Beyond Translation: Vernacular Jewish Bibles, from Antiquity to Modernity

Monday, February 24, 2020
Harvard Faculty Club, East Dining Room
20 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

9:00am Breakfast (Harvard Faculty Club)

10-10:30am Welcome (David Stern, Director, CJS)

10:30-11:45am Session I: The Ancient Period
Chair: Paul Kosmin, Harvard University
Annette Yoshiko Reed, New York University, “Demonizing Daimones? Hellenization, Angelology, and Cosmology in Old Greek and LXX Texts”
Steven Fraade, Yale University, “Private Versus Public Performance of Targum”

12:00-1:15pm Session II: The Medieval Period
Chair: Nicholas Watson, Harvard University
Meira Polliack, Tel Aviv University, “Medieval Arabic Bible Translations and Their Jewish and Christian Sources”
Luis Girón-Negrón, Harvard University, “The Rabbi, the Friar and the Knight: Moshe Arragel and the Old Spanish Bibles”

1:15-2:30pm Lunch (Harvard Faculty Club)

2:30-3:45pm Session III: The Early Modern and Modern Periods
Chair: Jon Levenson, Harvard Divinity School
Marion Aptroot, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, “Exegetical and Polemical Excursus in Older Yiddish Bible Translations”
Abigail Gillman, Boston University, “The German Jewish Translation Revolution (17th-20th centuries)”

3:45-4:15pm Break

4:15-5:30pm Session IV: The Twentieth Century
Chair: Sandra Naddaff, Harvard University
Naomi Seidman, University of Toronto, “Finding ‘A Women of Valor’: Gender and Americanization in the 1917 JPS Translation”
Lawrence Rosenwald, Wellesley College, “Judging the Buber-Rosenzweig Translation as Literature”
5:30-6:00pm Concluding Panel
Jonathan Sarna, Brandeis University
Ruth Langer, Boston College
David Damrosch, Harvard University

For more information, please contact
Center for Jewish Studies
Harvard University
6 Divinity Ave
Cambridge, MA 02138
617 - 495 - 4326
cjs@fas.harvard.edu
cjs.fas.harvard.edu
@CenterforJewishStudies

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Mahindra Humanities Center