Program for the MJSA 2016 Conference
Religious Studies Department
Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri

September 10, Saturday 7-9 pm
Reception for the Ozarks Jewish Archives
Meyer Library Room 107
Welcome by Dean Thomas Peters, Meyer Library, Missouri State University
Welcome by Anne Marie Baker, Interim Director, Special Collections, Meyer Library

September 11
Sunday Panels are all in Strong Hall
Coffee Break Room: 250

9:00-10:15 am
Science and Technology
Room: 204
Chair: Stephen M. Cohen, Independent Scholar
“Menasseh Ben Israel: The Second (Or First?) Jewish Copernican”
Jacob Adler, University of Arkansas
“Greening the Sefirot: Towards a Functionalist Approach to the Study of Kabbalah and Ecology”
Daniel Jones, Missouri State University
“Sacred Texts: Half Shabbos, the Shabbos App, and the Modern Orthodox Movement”
Robert Phillips, Ball State University

Women and Literature
Room: 205
Chair: Charlyn Ingwerson, Drury University
“The First Wife: The Role of Lilith in Jewish Lore”
Danielle Jean Drew, Florida Gulf Coast University
“Hephzibah, Satan’s Bride, and Understanding ‘Mariolatry’ in the Sefer Zerubbabel”
Natalie E. Latteri, University of New Mexico
“Out of the Orchard, Into the Waters: Hitrosheshut by Dahlia Ravikovitch”
Laura Wiseman, York University

10:30-11:15 am
Learning about Learning
Room: 204
Chair:
“Study and Desire: Jewish Queer Continuum in Yeshiva Narratives”
Shlomo Gleibman, York University
“Reading with Strangers? Extraordinary Encounters in a Course on Jewish Writers”
Sonja Hedgepeth, Middle Tennessee State University
Missouri and Kansas
Room: 205
Chair:
“The Kansas Jewish History Project: State and Regional Approaches to American Jewish History”
   David M. Katzman, University of Kansas -- Lawrence
“Consigned for all times to the bon fire of oblivion”: the Missouri Jewish Press and the Ku Klux Klan”
   Sean Rost, University of Missouri

11:30am-12:15pm
Yiddish Literature
Room: 204
Chair:
“Heavenly Rewards for Early Suffering”
   Nadja Berkovich, University of Arkansas
“Yudel Mark’s Terminen un Oysdrukn: A Turning Point in Yiddish Chemistry Terminology”
   Stephen M. Cohen, Independent Scholar

Reform Judaism
Room: 205
Chair: Benjamin Matis, Jagiellonian University
“Religion and Secularity: Horace Kallen Enters the Seminary”
   Matthew Kaufman, York University
“The Globalization of American Judaism in a Tel Avivian Reform Jewish Congregation”
   Einat B. Libel – Hass Bar-Ilan University

12:30-1:30pm
Lunch
Atrium on Ground Floor

2:00-3:15pm
Jewish American Literature
Room: 204
Chair: Richard Schur, Drury University
“Permutations of ethnicity in Jewish American literature”
   Baruch Beckerman, Bar Ilan University
“The Outsider Looking in: Jewish Homesteader Memoir”
   Mara W. Cohen Ioannides, Missouri State University
“The State of Intermarriage in Contemporary American Jewish Fiction”
   Jessica Kirzane, Columbia University
Europe
Room: 205
Chair: Vadim Putzu, Missouri State University
    Jessica Marin Elliott, Missouri State University
“Music Outside The Russian Shtetl: An Introduction To Jewish Composers of The Crimea, The Caucasus And Central Asia”
    Susan M. Filler, Independent Scholar
“Chronotopes of Heimat in German Jewish Narratives by Stefanie Zweig and Jeanine Meerapfel”
    Stefany Van Scoyk, University of Kansas

3:30-4:45 pm
Roundtable: “Teaching, Learning, and Researching Judaic Studies in the Midwest: Challenges and Opportunities”
Room: 204
    Leslie A. Baynes, Missouri State University
    Nathan Hofer, University of Missouri
    Pan Porter, Missouri State University
    Vadim Putzu, Missouri State University

5:00-6:15pm Reception
Ballroom East
Plaster Student Union

6:15-7:15pm Dinner
Ballroom East
Plaster Student Union

7:15pm
Welcome by Cliff Smart, President, Missouri State University
Welcome by Victor Matthews, Dean, College of Humanities, Missouri State University
Greetings by Mara W. Cohen Ioannides, President of Midwest Jewish Studies Association
Welcome and Introduction of Dr. Schiffman by Vadim Putzu, Religious Studies Department, Missouri State University

Plenary: Lawrence Schiffman, Judge Abraham Lieberman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University and Director of the Global Institute for Advanced Research in Jewish Studies
“The Bible and its interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls”
September 12, Monday Panels in Plaster Student Union
Monday Coffee Break Room: 315

9:00-10:15am:
Rescuers and Rescued during the Holocaust
Room: 314A
Chair: Teresa Hornsby, Drury University
“A Snapshot of Goodness: Ernst Leitz II, the Leica Camera Company, and Jewish Rescue during the Holocaust”
   Paul Bartrop, Florida Gulf Coast University
“To Not Be Weak or Indifferent’: On Marginal Rescuers in Comparison with ‘The Righteous Among the Nations’: Their motives, Their Dual Identity as Bystanders, and What We Can Learn From Them.”
   Ken Elkins, Missouri State University
“The Plight of Orphaned and Abandoned Children: Their Search for Homelands and Security”
   Sol Factor, Kent State University

Women’s Voice
Room: 314B
Chair:
“Separating Individual Experiences: Sexualized Violence of Women during the Holocaust”
   Harley A. Davis, Middle Tennessee University
“The Roots and Development of Jewish Feminism in the United States: 1972-Present.”
   Jessica Evers, Florida Gulf State University
“Who Was ‘Gritli’?: Toward A Biography Of A Silenced Partner”
   Amy Hill Shevitz, University of Arizona

10:30am-11:30am:
Weapons and War
Room: 315A
Chair:
“Reluctant Militarism: How an Israeli Right-Wing Militant became an American Left-Wing Activist.”
   Timothy Quevillon, University of Houston
“German-ness at the End of a Barrel: Jews and the Fight for Honor and Masculinity in 19th Century Germany”
   David Meola, University of South Alabama

Lunch 12-1:00pm
Room: 315

1:30-3:00 Walking tour of Downtown Jewish Springfield
We would like to thank our sponsors:

- College of Humanities and Public Affairs
- College of Arts and Letters
- Department of Religious Studies
- Department of English
- Department of Music
- Department of Modern and Classical Languages
- Center for Community Engagement
- History Department
- Honors College

The Midwest Jewish Studies Association is underwritten by: Kent State University, The Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership, and Case Western University. If your institution would be interested in helping to underwrite our conferences please contact our Treasurer Dr. David Meola at davidmeola@gmail.com.