Kolot Time Line

2006 – 2007

Fall Semester

Kolot College Program Committee (CPC) theme for the academic year at RRC: “Gender Roles in the Jewish Family”

CPC members: Isaac Saposnik, chair; James Greene, Julie Pfau, Reena Sigman Friedman, and Joel Hecker; Lori Lefkovitz, ex-officio


Community program: Ruth Andrew Ellenson and The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt. Co-Sponsored by Germantown Jewish Centre, Kolot, the Temple University Jewish Studies Program, and Mishkan Shalom. Ruth Andrew Ellenson, a National Jewish Book Awardee, presented “The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt,” which Forward calls "... well-written contributions by significant, contemporary Jewish women writers ... heartfelt accounts of their authors' struggles, often ongoing, with the demands of Jewish tradition and the pressures of their Jewish subcommunities." Big Blue Marble Bookstore, 551 Carpenter Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19119, October 11, 2006

College Time Program for RRC students, staff, and faculty: "A Critique of Women's Roles from Within Traditional Judaism," Devorah Zlochower, Rosh Beit Midrash at Drisha and JOFA (the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance) board member. December 12, 2006

College Time Program for RRC students, staff, and faculty, co-sponsored with the Green Committee and featuring Rabbi Jill Hammer, who spoke about seasonal themes and associated gender concepts from her new book, “The Jewish Book of Days,” December 19, 2006

Kolot is awarded a grant by the Jewish Women’s Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago to pilot a new project, “Ta’anit Esther: The Jewish Day for Justice,” in partnership with the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation in Evanston, IL. This pilot program expands on a program model that Kolot has developed at RRC over the last decade, transforming the oft-neglected pre-Purim fast day into an opportunity for social action in the Jewish community.
**Prof. Lori Lefkovitz:**

- Invited participant in an academic consultation at the University of Cambridge working on the development of an "Interfaith Programme" for study of the Abrahamic faiths.
- Speaks on “Loss and Recovery: A Postscript to 'Shaping Losses'” at “Shabbat Lunch ‘n’ Learn,” sponsored by the Women’s Club of GJC, following services at Germantown Jewish Centre, 400 West Ellet St., Philadelphia (Mt. Airy).
- Leads study sessions at the Women's League for Conservative Judaism Biennial Convention, Philadelphia: "The Language of our Prayers and the Limits of Creativity." November 12, 2006
- Teaches “Women and Judaism” at Akiba Hebrew Academy, December 15, 2006
- Through spring 2007, Kolot Director facilitated a leadership group for Greater Philadelphia Jewish Federation, including leading a trip to Israel and Istanbul.
- Member of working group and invited participant in seminar honoring the memory of teacher and scholar Tikva Frymer Kensky, z”l, at the Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies, Baltimore, MD. August 1-2, 2007

**Spring Semester**


Ta’anit Esther program in lieu of lunch: two “modern-day Esthers” – Fatima Haroun, a Sudanese refugee, and Lou Ann Merkle, an American artist, speaking out for the Philadelphia-based Darfur Alert Coalition established by Merkle. March 1, 2007


Writing workshop for RRC students, faculty and staff with Dara Horn. March 20, 2007

Supporting Partner in “Beyond Awareness, Effecting Change: 3rd International Conference to End Domestic Abuse in the Jewish Community,” Hyatt Regency Hotel in Baltimore, MD. This important conference, convened by Jewish Women International and partners, will be a powerful gathering of hundreds of Jewish and secular domestic violence service providers,
advocates, survivors of abuse, social justice activists, clergy, social workers, lawyers, researchers, policy-makers, donors, funders and community volunteers. March 18–20, 2007

Kolot co-sponsors Devorah's Flame: Women's Seder, featuring the Tof B’yadah (Timbrel in Her Hand) ensemble, Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, DE. March 22, 2007

Kolot co-sponsors Devorah's Flame: Women's Seder, featuring the Tof B’yadah (Timbrel in Her Hand) ensemble, Beth Shalom Congregation, Elkins Park, PA. March 25, 2007

College Time Program for RRC students, staff, and faculty: The Conservative Movement's Revised Stance on Homosexuality & Our Collegial Response – discussion with Rabbi Leonard Gordon and Rabbi Richard Hirsh. April 24, 2007

Meeting of the Jewish Women's Scholars and Writers Circle: an evening with Israeli poet Linda Stern Zisquit, reading from her recent work. April 30, 2007

Meeting of the Jewish Women's Scholars and Writers Circle: Professor Laura Levitt, Temple University, sharing portions of her new book, "American Jewish Loss after the Holocaust." May 7, 2007

Breakfast and workshop for adults and children with Vanessa Ochs, discussing her new book, "Inventing Jewish Ritual," at Germantown Jewish Centre; co-sponsored by Kolot, Big Blue Marble Bookstore, Jewish Publication Society, and Germantown Jewish Center.

Book party benefiting Kolot at the home of Betsy Teutsch, 8:00 pm, with Sally Koslow, author of "Little Pink Slips." June 20, 2007