

31st Annual Symposium on Jewish Civilization

Authority and Dissent in Jewish Life

Sunday Morning, October 28

UNO College of Public Affairs and Community Service, Room 132D

9:00 – 9:15 am Introductions

9:15 – 9:55 Mordechai Zalkin, Ben-Gurion University

“The Terrible Animal; Known as the Masses’: The Status and Authority of the Community Rabbi at the End of the Nineteenth Century Europe”

10:00 - 10:40 Victoria Khiterer, Millersville, University

“Not So Silent: Jewish Religious Life in Kiev, 1945 - 1970’s”

10:45 - 11:35 Eitan Abramovitch, Institution for the Advancement of Rav Shagar’s Writings

“Dispute for the Sake of Heaven’: Dissent and Multiplicity in Rav Shagar’s Thought”

Sunday Afternoon and Evening, October 28

Omaha Jewish Community Center

12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:05 – 1:45 Joan S. Friedman, College of Wooster

“When Authority Is a Form of Dissent: Postwar Guides to Reform Ritual Observance”

1:50 – 2:30 Menahem Mor, University of Haifa

“The Jews and the Pax Romana”

2:50 – 3:30 Shlomo Abramovitz, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

“Limiting the Authority of the Country: Disobedience in the IDF”

3:35 - 4:15 Ori Z. Soltes, Georgetown University

“From Spinoza to Arendt and Laurence to Aylon: Verbiage and Visual Art as Instruments of Dissent in Modern Jewish Thought”

4:20 – 5:00 Mark Trencher, Nishma Research

“Leaving the Fold: Dissent from Communal Authority in the Orthodox World?”

7:30 – 9:00 Introductions and keynote

Gil Graff, Builders of Jewish Education

“Jewish Law and the Law of the State: The Impact of Modernity and Its Echoes in the United States”

All events are free and open to the public.

For further information, please contact Colleen Hastings 402-280-2303

Monday, October 29

Creighton University, Skutt Student Center Ballroom

8:30 – 8:45 am Introductions

8:45 – 9:25 Joel Gereboff, Arizona State University

“When the Memory of David Is Not Enough to Authenticate the Temple in Jerusalem”

9:30 - 10:10 Mary Julia Jett, St. Francis College, Brooklyn, New York

“The Trial of Joshua: Reestablishment and Reconstruction of Authority (Zechariah 3)”

10:15 - 10:55 Chen Marx, Max Stern Yezreel Valley College

“Figurative Language of Authority and Rebellion in the Story of the Death of Rabbi Yehuda Ben-Baba”

11:00 – 11:40 Lindsey Jackson, Concordia University

“Ritual Rebellion, Non-Circumcision Jews, and the Creation of Non-Cutting Covenantal Ceremonies”

11:45 am – 12:30 pm Lunch

12:20 – 1:00 Zachary B. Smith, Creighton University

“Authority, Dissent, and Social Formation in Late Antiquity”

1:05 – 1:45 Theodore Albrecht, Kent State University

“Thumbing Mendelssohn’s Nose at the Nazis: Hans Pfitzner’s Symphony in C, Op. 46 (1940)”

1:50 – 2:30 Azzan Yadin-Israel, Rutgers University

“Midrash, Oral Law, and the Question of Rabbinic Authority”

Symposium Co-Hosts:

The Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization at Creighton University, The Kripke Center for the Study of Religion and Society at Creighton University, The Harris Center for Judaic Studies at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, The Natan and Hannah Schwalb Center for Israel & Jewish Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. With the Jewish Federation of Omaha.

Generous support for the Symposium is also provided by:

The Ike and Roz Friedman Foundation, The Riekes Family, Creighton University Lecture, Films, and Concerts, The Creighton College of Arts and Sciences, The Henry Monsky Lodge of B’nai B’rith, The Drs. Bernard H. and Bruce S. Bloom Memorial Endowment, Gary and Karen Javitch.