From Our Director’s Desk:

Our Center’s annual Louis J. Kuriansky conferences have displayed, in their topics and guest speakers, the broad spectrum of the Center’s interests and areas of scholarly engagements. For over three decades, the Center’s conferences have provided a forum for our students and the local community to meet and learn from guest scholars and specialists who are renowned in their specific fields. Our students have had the opportunity to exchange ideas and discourse with experts in Jewish culture and literature, in theological and interfaith issues, and other areas pertaining to the Jewish experience in history and relationship with other cultures and religions. This year we are turning our attention to one of the most turbulent and unstable zones in the world, the Middle East, specifically, to the myriad strategic, military, political, and humanitarian issues that have arisen in the region. We will further explore the implications of recent unsettling developments for the international community, for the USA, and for Israel’s security and its prospects for peace. We are very proud of the distinguished experts who are scheduled to address our students and community on October 28, 2014. They are accomplished scholars with a thorough, first-hand knowledge of today’s Middle East. Please join us for this timely and thought-provoking learning experience.

The 2014 Louis J. Kuriansky ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Tuesday, October 28, 2014
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
7:10 PM • KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Dr. Bruce Hoffman
A TIME OF TERROR: The Middle East and the Future of Terrorism
8:00 PM
Dr. Michael Rubin
DANCING WITH THE DEVIL: Why Diplomacy Will Never Resolve Middle Eastern Threats
8:50 PM • RESPONDENT & MODERATOR:
Dr. Jeremy Pressman
REPERCUSSIONS FOR ISRAEL

THE FALL 2014 LUNCH & LEARN SERIES
Thursdays 12 noon - 1:30 PM
Sept. 18, Oct. 23, Nov. 6, Nov. 13

The Most Reverend Monsignor David Jaeger (seated), keynote speaker at the 2013 Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference, with Ed Backer and Sary Backer, Kuriansky Foundation trustees; Nina Lotstein, Board Chair; Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, Center Director; and Dr. Sharon White, Campus Director.

Msgr. Jaeger is joined by Dr. Aschkenasy and fellow panelists.

Back row: Dr. James Jones, Manhattanville College; Msgr. Stephen DiGiovanni, Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist, Stamford; Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, Center Director; Dr. Fred Roden, UConn-Stamford. Front row: Rev. Kate Heichler, Church of Christ the Healer, Stamford; Msgr. Jaeger; and Rabbi Joshua Hammerman, Temple Beth El, Stamford.

UConn-Stamford students enthusiastically conversed with Msgr. Jaeger when he spent time with them in a “Lunch and Conversation” session following the Conference.
2014 Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference
Tuesday, October 28, 2014 • 7:00-9:30PM • GenRe Auditorium, UConn-Stamford

The Dangerous Neighborhood of the Middle East

7:00 PM
Introduction:
DR. NEHAMA ASCHKENASY

7:10 — 8:00 PM
KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
DR. BRUCE HOFFMAN
A Time of Terror:
The Middle East and the Future of Terrorism

8:00 — 8:50 PM
DR. MICHAEL RUBIN
Dancing with the Devil:
Why Diplomacy Will Never Resolve Middle Eastern Threats

8:50 — 9:30 PM
RESPONDENT and Q&A MODERATOR:
DR. JEREMY PRESSMAN
Director of Middle East Studies & Professor of Political Science, UConn
Repercussions for Israel

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
In Formation
Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
Sary Backer
Dr. Joel Blatt
Peter Cawley
Carrie Dinella
Dr. Paul Franks
Dr. Beth Ginsberg
Zahava Gordon
Rabbi Joshua Hammerman
The Rev. Kate Heichler
Rebecca Isenstein
Rita Koenig
Rep. Steven Kolenberg
Dr. Joy Land
Dr. Jeffrey Lefebvre
Maggie Levy
Nina Lotstein
Cheryl May
Dr. Fred Roden
Farida Rokadia
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Marina Sapir
Mark Sternlicht
Dr. Sharon White

Please register in advance by using the included registration card or by contacting the Center at (203) 251-9525 or stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu.
REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2014 LUNCH & LEARN

Thursdays: Sept. 18, Oct. 23, Nov. 6, Nov. 13 • 12 noon—1:30 PM

Please make your check of $50 for the entire four-session series (including lunch) payable to: Judaic Studies, UConn, Stamford, and mail to: Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford, One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901-2315.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE
EMAIL

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS
LUNCH & LEARN Only
($50 per person)

Please indicate your choice: ☐ Veggie Wrap  ☐ Tuna on Rye  ☐ Bagel with Lox and Cream Cheese
Dietary Laws observed.

Registration is for the entire series only! Please register by THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014.
Discounts for local students and educators and non-profit professionals, but advance registration is required.
For more information call our office at (203) 251-9525 or write to stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu.

The Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference is FREE for our Lunch and Learn students, but advance registration is required.

REGISTRATION FOR 2014 LOUIS J. KURIANSKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, October 28 • 7:00—9:30PM

Please make your check payable to: Judaic Studies, UConn, Stamford, and mail to: Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford, One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901-2315.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE
EMAIL

NUMBER OF CONFERENCE RESERVATIONS
Suggested donation of $10 per person
ENCLOSED CHECK FOR $

To help us better plan the event, please respond by THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014.

Free admission for the UConn community, other local students and educators, and non-profit professionals, but advance registration is required.
For more information call our office at (203) 251-9525 or write to stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu.
Dr. Bruce Hoffman is one of today’s leading experts on Al Qaeda and international terrorism and has been studying terrorism and insurgency for nearly four decades; in this capacity, he has served on numerous government committees and agencies. A tenured professor in Georgetown University’s Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, he is also the university’s Director of both the Center for Security Studies and of the Security Studies Program. He was recently appointed by the U.S. Congress to serve as a commissioner on the Independent Commission to Review the FBI’s Post-9/11 Response to Terrorism and Radicalization.

Professor Hoffman was Scholar-in-Residence for Counterterrorism at the Central Intelligence Agency between 2004 and 2006; an adviser on counterterrorism to the Office of National Security Affairs, Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Iraq in 2004; and from 2004-2005 an adviser on counterinsurgency to the Strategy, Plans, and Analysis Office at Multi-National Forces-Iraq Headquarters, Baghdad. Professor Hoffman was also an adviser to the Iraq Study Group.

He is the author of the acclaimed Inside Terrorism, which the Washington Post described as “brilliant” and the “best one volume introduction to the phenomenon.” His forthcoming books are The Evolving Global Terrorist Threat: Cases From 9/11 to Osama bin Laden’s Death (2014) and Anonym-ous Soldiers: The Struggle for Israel, 1918-1947 (2015).

Dr. Michael Rubin is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and senior lecturer at the Naval Postgraduate School’s Center for Civil-Military Relations. He is also senior editor (previously chief editor) of the Middle East Quarterly. He has also worked as a staff advisor for Iran and Iraq in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, in which capacity he was seconded to Iraq.

Rubin holds an M.A. in biology and a Ph.D. in history, both from Yale University, where he was previously a lecturer in history. He taught at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, and at three different universities in northern Iraq. Dr. Rubin has first-hand knowledge of the Middle East, since he had lived and conducted research in Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and with the Taliban in Afghanistan pre-9/11. Rubin instructs senior U.S. army officers deploying to the Middle East and Afghanistan and teaches classes aboard deploying U.S. carrier strike groups and Marine Expeditionary Units.

Rubin is author of Dancing with the Devil: The Perils of Engagement (Encounter, 2014), a history of a half-century of American diplomacy with rogue regimes and terrorist groups, and two earlier books examining Iranian history.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
THE BARBARA & JOE FIELD LECTURE

Early Christian Commentaries & Art on the “Sacrifice of Isaac”

The Rev. Dr. Blaine Edele
Adjunct Professor of Bible
University of Connecticut, Stamford
Pastor, Union Memorial Church, Stamford

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23
SPONSORED BY AN ANONYMOUS DONOR

Hiding in Plain Sight:
Italian Jews and the Film Industry from Mussolini to the Present

Dr. Philip Balma
Professor of Italian Literary & Cultural Studies
University of Connecticut

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
THE NORMA MANN MEMORIAL LECTURE

What Can Jewish Law Mean to Jewish Citizens of a Non-Jewish State?
“To the Jews as a nation, everything should be refused. To the Jews as individuals everything should be granted.”

Dr. Paul Franks
Professor of Philosophy
Yale University

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13
THE HYACINTHE HOFFMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

Rewriting the ‘Binding of Isaac’:
The Literary Odyssey of the Tale of the Aqedah (Gen. 22)

Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
Professor of Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies
University of Connecticut

For more information please contact us at: (203) 251-9525 or stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu
Or visit our website at cjmes.stamford.uconn.edu
The Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at UConn-Stamford, now in its thirty-fourth year, offers credit courses within the academic curriculum in the Humanities as well as outreach programs for the community at large in all areas of Judaic culture, literature, and history, from antiquity to modern times, Israel, Middle Eastern literature and politics, and interfaith studies.

For over three decades, the Center has established a learning community around itself which gathers for intellectual discussions of scholarly and contemporary issues. The Center’s outreach programs are attended by diverse groups from the local communities.

The Center has been recognized for its innovative programs in the areas of traditional academic education and particularly outreach projects. Since its inception, the Center has enjoyed broad community recognition and has been financially supported by individuals, foundations, corporate gifts, and matching grants.

THE CENTER IS A RECIPIENT AGENCY OF THE UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER STAMFORD, NEW CANAAN AND DARIEN.

CREDIT COURSES

The following credit courses will be open to community audits in the FALL 2014:

The Bible As/In Literature, ENG 4600W
Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy — Tuesdays, 2:35-5:15 PM

The Holocaust, HIST 3418/HEJS 3203
Dr. Joel Blatt — Tuesdays, 5:30-8:10 PM

Modern Middle East from 1700-Present, HIST 3705
Dr. Joy Land — Mon/Wed, 11:20-12:35 PM

Political Issues: Religion & Politics, POLS 2998
Dr. Beth Ginsberg — Mon/Wed, 1:10-2:25 PM

American Diplomacy in the Middle East, POLS 3447
Dr. Jeffrey Lefebvre — Tues/Thurs, 1:10-2:25 PM

Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar, UNIV 3784
Dr. Richard Watnick — Wednesdays, 2:35-5:15 PM

2 sessions related to Judaic Studies:

- Sept. 10: Uncovering the Ideas & Actions of Carlo Rosselli
  Dr. Joel Blatt

- Nov. 19: A Post Modern Reading of the Bible: The Case of the Book of Ruth
  Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy

Classes begin August 25th. Seats are limited.

Community audits should register through the Office of the Registrar (203) 251-8555. For more information on our credit courses or Certificate Program, please call the Center at (203) 251-9525 or email us at stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu.

Lunch and Conversation:

A Follow-up Dialogue on the Annual Conference
A special free luncheon session for local students & community
Moderated by Dr. Beth Ginsberg, UConn-Stamford
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2014 • 12:00 NOON — 1:30 PM IN THE MPR

CONGRATULATIONS
To Professor Fred Roden, colleague and member of the Center’s academic advisory board, who recently received the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Humanities. Professor Roden is also a previous recipient of a teaching excellence award from the UConn chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

CONGRATULATIONS
To Rebecca Isenstein, who was recently promoted to Program Manager for the Center. A lawyer by training, her responsibilities reflect the multifaceted functions of the Center, including fund raising, event planning, outreach programming, research, student support and advising, and community relations.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Campus Director
Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
Center Director
Rebecca Isenstein
Program Manager

** Past Chair