

University of Cincinnati Department of Judaic Studies

## **The Jacob and Jennie L. Lichter**

### **Lecture Series in Judaic Studies**

#### *Jews and Muslims: Co-Existence*

Co-existence literally means to 'exist together' or more commonly to share the same time and place without hostility despite differences. Medieval Islam aptly fulfills this definition with regard to its tolerated minorities, including Jews, Christians, Zoroastrians, and other dhimmi (protected dependents). It fails more often than not with respect to the imbedded Sunni-Shiite rift that has seen violent political-religious clashes and upheavals since the 7th century.

Jews have lived in the Islamic orbit for well over a millennium where they flourished communally and developed an impressive intellectual heritage that contributed to as much as it drew upon the evolving Islamic culture. Yet they remained subject to various restrictions, many derived from Christian Roman law that continued throughout the former imperial lands. Islamic attitudes and practices also differed according to regional political and religious conditions.

Our Lichter Series will explore aspects of this co-existence from both the dominant and the minority perspectives in this year's lectures.

## *About the Department of* **Judaic Studies**

*The department of Judaic Studies offers a comprehensive education in history, literature, and arts of the Jews from biblical times to the present. Our interdisciplinary faculty specialize in such areas as Ancient Judaism, Biblical Literature, Archaeology, Medieval Jewish History, Jewish Literature, Holocaust Studies, Zionism, and Modern Jewish History. Students benefit from a rich educational experience, which may include internships, travel, and study in Israel. Judaic Studies fully integrates the resources of UC and draws upon the Hebrew Union College and the American Jewish Archives. Judaic Studies at UC provides an integrated humanities education tailored to the needs and interests of each individual student.*

***All lectures are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served after the lecture. Dietary laws observed.***

***Parking for lectures at the Clifton Campus is available in the Campus Green, Woodside and the Varsity Village garages located on Woodside Drive off of Martin Luther King Drive. Raymond Walters has ample visitor parking.***

***The Lichter Lecture Series in Judaic Studies are made possible by the Jacob and Jennie L. Lichter Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. For further information, contact the Department of Judaic Studies at 513.556.2297 or visit us on the web at [www.artsci.uc.edu/judaic](http://www.artsci.uc.edu/judaic).***

# **Jews and Muslims: Co-Existence**

**The 2009-2010 Jacob and Jennie Lichter  
Lecture Series in Judaic Studies**



**Norman A. Stillman**

Schusterman/Josey Professor of Judaic History,  
University of Oklahoma

**When Arabic was a Jewish Language: The Jews in the Islamic World**

**Monday, Oct. 26, 7:30 PM**

**College of Business, Rm. 112 (Clifton Campus)**

Norman A. Stillman is the Schusterman/Josey Professor of Judaic History at the University of Oklahoma, and is an internationally recognized authority on the history and culture of the Islamic world and on Sephardi and Oriental Jewry. He is the author of seven books and numerous articles in several languages. His books include *The Jews of Arab Lands in Modern Times* (1991), a sequel to his highly acclaimed *The Jews of Arab Lands: a History and Source Book* (1979), *Sephardi Religious Responses to Modernity* (1995), and in collaboration with his late colleague/wife Yedida Kalfon Stillman, *Arab Dress: a Short History* (2000; 2nd rev. ed. 2003; 3rd ed. 2006). The Stillmans collaborated on numerous projects and published a book together, an English edition of Samuel Romanelli's 17th-century Hebrew classic, *Travail in an Arab Land* (University of Alabama Press, 1989), which was chosen as an Alternate Selection of the Jewish Book Club and nominated for a National Translation Award.

Professor Stillman is currently the Executive Editor of the *Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World* which is about to appear in five volumes with Brill Academic Publishers. He has lectured and taught in Europe, Morocco, and Israel. He has received numerous academic honors nationally and internationally.



**Raymond P. Scheindlin**

Professor of Medieval Hebrew Literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary

**Judah Halevi, Pilgrim and Poet**

**Thursday, Nov. 12, 7:30 PM**

**Recreation Center, Rm. 3230 (Clifton Campus)**

Raymond Scheindlin is Professor of Medieval Hebrew Literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary and has served as the Seminary's provost.

A native of Philadelphia, Scheindlin received his B.A from the University of Pennsylvania, his master's degree and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D. in Arabic literature from Columbia University (1971). He has published companion volumes on Hebrew literature in the Middle Ages, titled *Wine, Women, and Death: Medieval Hebrew Poems on the Good Life* and *The Gazelle: Medieval Hebrew Poems on God, Israel, and the Soul*, both of which appeared in paperback in 1999. Active also as a literary translator, he published a verse translation of the Book of Job in 1998. His *Short History of the Jewish People* also appeared in 1998. He is also the author of a reference book, *501 Arabic Verbs*. His most recent book is *Song of a Distant Dove: Pilgrimage Poems by Judah Halevi* (2007).

Scheindlin has been a Guggenheim fellow and a Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library; he is vice-president of the American Academy of Jewish Research and serves on the editorial boards of several scholarly journals. In 2004 he received the Jewish Cultural Achievement Award of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. He has two grown children and is married to the opera singer Janice Meyerson.



**Jane Gerber**

Professor of Jewish History and Director of the Institute for Sephardic Studies at the City University of New York.

**Tolerance and Intolerance in Medieval Muslim Spain**

**Monday, Nov. 16, 7:30 PM**

**119 Muntz Hall (Raymond Walters College)**

Jane Gerber is Professor of Jewish History and Director of the Institute for Sephardic Studies at the City University of New York. She has served as Visiting Professor at Harvard, Yale, The University of Pennsylvania, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Columbia University. She is past President of the Association for Jewish Studies. Author of several books including *The Jews of Spain* (winner of the National Jewish Book Award in 1993), she is currently completing a book titled *Cities of Splendor in the Shaping of Sephardic History*. She is a recipient of numerous honors and awards including Finalist for the Award for Excellence in Teaching at Lehman College of CUNY.

She holds a B.A. from Wellesley College (Phi Beta Kappa), an M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard University and a PhD in Islamic and Jewish History from Columbia University.

**Reservations are encouraged.**

Contact the Department of Judaic Studies at 513.556.2297 or at [Judaic.Studies@uc.edu](mailto:Judaic.Studies@uc.edu).