From Our Director’s Desk:

Next year the Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies at UConn, Stamford, will celebrate its thirtieth anniversary. In this day and age, when many community agencies and university programs are closing down due to lack of financing, it is to the credit of the local community that our Center continues to thrive and even expand. In my years as the founding director of our Center, I have met exceptional individuals who exhibited unwavering commitment to our programs, as both devoted students and financial supporters.

Since its inception, the Center has been an unparalleled resource for Jewish learning in Fairfield County, with appeal to diverse groups and widespread recognition as a bastion of academic excellence. We have exposed Jewish as well as Christian and Muslim students to the wealth of Jewish civilization and to Israeli and Middle Eastern culture and society. Our renowned outreach programming continues to enrich the life of our community in various areas of interest, including interfaith dialogues, promoting mutual understanding and religious tolerance in an increasingly volatile world.

There is no other institution in our area providing academic, outreach, and interfaith programs of a comparable nature. Given the current world situation and atmosphere on U.S. campuses, our work has never been as timely or as crucial.

This fall, our Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference will feature as keynote speaker an illustrious diplomat and scholar, Dr. Daniel C. Kurtzer. We are very proud and excited that Ambassador Kurtzer will address the Center’s students and community members and are looking forward to an informative lecture and stimulating debate.

Please join us!

Celebrating a successful fall day of learning at the close of the 2008 Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference: L. to R.: Dr. Ian Lustick (University of Pennsylvania), Dr. Sandy Maisel (Colby College), Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy (UConn, Stamford), Dr. Michael Ego (Associate Vice Provost, UConn, Stamford), Mrs. Nina Lotstein (Chair of the Community Advisory Committee), and Dr. Barry Kosmin (Trinity College).
THE LOUIS J. KURIANSKY
FALL 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
In the Gen Re Auditorium at UConn, Stamford

THE FIRST TEN MONTHS:
Assessing the Obama Administration
Through the Middle East Prism

6:45 p.m. – Refreshments

7:00 p.m. – Introductions – Dr. Michael Ego – Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy

Welcome: Dr. Jeremy Teitelbaum
Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn

7:10 p.m. – 7:55 p.m.
Keynote Address

Ambassador Daniel C. Kurtzer
The Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University

Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace:
American Leadership in the Middle East

8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Dr. Michael Rubin
American Enterprise Institute

The Iran Dilemma:
Avoiding a Cascade of Instability in the Region

8:50 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Response: Dr. Jeffrey LeFevre, UConn, Stamford

9:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Q & A
Moderator: Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2009 LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

October 15, 29, November 12, 19

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:

HOME PHONE: CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS ENCLOSED CHECK FOR $

Please indicate your luncheon choice: [ ] Veggie Wrap [ ] Tuna on Rye [ ] Bagel with Cream Cheese and Lox

Registration is for the entire series only! Please register by October 9, 2009.
For information call our office at 251-4625 or write to stamfordcjes@uconn.edu.

Free for local educators and students, and the UConn-Stamford community, but advanced reservation is required.

Discounted registration for both the Lunch & Learn Series and Annual Conference $60.

REGISTRATION FOR 2009 LOUIS J. KURIAKNSKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Please make your check of $20 per person (including refreshments) 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:

HOME PHONE: CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

[ ] I (WE) REGISTER FOR BOTH THE LUNCH & LEARN SERIES AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS ENCLOSED CHECK FOR $

Free for local educators and students, and the UConn-Stamford community, but advanced reservation is required.

Please respond by October 9, 2009.
For information call our office at 251-4625 or write to stamfordcjes@uconn.edu.

Patron Donations Welcome!
The Louis J. Kuriansky Annual Conference
Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The First Ten Months: Assessing the Obama Administration Through the Middle East Prism

7:10 p.m. – 7:55 p.m.

Keynote Address:
Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: American Leadership in the Middle East

U.S. Ambassador Daniel C. Kurtzer

Dr. Daniel C. Kurtzer served as the United States Ambassador to Egypt and later as the United States Ambassador to Israel. Ambassador Kurtzer holds the S. Daniel Abraham Chair in Middle East Policy Studies at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. During a 29-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service, Ambassador Kurtzer also held a number of other senior positions, including political officer at the American embassies in Cairo and Tel Aviv, speechwriter for Secretary of State George P. Shultz, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research. He was instrumental in formulating and executing American policy in the Middle East peace process.

Dr. Kurtzer has authored numerous articles on U.S. policy, including "Old City, New Regime" (Foreign Affairs) proposing a creative way to resolve the problem of Jerusalem, and "Do Settlements Matter" (Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs), and co-authored, with Scott Lasensky, Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: American Leadership in the Middle East. He served as advisor to the Iraq Study Group and is currently on the Advisory Council of the American Bar Association's Middle East-North Africa Rule of Law Initiative and on the Board of Trustees of the American University of Cairo.

Ambassador Kurtzer is the recipient of the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award and the U.S. Intelligence Community Award for Distinguished Service.

8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. Dr. Michael Rubin

The Iran Dilemma: Avoiding a Cascade of Instability in the Region

A resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and senior lecturer at the Naval Postgraduate School, Dr. Rubin is also editor of the Middle East Quarterly. He earned his Ph.D. in history from Yale University, where his dissertation, The Making of Modern Iran, 1853-1909: Communications, Telegraph and Society, won Yale's John Addison Porter Prize. Dr. Rubin has received numerous awards and fellowships, including from the Council of Foreign Relations, Carnegie Council for Ethics and International Affairs, and the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He is author of Into the Shadows: Radical Vigilantes in Khatami's Iran (Washington Institute, 2001), co-author of Eternal Iran: Continuity and Chaos (Palgrave, 2006), and co-editor of Dissent and Reform in the Arab World: Empowering Democrats (American Enterprise Institute Press, 2008).

Conference Organizer and Moderator:
Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
Professor of Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies and Founding Director, Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford

Response: Dr. Jeffrey LeFebvre
Professor of Political Science, UConn Stamford

8:50 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Q&A
The Fall 2009 Lunch & Learn Series
Four Thursdays / 12:00 Noon — 1:30 p.m. / In the MPR on the 1st floor, at UConn, Stamford

Cities and Their Tales
In History and Fiction

Thursday, October 15

Linda & Edward Spilka Annual Lecture

City as Woman
in Hebraic Literary Tradition
(Read Yehudit Katzir, "Disneyel"
and "Closing the Sea")

Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
University of Connecticut, Stamford

Thursday, October 29

The Barbara & Joe Field Annual Lecture

Imagining the City:
The Rabbis Construct Urban Space

Dr. David Kraemer
The Jewish Theological Seminary

Thursday, November 12

The Norma & Milton Mann Annual Lecture

Jews and Christians
in the Eternal City - Rome

The Rev. Dr. Blaine Edele
Union Memorial Church, Stamford, CT

Thursday, November 19

The Nina & Norman Lotstein Annual Lecture

The Jewish Quarter of Tunis:
Encounters with Modernity, c. 1900

Dr. Joy Land
University of Connecticut, Stamford
The Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at UConn, Stamford, 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.

Now celebrating its twenty-ninth year, the Center has created 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.

For more information on our current programs, credit courses and the Certificate in Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, please call 203-251-9525 or email StamfordCJMES@UConn.edu

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