



THE UNIVERSITY & THE NEAR EAST IN THE 21ST CENTURY:

Reflections on the Changing Course of Islamic and Jewish Studies

MAY 20-21, 2007

HARDIN HALL, REBECCA CROWN CENTER
633 CLARK STREET, EVANSTON CAMPUS

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2007

EARLY ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION

SESSION 1 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM

“Islamic Architecture and Urban History”

Oleg Grabar, *Princeton*

Chair: Rudi Lindner, *Michigan*

Discussants: Carl Petry, *Northwestern*; Walid Saleh, *Toronto*; Paula Sanders, *Rice*; Priscilla Soucek, *New York*

SESSION 2 3:15 PM - 5:00 PM

“Early Islamic History and Arabic Historiography”

R. S. Humphreys, *UC Santa Barbara*

Chair: Jacob Lassner, *Northwestern*

Discussants: Sidney Griffith, *Catholic University*; Shaun Marmon, *Princeton*; David Wasserstein, *Vanderbilt*



This symposium brings together an array of renowned scholars to honor Jacob “Jack” Lassner on the occasion of his retirement as the Philip M. and Ethel Klutznick Professor of Jewish Civilization at Northwestern University and his completion of forty-three years of memorable teaching and distinguished scholarship, not only at Northwestern, but also at Wayne State, Michigan, Berkeley, Toronto, Tel Aviv, and George Wash-

ington. The main themes of the sessions are topics that have long held Jack’s interest and on which he has contributed many articles, monographs, and lectures in the course of his long and influential career. The proceedings are open to all interested faculty and students, as well as to the general public.

[http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/
jewish-studies/events.htm](http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/jewish-studies/events.htm)

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MONDAY, MAY 21, 2007

JEWISH STUDIES

SESSION 3 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

“The Current and Future State of Biblical Studies: The Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East”

Peter Machinist, *Harvard*

Chair: Isaac Kalimi, *Northwestern*

Discussants: Tzvi Abusch, *Brandeis*; Marc Brettler, *Brandeis*; Baruch Levine, *New York*; Norman Yoffee, *Michigan*

SESSION 4 10:45 AM - 12:15 AM

“Jewish-Muslim Relations: Myths and Realities”

Ross Brann, *Cornell*

Chair: Norman Golb, *Chicago*

Discussants: Marc Bernstein, *Michigan State*; Jonathan Decter, *Brandeis*; Reuven Firestone, *Hebrew Union*; Michael Wechsler, *Chicago*

ISRAEL & THE MIDDLE EAST

SESSION 5 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

“Approaches to Arab-Israeli Relations”

Elie Rekhess, *Tel Aviv & Northwestern*

Chair: Fariba Zarinebaf, *Northwestern*

Discussants: Ami Ayalon, *Princeton*; Raja Kamal, *Chicago*; Jacob Michael, *Northwestern*; Emile Sahliyeh, *North Texas*

SESSION 6 3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

“History and Memory: The Modern Jewish State in the Twenty-First Century”

Ilan Troen, *Brandeis*

Chair: Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, *Northwestern*

Discussants: Carol Bardenstein, *Michigan*; Matthew Evans, *Northwestern*; Kenneth Stein, *Emory*; Bernard Wasserstein, *Chicago*