International Conference

Cultural Restitution and National Reconstruction:
The Jewish Case after WWII

Wednesday, 19 March 2014
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Mount Scopus, Rabin Building, Room 2001
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9:00–9:15
Greetings
Reuven Amitai (Dean of the Humanities, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Uzi Rebhun (Head, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Yfaat Weiss (Director, Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Centre, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

9:15–10:45
Session I: Early Efforts
Chair: Stefan Litt (The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem)
Stefanie Mahrer (Rosenzweig Fellow, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
"Much more than just another private collection" – The Rescue of Jewish Books in the '30s
Ben Barkow (The Wiener Library, London)
From Amsterdam to London: The Journey of the Wiener Library

10:45–11:15 Coffee break

11:15–12:30
Session II: Keynote Lecture
Chair: Natan Sznaider (The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo)
Dov Schidorsky (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Books as Agents of Cultural Memory: Hannah Arendt’s Rescuing of Jewish Culture Goods after the Holocaust

12:30–14:00 Lunch break

14:00–16:15
Session III: American Interventions
Chair: Eli Lederhendler (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Dana Herman (The American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio)
Heirless Jewish Cultural Property: The American Government’s Policy After World War II
Elisabeth Gallas (Minerva Fellow, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Saving the Remnants of Jewish Culture - American and Jewish Restitution Initiatives in Post War Germany
Gish Amit (Mandel Leadership Institute, Jerusalem)
Common Past, Competing Futures: Redistributing Holocaust Victims’ Books

16:15–16:45 Coffee break

16:45–18:15
Session IV: The Aftermath
Chair: Guy Pessach (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Anna Kawalko (Research Student, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Between Breslau and Wroclaw: Disputing the Saraval Collection after World War II
Markus Kirchhoff (Saxonian Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig)
Questioning Provenances – Jewish Lost Books in Germany since the 1990s

18:15–18:30
Concluding Remarks
Dan Diner (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

18:30 Reception

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