



Dear ladies and gentlemen, friends and patrons of the Kurt-and-Ursula-Schubert Centre for Jewish Studies,

In 2014–15 the Centre grew significantly as we increased our number of students and organized a number of important research and cultural events that attracted recognized scholars and general audience. These developments and other highlights are detailed in the following report. Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors for your partnership, interest, and support.

You are, as always, very welcome to turn to us with your questions, comments and suggestions.

Teaching:

- In the academic year 2014/15 the B.A. program Jewish and Israel Studies and M.A programs in Jewish Studies saw students' progress towards fulfilling degree. The staff's major activities were devoted to teaching and completion of a new textbook: Modern Hebrew for Beginners for Czech students (part 1, on-line textbook). Obligatory 3-days immersion course in modern Hebrew for beginners was organized before start of the academic year. As a result of our intensified PR-campaign 15 new students enrolled in September 2015.
- We continued organization of students' internships in institutions involved in the field of Jewish studies. Intensive cooperation has been maintained primarily with the Jewish Museum in Prague, and we have managed to add the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow to our partners.
- In March 2015 the Centre introduced a series of lectures by Dr. Susan Eischeid (Valdosta State University, USA) devoted to Holocaust music. The lectures were warmly received by the students of faculty the Centre and other departments of the Faculty of Arts.
- In the same month the Centre welcomed Dr. Michael Miller (Central European University, Budapest), a renowned expert in Moravian Jewish history, who offered a block seminar on the topic of his expertise. The seminar included a trip to selected Moravian Jewish sites and both were widely attended by students.
- The Centre organised a number of other field trips for B.A. and M.A students to Jewish sites and monuments both in the Czech Republic and abroad (Austria, Hungary and Italy).

Research:

- In May 2015 the Centre organized an international conference "Literature, Science, Medicine, and Jewish-Christian Relations: Berechiah ben Natronai ha-Naqdan and the Reception of His Works". Participants came from Israel (Bar Ilan and Hebrew University), Germany, Great Britain, the United States, and the Czech Republic. The program included a public lecture by Tovi Bibring (Bar Ilan University) attended by students and faculty members of Palacký University. The conference was organized as a part of Tamás Visi's ongoing grant of the Czech Grant Agency for research into the life and work of Berechiah ben Natronay ha-Nakdan.

- The Centre continued its successful series of public lectures, highly attended by the students, faculty and the general public. In the past year we managed to secure participation of many distinguished lecturers, including, e.g. professor Israel Yuval (Hebrew University).
- Lenka Uličná received A post-doctoral fellowship of the Rothschild Foundation Europe for her project on Language behaviour of Moravian Jewry in the 18th century.
- The Centre continues its ongoing project “BA. Study Program Jewish and Israeli Studies” (Rothschild Foundation Europe).
- We received further funding for the Centre’s library from the Foundation “Living Together in a New Europe”, Vienna.
- The Centre’s peer reviewed English language academic online journal *Judaica Olomucensia* has changed its website: <http://judaica.aither.eu/clanky/>

Cultural events:

- On 8th October, 2014, an official opening of the Winter Semester 2013 - 2014 was traditionally organized together with a Sukkot celebration at the University Botanic Garden in Olomouc.
- The seventh year of the festival Days of Jewish Culture in Olomouc was held in October 2014. The Centre again organized the film section of the festival in cooperation with the Jewish Community of Olomouc and the Theatre of Music, Olomouc. The topic of the film section was "Music in the Time of Apocalypse" in contemporary Israeli movies. The Centre’s students as well as students of other departments participated in a workshop prepared by the Centre and conducted by Israeli filmmaker Tomer Heymann.
- The Centre’s library served throughout the academic year as a venue for regular celebrations of Jewish festivals. The Chanukah, Purim and Pesah celebrations were again open to all university students and the public and met with great interest.

On behalf of the Kurt-and-Ursula-Schubert Centre of Jewish Studies,

Marie Crhová

(Administrative head of the Centre for Jewish Studies during the maternity leave of Ivana Čahová)