



AND THE BUSH וְהַסֵּנֶה  
WAS NOT אֵינֶנּוּ  
CONSUMED אֲכָל

June 15, 1992

Dr. David Roskies  
JTS

Dear David,

THE JEWISH  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY  
OF AMERICA

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I am enclosing the end-of-the-year report on the joint program of instruction in Jewish Studies at the Russian State Humanities University (RGGU) and the joint Jewish archival survey. The report was written primarily for the foundations and donors who support PROJECT JUDAICA, but I believe you will find it of interest.

Having recently returned from a two-week visit from RGGU, I can tell you that the program of instruction is truly thriving. The students and instructors are both very happy with each other, and the students' only complaint about their studies is that they want more history (!). We'll be happy to oblige them next year.

Enclosed are also the final grades for two of the three Judaica courses. (The final exam for the "Colloquium" will be administered by Mark Kupovetskii on June 21.)

The problems which arose during the semester were of an administrative nature (library staff and hours, the payment of student stipends, etc.) and were resolved during my visit. We hope to prevent such problems from lingering in the future by appointing an on-site Coordinator. We are now interviewing a serious candidate for the position.

There has been an important staffing change in the archival survey. Ilya Altman was dismissed as Associate Director of the archival project in early March, and has since been replaced by Professor Viktor Borisovich Kior. The problems with Altman related to his integrity and responsibility (E.g.: he arranged to visit Israel in February, the very same time that Marek Web went, as scheduled, to Moscow to work with him. Kior comes to us with the strong recommendation of the RGGU administration, and makes a very positive impression. He has been involved in the Jewish archival survey for nearly a year, as the designated investigator of Jewish materials in the former Communist Party Archive, and is therefore no newcomer to our project.

Marek Web will work with Kior in Moscow during the last week of June, and I will forward to you his report on the archival project following his return in mid-July.

Since three members of our Advisory Committee will be teaching at RGGU during the Spring 1993 semester (Kassow, Roskies and Zipperstein), we ought to have a meeting sometime during the fall. Please let me know if you have a strong preference as to the date.

I would appreciate your reactions to any of the enclosed materials.

Sincerely,

David E. Fishman  
Director, Project Judaica