2004 – 2005

CPC theme for the academic year at RRC: “Gender and Textuality”
- Selichot program: “10 Imaginings of Sarai and Hagar,” a performance by Theatre Ariel, discussion led by Dr. Lori Lefkovitz, coffee, and service; held September 11, 2004 at Germantown Jewish Centre.
- Sheila Jelen: Teaching the stories of Hebrew writer Dvora Baron, Tkhines, and Tzenerena: What do we include in the Canon? How do we reclaim the real-life literature of Jewish women as sacred texts? (December 14, 2004)
- College Time Program: Teaching Troubling Texts (March 8, 2005)
- College Time Program: Workshop on domestic violence with Marie-Jeanne Lambert
- Ta’anit Esther: Kolot CPC joins in solidarity with the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance in focusing attention on the agunah crisis


Decision is taken to spin off the eminently successful Kolot creation – “Rosh Hodesh: It’s a Girl Thing!” – as a separate and independent non-profit organization, November, 2004

- Jewish Feminist Scholar’s Circle (co-sponsored with Temple University Women’s Studies): Barbara Breitman, an Adjunct Instructor at RRC. “Love in Judaism” (September ’04); Andrea Lieber, Sophia Ava Asbell Chair of Judaic Studies, and Assistant Professor of Religion Dickinson College. The divine body in the mystical text Shiur Komah (November ’04); Michelle Friedman, Bryn Mawr, PhD. Where is gender when we reflect on second-generation holocaust writing (January ’05); Dina Pinsky, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Arcadia University. Sociological research on Jewish masculinity (March ’05). Mothers Day Tea and Book Party, featuring Miriam Peskowitz, Ph.D., author of The Truth Behind the Mommy Wars: Who Decides What Makes a Good Mother, with Germantown Jewish Centre’s Women’s Club, (May ’05). State-of-the-field summary of the year, (June ’05)

Other Co-sponsorships:
• 3rd Annual Jewish Women’s Spiritual Retreat, with Jewish Spirituality Institute for Women, January 30, 2005
• Feminist Seder, Bux-mont JCC, April 7, 2005

Prof. Lori Lefkovitz:
• Exhibitor, JWA Virtual Exhibition on 350 Years of American Jewish Women’s History
• Participant in new Jewish Feminist Think Tank, New York, NY, 2004-05
• Lecture: “Conflict and Feminist Midrash,” Hartman Tichon Program, October, 2004
• Keynote speaker: Hadassah Education Day, “From Sarah’s Tent Until Today: The Coping Strategies of Our Jewish Foremothers”
• Discussant: The Future of Jewish Feminism and Jewish Feminist Scholarship, 36th Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, Illinois, December 19-21, 2004
• Presenter honoring Henny Wenkart, National Council of Jewish Women, May 19, 2005, New York
• Invited contributor: Jewish Women’s Archive Web Exhibit Documenting Feminism and its Transformation of American and Jewish Life
• Scholar-in-Residence: “Moving On: Lessons from the Book of Ruth” and Tikkun Le’il Shavuot, Congregation Dorshei Emet, Montreal, Quebec, Shavuot, 5765 – June 12-13, 2005

September 2005: Kolot assumes sole ownership of RitualWell.org, as Ma’yan, in reflection of its changing priorities, withdraws from the project. Kolot launches the new design of the Web site, which offers new interactive features, expanded content, and improved navigation, along with its beautiful new appearance.