentation of the dimensions of the problem, the session will attempt to explore what the field of Jewish communal service, working in partnership with the scholarly community, might be able to do to meet this challenge.

We do hope that you, or a member of your staff you might wish to designate, will join us at this meeting. Return of the enclosed card indicating your attendance will be much appreciated.

enc.

COPY

THE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO:

<u>EXECUTIVE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Dr. Shimon Frost, EVP	American Association for Jewish Education 114 Fifth Avenue, NYC 10011
Bertram H. Gold, EVP	American Jewish Committee 165 E. 56th St., NYC 10022
Rabbi Henry Slegman, ED	American Jewish Congress 15 East 84th St., NYC 10028
Nathan Perelmutter, Nat.D.	Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith 345 East 46th St., NYC 10017
Dr. Daniel Thursz, EVP	B'nai B'rith 1640 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036
Rabbi Oscar Groner, Dir.	B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations 1640 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Wash., DC 20036
Philip Bernstein, EVP	Council of Jewish Federations & Welfare Funds 575 Lexington Avenue, NYC 10022
Ms. Aline Kaplan, ED	Hadassah 50 West 58th St., NYC 10019
Mrs. Marjorie N. Cohen, ED	National Council of Jewish Women 15 East 26th St., NYC 10010
Albert D. Chernin, EVC	National Jewish Comm. Relations Advisory Council 55 West 42nd St., NYC 10036
Arthur Rotman, EVP	National Jewish Welfare Board 15 East 26th St., NYC 10010
Matthew Penn, ED	Conference on Jewish Communal Service 15 East 26th St., NYC 10010

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

This letter also sent to: Dr. Milton Konvitz, Cornell University,
PO Box 1000, Ithaca, NY 14853

Similar note sent by HIB to Baruch Levine & M. Herzog

June 13, 1979

COPY

Dr. Jerry Hochbaum, Associate Executive Director
Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture
15 East 26th St.
New York, NY 10010

Dear Jerry:

You will recall that some time ago we reviewed the findings of the survey conducted by the Association for Jewish Studies of its members with particular regard to the numbers of doctorates being produced in the field of Jewish Studies. Concern was expressed about the employment possibilities of people who will be completing their studies at a time of shrinking enrollments and budgetary cutbacks. (Minutes of that meeting are enclosed.)

You will note that the National Foundation was asked to review with other communal organizations the potential for absorbing some of these scholars into the Jewish communal professions. Following discussions with some of these organizations, we have scheduled a meeting on this matter, for the purposes of joint consultation, to take place on Tuesday, June 26, 1979 at 11:00 at the NFJC office.

We do hope you will be able to join us at that meeting and will indicate your plans on the response card.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Abraham Arik
Assistant Executive Director

aa/dbs
enc

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

1) College of Jewish Studies

2) Yeshiva

3) Leonard Day

4) Yeshiva

Ed -

MEMORANDUM

June 18, 1979

To: Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver

From: Abraham Atik

Subject: June 26, 1979 meeting

In preparation for the meeting next week I am sending you a copy of the memorandum that was sent out inviting participation at this session and a list of those invited to attend. We expect to have a clearer idea of the attendance in the next few days.

As the memorandum indicated, this meeting is meant to elicit ideas for further consideration rather than as a forum in which specific proposals will be put forward. The way I see it you will chair the meeting, giving a short background statement on the Foundation's involvement with Jewish Studies and the particular role that Jewish Studies does and can play in the American Jewish community. Mike Meyer will provide a description of the scope of the problem and of the special skills those who work for their doctorates possess which make them an asset to the Jewish community. Mike should also stress that students could be guided into seeking additional training in specific areas if that is required to make them more suitable candidates for the various Jewish professions.

The comments of the group might then be solicited by you as chairman. These comments might be specific, in terms of projections of manpower requirements in individual fields, and of the type of training that might be required for these fields; practical, such as the dissemination of lists of job openings to the academics through the Association of Jewish Studies, and the centralized circulation of selected resumes of academics through the AJS and the Foundation; and longer range, such as setting up a task force to find innovative ways to utilize young scholars in the community.

It is difficult to determine how long the meeting will actually take, although I don't think this part of it will take more than one and one-half or two hours. We might want to consider inviting some of those attending to remain and discuss the possibilities of a conference such as I described to you in my recent letter.

I look forward to seeing you next week.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

Office of the President

MEMORANDUM

June 26, 1979

To: Members of the Executive Committee

From: Amos Comay

I am calling a meeting of the Executive Committee for Wednesday, July 11th, 2:45 p.m., in the Foundation's office.

We shall receive reports from several committees that will have met beforehand and have recommendations requiring our action on behalf of the Foundation.

We shall then proceed as the Search Committee under the chairmanship of Mike Zeltzer to consider steps for selecting a successor to Dr. Barron when he retires next June.

It is important to have the benefit of your participation, and I hope therefore that you will let me know on the enclosed reply card that you plan to attend.

Kind regards.

enc

June 27, 1979 .

Dr. Harry Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 E. 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

I thought the meeting took us about as far as we can go and I was very pleased with the spirit of cooperation by everyone who attended. I wonder if you would drop a short note to each of these people expressing my thanks for their time and interest.

I have put the date of July 11 on the calendar and will plan to make a presentation to the Board on a number of matters:

- 1) The half support of the AJS Review.
- 2) Continuation of the grants program.
- 3) Our review of ~~manpower~~ issues.

My expenses to New York were \$160. It was good seeing you. Next time let's have a drink and talk.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

July 13, 1979

Rabbi Michael A. Meyer
Hebrew Union College -
Jewish Institute of Religion
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220

Dear Mike:

The Executive Committee of the Foundation met yesterday. It included a long discussion of your letter to me requesting funds for the AJS Review. Unofficially, I can tell you that the Executive Committee will recommend to the full Board in the Fall that a six thousand dollar grant be made for a period of three years (not five) beyond the five years to which we originally committed ourselves. They also will recommend that this be a terminal grant. It was assumed that by the time the eighth volume is published the Association will have found ways of funding the Review. Needless to say, I am pleased by this action.

Harry or Abe can bring you up-to-date on our long discussion about a Conference on the manpower issue. The Board voted to continue the current rate of funding for fellowships and scholarships until all of us have had a chance to look more deeply into the problem and come up with alternatives - if these are needed.

I am confident that the Association will cooperate closely with the Foundation in this matter. The decision on the Review, of course, is not final until passed by the full Board. Please recognize this information is preliminary.

I trust this finds you in good health.

As always,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

July 17, 1979

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

Thank you for your note of July 12th. I am glad you felt that the Executive Committee meeting accomplished what needed to be done. I am a little less sanguine on that score but we did get some things in the works ...

While we didn't get approval of the full commitment that we were seeking for the AJS review I think there is enough latitude to give them some help and yet motivate them to find some additional assistance elsewhere.

The copy of your letter to Mike Meyer which you enclosed is obviously not the right one. What you sent was your letter to him of May 16th. What we would like to have is your recent response to his letter to you of June 27th.

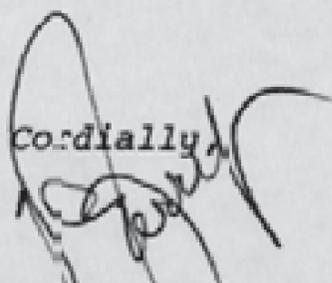
We are way ahead of you on sending out the fellowship announcements. They went out July 3rd.

We need to make some new appointments to the Academic Advisory Council. At least the following should be replaced: Blau, Herzog, Sachar and Talmage. In addition, Baruch Levine will be on sabbatical next year and Talmage, who was to have worked with us this year, was away all year so that theoretically he could be given another year. Also, Brandwein did no grading this year, nor did Kravitz (both were out of the country).

On the matter of the Conference, I'm not sure that Abe can put together the material you want by July 22nd. Besides, we have a complication that we need to talk over with you on the phone. I tried to reach you this morning but could not get you at the Temple, the branch or your home.

The enclosed check is as per your statement of expenses. Best regards.

Cordially,


Harry I. Barron
Executive Director

hib/dbs
enc

July 20, 1979

Dr. Harry I. Barron
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Harry:

Here is a copy of my letter of July 13 to Mike Meyer. We did get all that I asked for as far as AJS Review is concerned.

On the matter of the staff of the Academic Advisory Council, Brandwein and Kravitz will both be back in the country this year and I would keep Baruch Levine on. Obviously, we need a philosopher, an historian, someone in rabbinics and a Hebraist. What suggestions do you have?

By the way, I will not be available for grading but I would like to delay the Council meeting to the first week in May so that I can be present.

I do want the material on the conference to move along so whatever you have to talk to me about, pick up the phone.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp
Encl.

August 14, 1979

Mr. Michael Zeltzer
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mike:

I will not be able to attend the breakfast meeting of the Search Committee on Friday, September 14. It comes at a rabbi's busy period and I am moving towards leaving the country on the third of October for an eight-month sabbatical.

Because I will be out of the country until May, I will not be able to participate in the meetings of the Search Committee. I regret that. Eight years as President of the Foundation and at least a dozen as head of the Academic Advisory Council have given me a pretty good sense of the organization and, of course, great love for it. It is my feeling that the Search Committee has bitten off too much. On general principles I dislike personnel committees which broaden their focus so that they, in a sense, reshape the whole agenda of an organization.

I have another concern. I think Abe Atik is a competent man and that it would be a tragedy if the Foundation lost both its top officers in the course of a year. I have always found Abe thorough and full of ideas. Given his head I think he would provide the Foundation sound and effective leadership. What concerns me is that along the way he will become so discouraged that he will look elsewhere and we will be left adrift.

The National Foundation needs somebody who has a vision larger than that of social work or of the Federation field, and a competence in cultural scholarly matters which most MSW's do not possess. It would be wrong to bring in somebody who might look towards a future in Federation or national agency work rather than look on this job as the culmination of his career.

[Aug 14, 1979]

Please excuse me for having expressed my feelings in this way but no other is available to me. I wish you all good luck with your work. Know that you can count on me always for support.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp



ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

SEP 24 1979

Executive Secretary

Charles Berlin
Harvard University
Widener Library M
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
617-495-2985

September 17, 1979

President

Michael A. Meyer
Hebrew Union College —
Jewish Institute of Religion

Vice-Presidents

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Emory University

Jane S. Gerber
Graduate Center
City University of New York

Frank Talmage
University of Toronto

Secretary-Treasurer

Nahum M. Sarna
Brandeis University

Editor, AJS Newsletter

Arnold J. Band
University of California
Los Angeles

Mr. Abraham Atik, Assistant Director
National Foundation for Jewish Culture
122 E. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Abe:

I shall regard your letter as personal and confidential and therefore will not share it with my colleagues of the AJS Executive Committee. However, my reply must therefore also be personal and any organizational commitment would have to come only after collective deliberation.

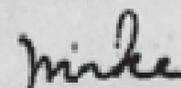
Your proposal raises a host of questions. I can only briefly indicate some of them here.

1. Who would be invited to such a colloquium? Who would find it worthwhile to come? There are not a great many schools entering into Jewish studies planning at this time. For those that are, we are establishing within the AJS a special consultation committee.
2. What would be the main purpose of such a gathering? What outcome is desired? The outline only lists topics. What prompts going over some of these subjects again?
3. What I do see as worthwhile is trying to get Federation leaders together in order to sell them on scholars-in-residence for their communities. But this I suppose is best done at a session during the Council of Federations annual convention.

In short, I don't see ^{making} ~~the~~ Conference which is so broad and undirected that it serves no practical function and only goes over old ground or duplicates what we are doing through the AJS Jobs Symposium and the meeting of representatives of graduate programs. It is in establishing a shiduch with Jewish communities around the country where I believe the NFJC can be most helpful. My personal feeling is that effort should be concentrated on that endeavor.

All good wishes for the New Year.

Cordially,



Michael A. Meyer

MAM: eg

(Sept 25, 1979)



Memo

FROM
ABRAHAM ATIK

Dear,

Enclosed in the letter I received from ~~And~~ ~~Smith~~ ~~Smith~~ is a draft of a possible response. It is mild, because I want to keep it pleasant and non-abrasive. I'll talk with you soon.

1233-1 7216-1145

Atk.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

DRAFT

September 25, 1979

Dr. Michael A. Meyer
HUC-JIR
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220

Dear Mike:

You will be reading this letter following your return from Prague and I certainly do hope your trip was successful and that you fulfilled all your expectations.

I am responding to your letter of September 17, 1979 in which you addressed some of the ideas I described to you regarding a conference on planning for Jewish Studies. I know your letter was written in a friendly and constructive spirit, but it does raise issues regarding the Foundation's role in its relationship with Jewish Studies. Though the questions you raise about the conference certainly have validity and need to be thought through in more detail before any practical steps are undertaken, perhaps a few comments on the central issues of the Foundation's responsibility might be useful in thinking further about this project.

The Foundation does not see itself merely as an organization for funding Jewish Studies. Nor does it see itself merely as an arm of the organized Jewish community to meet those needs in Jewish Studies the federations consider of greatest concern. Rather, the Foundation attempts to help define and address concerns which are of importance both to the scholarly and the organized communities, particularly when these concerns coincide.

I do not think that the Foundation can be asked merely to help seek more positions for those receiving their doctorates or to augment salaries of those already teaching through encouraging scholars-in-residence programs. I think that if rational communal decisions are going to be made in regard to Jewish Studies the communities need to know what is happening in that field, how Jewish Studies respond to community need, what kind of planning is taking place within the field that is directed toward the problems that are emerging, and what the communities continuing involvement ought to be, and it is the Foundation's responsibility to help find the answers to these questions.

I think a conference in which representatives of the field of Jewish Studies and community representatives are brought together by the Foundation to look in a comprehensive way at the field is something that ultimately needs to take place, and I think that because of the emerging manpower crisis this should take place sooner rather than later. That some of the issues a conference of this nature will deal with have been discussed in other settings does not take away the need to discuss these issues as they relate to each other. The objectives of such a conference would be to establish a framework, an agenda for the future, through which needs of both the

September 25, 1979

community and the scholarly world can be addressed. I would expect the results of such a conference to go beyond the promotion of scholars-in-residence in federated communities. It would raise such issues as: What are the reasonable expectations for support from community agencies of Jewish Studies programming? How shall the community relate the financing of the teacher-training colleges to what is happening in the universities? Can the needs of the community for trained personnel be conveyed to the academic world, and can it respond to help fill those needs? What can and should the community do now to assist in ameliorating the difficult problems that are emerging in regard to the great numbers of students completing their doctorates?

This is not to say that the questions you raise in your letter do not need to be thought through and that the final outline of a conference might be far different from what I had initially conceived. Further discussion assuredly needs to bring the issues into a sharper focus and to seek a manageable format for their discussion. What I am questioning is the possible placement of the Foundation in a role which is peripheral and as an adjunct in the defining of the central issues in this field. We ourselves have no such limited conception of our role nor do we think our record would support this definition. Surely our support of the Association's activities and of other scholarly efforts does not lend credence to this view of the Foundation. It is due to these factors that we were surprised at not being invited to take part in any way in your jobs symposium.

Certainly we wish to maintain a close relationship to the professional association of Jewish academics, the AJS, and I think our previous support and the steps we are contemplating for the future demonstrate this desire. We are sure that this relationship is one of mutual respect of our individual roles and programs, and I am sure that our two organizations, as well as the others which might have an impact on this field, will work together closely in the future.

I am sure you know that I wish you and your family a good, peaceful and creative New Year.

Cordially,

Abraham Atik
Assistant Director

AA:bg

September 28, 1979

Mr. Abraham Atik
National Foundation For Jewish Culture
122 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Abe:

The letter is fine. I would simply drop the last two sentences of paragraph 1, page 2, beginning, since our support. . . and include some such thought as this:

Frankly, I am surprised that you have reversed the position taken during our meeting in the spring where the proposal for a broad conference was thoroughly discussed. You seem desirous to limit discussion to an AJS forum which is, from my point of view, professionally limited and necessarily self-serving. I am surprised that the Foundation was not involved in the planning of the December conference. If you rush ahead too fast and too far you run the danger of running away from helpful sources of support who may decide to channel their funds in other directions. There is no mandate that the Foundation must support activities and interests of the AJS.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

July 31, 1979

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Hebrew Union College —
Jewish Institute of Religion

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Harvard University
Widener Library M
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
617-495-2985

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Daniel:

I was most pleased to learn from your recent letter that the Executive Committee of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture will recommend to the full Board that a \$6,000 per year grant be awarded to the Association for Jewish Studies for a period of three years. On behalf of the AJS, and personally as well, may I express to you our genuine appreciation for pressing this cause.

Of course we shall regard this information as wholly preliminary and confidential. Please do write again after the full Board makes its decision.

Cordially yours,



Michael A. Meyer

MAM: yg

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 LAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

November 21, 1979

Office of the President

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Dan:

As you know, our Board of Directors recently authorized us to inaugurate an Associates Program which will seek to attract a cadre of supporters in various cities throughout the country. They will provide a base of support which will enhance our ability to fulfill our major purpose of assisting and stimulating the total Jewish cultural enterprise on the local community as well as on the national level.

Before we launch this program in any city we feel we should first invite the members of our Board to become the first Associates at an annual fee of \$100 per year. We would greatly appreciate your accepting our invitation by returning the enclosed enrollment form.

I should also like to urge every Board member to make as generous an additional contribution as possible toward our Doctoral Grants program. Since 1961 such grants to more than 300 Jewish scholars (over 90% of whom are currently teaching Jewish Studies in major colleges and universities) have had a profound positive impact on creative Jewish life in America. At the same time, however, we have also had to turn down more than three times as many fully qualified applicants due to our lack of funds. By letting us know now what your gift will be you will help us to set a realistic level for our 1980 Fellowship Grants.

I very much hope I can count on your help -- and I thank you in advance for your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Amos

Amos Comay

ac/dbs
encs

sent 11/27/79 \$100

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

122 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

490-2280

- () I am pleased to become an Associate of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture at an annual fee of \$100. .
- () My check is enclosed.
- () Please bill me in January, 1980.

() I also wish to contribute \$ _____ to the Doctoral Grants Program for the current academic year.

() My check is enclosed.

() Please bill me _____ 1980.
month

Name _____

Address _____
