

May 31, 1998

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA

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Dr. David Roskies
Jewish Theological Seminary

Dear David,

I am delighted to present you with the Project Judaica Report for the 1997-98 academic year, documenting the great strides made by our program in Jewish studies and archival research at Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow. We now have forty one students enrolled in the five-year master's program, and three doctoral students. The Center for Biblical and Jewish Studies established in 1996, has been actively pursuing its program of instruction, seminars and publications. The Jewish Archival Survey's guide, Jewish Documentary Sources in Moscow Archives, appeared in February 1998 to much acclaim in the scholarly community. This volume will provide an invaluable research tool for scholars of East European Jewish history and culture.

This coming June 29, nine young women and men will receive degrees in Jewish Studies from RSUH and certificates from YIVO and the Seminary. The commencement, which will be held at RSUH at the end of June, marks more than the culmination of five years of intensive instruction and study by our faculty and students. It represents the successful training of the second cadre of Judaica specialists in post-Soviet Russia.

In conjunction with the graduation there will be a joint conference with RSUH and the Moscow Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization "Sefer" entitled "Jewish Culture and Russian Culture: Problems of Interaction." The goal of the conference is to initiate a dialogue between scholars of Russian and Jewish history and literature. It will feature presentations by a distinguished group of scholars from several countries, including scholars in Russian-Jewish studies who have emerged in the former Soviet Union during the last decade.

I would like to invite you to participate with Chancellor Ismar Schorsch, and the delegation he will lead to celebrate this festive occasion. I would also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your contribution to the growth and success of our program.

Sincerely,

Dr. David E. Fishman Director, Project Judaica