

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Western Jewish Studies Association**

**March 14-15, 2010**

**Arizona State University**

**Tempe, Arizona**

held in conjunction with the annual  
Western Region American Academy of Religion  
and Pacific Coast Society of Biblical Studies Conferences

**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010**

**8:30 AM** – Registration, Arizona State University, Tempe

**9:30 -11:00 AM**

**WJSA Session I**

**ASU Social Science Bldg.**

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**Christians and Jews in Europe**

**SS #208**

Chair: Jody Myers, California State University, Northridge

*“Jonas in the Sea: Jews and Artists in the late Roman Empire,”*

Franco Bontempi, Society of Jewish Historical Studies, Brescia, Italy

*“Knowledge, Authority, and the Bewitching Jew in Early Modern France,”*

Jennifer Perlmutter, Portland State University.

*“Jews and the Cross: The Attitude of Jews toward Christians  
and Christianity in Late Imperial Russia,”*

Victoria Khiterer, Millersville University.

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**American Jewish Politics and Philanthropy**

**SS #205**

Chair: Ellen Eisenberg, Willamette University

*“Raising Holocaust Awareness in American Jewish Fundraising Films, 1945-1960,”*

Lawrence Baron, San Diego State University

*“Behind the Scenes: Max Fisher and the Rise of American Jewish Influence  
in the White House during the 1970s,”*

Adam Howard, State Department of the United States.

*“Wooing Jews: President Reagan and the GOPs Quest for the Jewish Vote,”*

Arlene Lazarowitz, California State University, Long Beach.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010 cont . . .**

**11:15 AM - 12:45 PM**

**WJSA Session II**

**ASU Social Science Bldg.**

**American Jewish Music and Musicals**

**SS #208**

Chair: Lawrence Baron, San Diego State University

*"The King of Klezmer Clarinet: Dave Tarras,"*  
Yale Strom, San Diego State University

*"The Forbidden Fruit: Jews, Shikshas, and Shaygetzes in Musicals,"*  
Michael Rubinoff, Arizona State University

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**Ethics and Philosophy in Light of the Holocaust**

**SS #205**

Chair: Tim Pytell, California State University, San Bernardino

*"Levinas and the Holocaust: Inflexions of Forgotten Voices,"*  
Holli Levitsky, Loyola Marymount University

*"A Flickering Light of Hope: Holocaust Rescuers and the Altruistic Personality Revisited,"*  
Christina Alanne Perris, Claremont Graduate University

*"Philosophers of Catastrophe and the last Kantian in Nazi Germany:  
How Judaism Redeems Western Philosophy,"*  
Stephen Jay Stern, Gettysburg College

**1:00-2:15 PM**

**WJSA Plenary Lunch Session**

**ASU Social Science Bldg.**

**Worth a Thousand Words: Images of Jewish Reinvention on America's Pacific Edge,**

**SS #226**

A Lecture/Slide-Show Presentation (Smart Room)

Ellen Eisenberg, Willamette University  
Ava Kahn, California Studies Center

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010 cont . . .**

**2:15-5:45 PM**

**WESCOR/WJSA Joint Plenary Session**

**SS #229**

**Panel Discussion: Maven in Blue Jeans: Festschrift in Honor of Zev Garber, Steven L. Jacobs, ed.**

Moderator: Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, Arizona State University

*"An Overview of the Festschrift and Jewish Christian Relations,"*  
Steven L. Jacobs, University of Alabama

*"Zev's Garber's Scholarly Usage of Biblical and Rabbinic Sources,"*  
Joel Gereboff, Arizona State University

*"Zev Garber, the Bible, and Jewish-Christian Dialogue,"*  
Leonard Greenspoon, Creighton University

*"Historiosophy and Zev Garber, Two Neologisms:  
Teaching Methodology, Literature, and Zionism,"*  
Roberta Sabbath, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

*"On the Frontiers of Faith: Edith Stein Encounters Herself as a Burnt Offering,"*  
Emily Leah Silverman, Graduate Theological Union

*"Learning Together: A Dvar on Faith and Fate,"*  
Zev Garber, Los Angeles Valley College

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**2:30-4:00 PM**

**WJSA Panel**

**ASU Social Science Bldg.**

**North American Jewish Experiences**

**SS #205**

Chair: Amy Shevitz, California State University, Northridge

*"We Built a Building and Then Had to Sell It:  
The History of the Synagogue in Blythville, Arkansas,"*  
Mara Cohen Ioannides, Missouri State University.

*"The West's West Side Story: Jewish-Mexican Relations in Denver, Colorado, 1949-1971,"*  
Michael A. Lee, University of Colorado, Boulder.

*"Soviet and Hungarian Jewish Immigrants in Canada in the Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century,"*  
Kata Bohus, Central European University of Social Sciences and Humanities

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010 cont . . .**

5:45 – 7:00 PM

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RECEPTION

ASU University Club

7:30 – 9:00 PM

WJSA Executive Board will meet over dinner.

ASU – ZTejas

**MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010**

8:00-9:45 AM

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WECSOR/WJSA Session IV

ASU Social Sciences Bldg.

**On the Frontiers of Jewish Culture and Community**

**SS #208**

Chair: Emily Leah Silverman, Graduate Theological Union

*"Shappirya and Husanayn: A Correspondence between the Palestinian Targum Tradition and Islamic Narratives about the Sons of Aaron and Sons of Ali as 'Comely Young Men'"*

Seth Ward, University of Wyoming

*"From Marginalization to Cross-Culturalization: Elements of Ethiopian Jewish Culture in Israeli Society Society,"*

Miri Hunter HaRuach, California Institute of Integral Studies and Project Sheba/ICSS

*"American Messianic Judaism: Testing the Polythetic Paradigm,"*

Patricia Power, Arizona State University

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**Jewish Literature**

**WJSA Panel**

**SS #205**

Chair: Holli Levitsky, Loyola Marymount University

*"An Orphaned Ghetto?-Jewish-Christian Romance and Shifting Imagery of the Jew in Italy,"*

Sara Guzzetti-Saposnik, University of Wisconsin.

*"Who Is a Jew in Aharon Appelfeld's 'Katerina'?"*

Naomi B. Sokoloff, University of Washington

*"Teaching American Jewish Literature to Chinese and Polish Students in Warsaw,"*

Lucyna Aleksandrowicz-Pedich, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities.

**MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010 cont . . .**

**10:00-11:45 AM**

**WJSA Session V**

**ASU Social Sciences Bldg.**

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**Panel Discussion: The Role of Israel Studies in Jewish Studies Programs**

**SS #208**

Lawrence Baron, San Diego State University  
Arieh Saposnik, UCLA

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**Jewish Studies and New Media**

**SS #205**

Chair: Joel Gereboff, Arizona State University

*"Parsing Promise: The Role of Messianic Messages in the Kiruv Movement,"*  
Vicki Cabot, Arizona State University

*"WWHD (What Would Hannah Do?): A Jewish Communication Ethic,"*  
Susan Kray, Indiana State University.

*"Israel Online: Teaching Contemporary Israel through the Internet and Student Blogs,"*  
Jody Myers, California State University-Northridge.

**WJSA Conference Ends**