



AND THE BUSH וְהַסֵּנֶה  
WAS NOT אֵינֶנּוּ  
CONSUMED אֲכָל

May 21, 1990

THE JEWISH  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY  
OF AMERICA

3080 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027-4649  
(212) 678-8000

FAX (212) 678-8947

Office of the  
Chancellor  
(212) 678-8071

TO: Professor David Roskies

FROM: Ismar Schorsch, Jewish Theological Seminary  
Samuel Norich, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

We'd like to invite you to become a part of a project which promises to revolutionize East European Jewish studies. The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research have entered into an agreement with the Moscow State Historical and Archival Institute (MGIAI) to:

- (a) conduct a joint nationwide search for Jewish documentary and archival collections in the USSR;
- (b) publish jointly a Guide to Jewish Archival Collections in the USSR;
- (c) introduce a program in Jewish history and culture at MGIAI, in order to train a cadre of Judaica archivists who will preserve, catalogue, and inventorize these collections;
- (d) re-establish Jewish studies and Jewish scholarship in the framework of Soviet academia, after a hiatus of some 53 years.

As a distinguished colleague in the field, we would like you to join the Academic Advisory Committee which will supervise and guide the implementation of this project. The Committee will be a relatively small group of 7 or 8 people who will meet two or three times a year to monitor the project and determine its future development. We consider your input essential to the project's success.

The first meeting of our committee will be Friday, May 25, at 9 a.m., and will be held at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1048 Fifth Avenue.

In order to acquaint you with the basic features of this project, we are enclosing the text of our agreement with MGIAI and some recent articles on the program.

We sincerely hope that you will accept our invitation to join the Academic Advisory Committee and attend the May 25 meeting at YIVO.

encls.