24TH ANNUAL
GRUSS COLLOQUIUM

Science and Transformation in Jewish Culture

April 22–23, 2018
Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion
Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center
3420 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA
Sunday, April 22

1:30 pm | WELCOME
Steven Weitzman, Ella Darivoff Director, Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

1:45 pm | TRANSMISSION
Chair: Francesca Bregoli, Queens College
Debra Glasberg Gail, Katz Center
Rabbis as Disseminators of Scientific Knowledge: Issac Lampronti and the Paḥad Yitzḥak
Assaf Tamari, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute
Sifra de’Asia Kartinah: The Zoharic Sages’ Encounter with “Kabbalistic Medicine” and Its Ramifications

Gad Freudenthal, French National Center for Scientific Research/Katz Center
Old French Cosmology in Early-Modern Garments: From Gautier of Metz Image du monde (1245) to Sefer Yedi’at ‘olam (Yiddish, 1719), to Sefer tsel ha-‘olam (Hebrew, 1733 et seq), to Tsel ha-‘olam (Tatar, 1830s)

Respondent: Gianna Pomata, Johns Hopkins University

3:45 pm | COFFEE BREAK

4:15 pm | PRAXIS
Chair: Christine Hayes, Yale University/Katz Center
Tamar Rabinowitz, Brooklyn College/Katz Center
“Hullo, Are You Dere?” Jewish Immigration, the Telephone, and the Technology of Americanization

Agata Paluch, Free University Berlin/Katz Center
Active Matter: Objects of Knowledge in Practical Kabbalah

Josefina Rodríguez-Arribas, Institut für Jüdische Studien – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität
Astrolabe Diagrams in Medieval and Early Modern Hebrew Manuscripts

Respondent: Andrew Berns, University of South Carolina

6:30 pm | DINNER (BY INVITATION)
Terrace Room, Claudia Cohen Hall
249 South 36th Street

The images in this program were taken from the second edition (Leipzig, 1760) of the 1734 alchemical text Uraltes chymisches Werk. The book is attributed to an Abraham Eleazar.
Monday, April 23

8:30 am | COFFEE & LIGHT BREAKFAST

9:00 am | EXPERTISE
Chair: Talya Fishman, University of Pennsylvania

Y. Tzvi Langermann, Bar Ilan University/Katz Center
In Search of Ancient Authority: Sefer yetsira and Pirke de-Rabbi Eliezer in the Kuzari and Other Medieval Texts

Maud Kozodoy, Independent Scholar
Text, Expertise, and Authority: Medieval Jewish Physicians and Their Manuscripts

Tal Golan, University of California, San Diego
In Search of Modern Authority: Zionism and Science

Respondent: Harun Küçük, University of Pennsylvania

11:00 am | COFFEE BREAK

11:30 am | STATES & INSTITUTIONS
Chair: Yitzhaq Feder, University of Haifa/Katz Center

Natalia Aleksiun, Touro College/Katz Center
Mapping Sick Jewish Bodies: Medical Discourse and Race in the Second Polish Republic

Sofia Grachova, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews/Katz Center
Pathologies of Civility: Eastern European Jews, Medicine, and the State in the Long Nineteenth Century

Anat Mooreville, Katz Center

Respondent: David Barnes, University of Pennsylvania

1:30 pm | LUNCH BREAK

3:00 pm | CONCLUDING PANEL
Chair: Steven Weitzman

Panelists
Adelheid (Heidi) Voskuhl, University of Pennsylvania/Katz Center
Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, Arizona State University
Annette Yoshiko Reed, New York University
J. H. (Yossi) Chajes, University of Haifa/Katz Center

5:00 pm | CLOSING RECEPTION
Arthur Ross Gallery
Fisher Fine Arts Library
220 South 34th Street
The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania is a global leader in the study of Jewish civilization, opening new vistas in the humanities and social sciences. With a prestigious fellowship program, a vast Judaica library, and a leading scholarly journal, the Katz Center links scholars to scholars, researchers to resources, and ideas to the wider world.

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