The Dynamics of Religious Pluralism in a Changing World: The Philadelphia, United States, and International Contexts

Conference Program
Preprint – June 10, 2016

2016 International Conference of the
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS
and
COUNCIL OF CENTERS ON JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS

Philadelphia, USA
Saint Joseph’s University,
Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations
July 10 – 13, 2016
2016 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PHILADELPHIA
The Dynamics of Religious Pluralism in a Changing World:
The Philadelphia, United States, and International Contexts
July 10 – 13, 2016

P R O G R A M

SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2016:

1.00-3.30 pm On-site Check-In for Full Participants at the Campion Student Center, Saint Joseph’s University

4.00-6.00 pm OPENING CEREMONIES
(Chapel of Saint Joseph – Michael J. Smith, S.J. Memorial)

Keynote Address
Rabbi David N. Saperstein
(United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom)

INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONS IN THE WORLD TODAY

6.00 pm Dinner at the Doyle Banquet Hall, Campion Student Center, SJU

8.00 pm Buses to Conference Hotel “Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue”
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016:

WILLIAM PENN’S “HOLY EXPERIMENT”

“No people can be truly happy, though under the greatest enjoyments of civil liberties, if abridged of the Freedom of their Conscience as to their Religious Profession and Worship.”
Pennsylvania Charter of Liberties, 1701

07.00-07.30 Morning Prayers at the Conference Hotel “Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue”

08.00-08.30 On-Site Check-In for Registered Day Guests at the Campion Student Center, Saint Joseph’s University

8.30-10.30 PLENARY SESSION A

8.30 Meditative Moment

9.00 The Christian Majority in the United States: Tolerance, Intolerance, and Competition

Although Christians were the overwhelming religious majority in the United States since colonial days, the experiences of the diverse Christian subgroups have been quite varied over the centuries because of ethnic origins, theological conflicts, and waves of immigration. This plenary session of Philadelphia-based scholars explores this kaleidoscopic story involving Anabaptists and Quakers, Mainline and Evangelical Christianity, African-American Christians, and Roman Catholics.

Speakers: Dr David M. Krueger
Dr Kate Oxx
Dr Terry Rey
Dr David Watt

10.00 Buzz Groups / Question and Answer

10.30-11.00 Coffee Break

11.00-12.30 WORKSHOP SESSION A

Workshop A1
A “City of Brotherly Love:” The Origins and Lasting Influence of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia
Presenter: Dr Kate Oxx

Workshop A2
How Christian was Kongo Square? African Religion in Colonial Philadelphia
Presenter: Dr Terry Rey

Workshop A3
American Religious Origins in Mythic Terms
Presenter: Dr David Krueger

Workshop A4
The History of Fundamentalism in the United States
Presenter: Dr David Watt

Workshop A5
Accepting Difference and Teaching Acceptance
Presenters: Dr Reuven Firestone
Dr Amineh Hoti

12.30-2.00 pm Lunch

2.00-4.30 pm AFTERNOON OF DIALOGUE: NEW DOCUMENTS ON CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

2.00 pm Authors’ Roundtable
Moderator: Dr Ruth Langer
Speakers representing the authorship of several recent statements on Jewish-Christian relations will introduce the purpose and intended audience(s) of their document and highlight sentences or portions
they consider to be the most important and/or the most difficult to compose. In order of publication

on: Presbytery of Chicago, Presbyterian Church (USA), “...In Our Time...’ A statement on relations between the Presbytery of Chicago and the Jewish community in metropolitan Chicago”
Speaker: Rev. Joyce Shin

Speaker: Mr Jean François Bensahel

on: Orthodox Rabbis, “To Do the Will of Our Father in Heaven: Toward a Partnership between Jews and Christians”
Speaker: Rabbi Jehoschua Ahrens

on: Commission of the Holy See for Religious Relations with the Jews, “The Gifts and the Calling of God Are Irrevocable’ (Rom 11:29): A Reflection on Theological Questions Pertaining to Catholic-Jewish Relations on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate, No. 4”
Speaker: Rev. Dr Norbert Hofmann

2.45 pm Small Group Dialogues
Facilitated discussions on document excerpts: The groups will generate questions to be submitted in writing for the ensuing scholarly panel.

3.45 pm Comments and Responses by CCJR Members
Speakers: Dr Adam Gregerman
Dr Matthew Tapie

4.15 pm Coffee Break

4.45-6.00 pm WORKSHOP SESSION B

Workshop B1
A Different Lens: Understanding the Holocaust in a Multireligious World
Presenters: Ms Remaz Abdelgader
Dr Mehnaz Afridi
Dr Victoria Barnett
Dr Adam Gregerman
Dr Heather Miller-Rubens

Workshop B2
Voice, Engage, Support and Act: Interfaith Cooperation on Campus
Presenters: Ms Elena Dini
Mr Joe Philipson

Workshop B3
Religion as Problem and Solution
Presenters: Dr Pavol Bargár
Rev. Dr Michael Trainor
Dr Deborah Weissman

Workshop B4
Higher Education in Christian-Jewish Relations
Presenters: Rev. Dr Lawrence Frizzell
Dr Frederek Musall

Workshop B5
The Marrakesh Declaration – Muslims in the US and Christians in the Middle East
Presenters: Sheikh Ghassan Manasra
Rev. Dr John Pawlikowski
Rabbi Dr Burton Visotzky

6.00-7.00 pm Dinner

7.00-9.00 pm Evening Programs and Meetings
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016:

THE NON-ESTABLISHMENT EXPERIMENT

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ... "
First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

07.00-07.30
Morning Prayers at the Conference Hotel “Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue”

08.00-08.30
On-Site Check-In for Registered Day Guests at the Campion Student Center, Saint Joseph’s University

8.30-12.30
PLenary Session B

8.30
Meditative Moment

9.00
The Jewish Experience of the American Experiment
A foremost expert of the history of Jews in the United States will provide an overview of how Jews have fared under the Constitution’s “Establishment Clause,” which prohibits the government from curtailing the “free exercise” of religious traditions and from preferring one religion over others or none.
Speaker: Dr Jonathan D. Sarna

9.45
Comments / Responses
Speakers: Dr Mehnaz Afridi
Dr Volker Haarmann

10.00
Buzz Groups / Question and Answer

10.30
Coffee Break

11.00
The Muslim Experience of the American Experiment
The Director of the Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith Education Center at Manhattan College and an important voice in the national trilateral dialogue surveys the Muslim experience of life in the United States under the Constitution’s Establishment Clause.
Speaker: Dr Mehnaz Afridi

11.45
Comments / Responses
Speakers: Dr Volker Haarmann
Dr Jonathan D. Sarna

12.00
Buzz Groups / Question and Answer

12.30-13.30 pm
Lunch

13.30-16.30 pm
FIELD TRIPS TO LOCAL SITES

16.30 pm
RENDEZVOUS AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Keynote Address
Mr Jeffrey Rosen
(President and CEO of the National Constitution Center)

The Meaning and Legacy of the Establishment Clause

17.30 pm
Free Evening (no Transfer by Bus to the Conference Hotel “Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue”)

9
10
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016:

INTERNATIONAL INSIGHTS

07.00-07.30  Morning Prayers at the Conference Hotel “Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue”

08.00-08.30  On-Site Check-In for Registered Day Guests at the Campion Student Center, Saint Joseph's University

8.30-10.30  PLENARY SESSION C

8.30  Meditative Moment

9.00  International Perspectives on Religious Pluralism: Challenges, Limits, and Possibilities

In dialogue with the previous mornings' plenaries, members of the Executive Board of the ICCJ will discuss how a plurality of religious traditions lives together in their respective national contexts.

Speakers:  Ms Liliane Apotheker
           Dr Pavol Bargár
           Rabbi Shmuel Szteinhendler
           Rev. Dr Michael Trainor
           Dr Deborah Weissman

10.00  Buzz Groups / Question and Answer

10.30-11.00  Coffee Break

11.00-12.30  WORKSHOP SESSION C

Workshop C1  What Teachers and Students Bring to Their Understanding of the Holocaust: An International, Interreligious Discussion

Presenters:  Josey G. Fisher
            Dr Henri Parens

Workshop C2  Day of Judaism / Israel Sunday

Presenters:  Ms Anette Adelmann
            Mr Piotr Dudek
            Ms Sarah Egger

Workshop C3  A Prelude to 2017: Luther and the Jews

Moderator:  Ms Liliane Apotheker

Presenters:  Rev. Dr Peter Pettit
            Rev. Dr Ursula Rudnick

Workshop C4  Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism: A Distinction Without a Difference?

Presenters:  Ms Elizabeth Harris-Sawczenko
            Rev. Dr John Pawlikowski
            Rabbi Dr David Sandmel

Workshop C5  Sharia and Halakha in the United States Today

Presenters:  Dr Mustafa Baig
            Dr Amineh Hoti
            Dr Jonathan D. Sarna

12.30-2.00 pm  Lunch

2.00-3.30 pm  PLENARY ON PAUL

2.00 pm  The Understanding of Paul’s Theology and Christian Anti-Judaism

Nearly forty years ago, Ed Parish Sanders published a book that revolutionized Pauline studies by situating the Apostle to the Gentiles within a more accurate description of the beliefs and practices of Late Second Temple Judaism. Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion rapidly became a classic work. In this special plenary session, Prof. Sanders will offer reflections on how Christian understanding of Paul relates to their attitudes toward Judaism.

Speaker:  Dr Ed Parish Sanders
3.00 pm  Comments / Responses
Speakers:  Rev. Dick Pruiksma
Dr Adele Reinhartz

3.30-4.00 pm  Coffee Break

4.00-5.00 pm  CONCLUDING SESSION

Speakers:  Rev. Dr John Crossin
Rev. Friedhelm Pieper
Rabbi David Straus

7.00 pm  CLOSING FESTIVE DINNER
WORKSHOPS

Workshop Session A – Monday Morning

A1 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Dr Kate Oxx

A “City of Brotherly Love:” The Origins and Lasting Influence of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia
The city of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have both long been associated with the Quaker religious ideals of their “founder” William Penn. His “holy experiment” also included a number of other Anabaptist and Pietist communities suffering persecution in their homelands. In this discussion, we’ll look at these distinctive beliefs and their impact on the ideals and institutions of the city and eventually of the United States.

A2 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Dr Terry Rey

How Christian was Kongo Square? African Religion in Colonial Philadelphia
Little is known about African religious culture in colonial Philadelphia, but the signs thereof are intriguing and invite scholarly inquiry. Seemingly the epicenter of African religious life in the city was then one of the five public parks designated by William Penn. Today known as Washington Square Park, in the 18th century the plaza near Independence Hall was called Kongo Square. Why? That Africans buried their dead and surely venerated them there, and that they performed drumming ceremonies and chanted numerous African languages, suggests that the Square was indeed the locus of African religion in colonial Philadelphia. Many slaves from Kongo, furthermore, were already Christian, Catholics in fact, meaning that the Square was likely a cradle of Black Christianity in the Americas. This workshop will explore Kongo Square’s history and its implications for understanding the history of religion in Philadelphia.

A3 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Dr David Krueger

American Religious Origins in Mythic Terms
This workshop will explore the myths the United States as founded as a Christian nation, the myth of Manifest Destiny, competing myths on the European "discovery" of America, and myths of Anglo Saxon origins. These mythic perspectives will all be related to the vision and reality of Penn’s "Holy Experiment" of religious freedom.

A4 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Dr David Watt

The History of Fundamentalism in the United States
In the United States a variety of Christian traditions have developed that are often sweepingly and confusingly described as "Evangelical" or “Fundamentalist.” Participants in this workshop will consider the nature of Protestant Fundamentalism, the relationships between Fundamentalists, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, and Liberal Protestants, and the role that the fear of Fundamentalism has played in shaping the cultural history of the United States.

A5 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
[Organized by the ICCJ International Abrahamic Forum]
Dr Reuven Firestone, Dr Amineh Hoti

Accepting Difference and Teaching Acceptance
With a nine-fold increase in violent extremism all over our shared world, accepting difference and teaching acceptance is crucial to changing mindsets, especially among the young. Social scientists have argued that this is “The Age of Empathy.” Since Abrahamic values promote compassion and tolerance, this session explores how through these ideas we can together help heal our fractured world.
Workshop Session B – Monday Afternoon

B1 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Remaz Abdelgader, Dr Mehnaz Afridi, Dr Victoria Barnett, Dr Adam Gregerman, Dr Heather Miller-Rubens

A Different Lens: Understanding the Holocaust in a Multireligious World

Much post-Holocaust interreligious work has focused on repairing the Jewish-Christian relationship and addressing anti-Jewish teachings in Christianity. Yet, the complex history of the Holocaust has implications for contemporary interreligious conversations. Recent historical research has given us new knowledge of the Holocaust’s impact on various faith communities, including Muslim populations throughout Europe and in North Africa, and on the dynamics of religious prejudice and the ways in which nationalism, religion, and ideology intersect.

Moreover, newer generations are bringing their own concerns and questions both to the study of the Holocaust and the interfaith conversations. Join us for an informal discussion of the insights from different faith and disciplinary perspectives.

B2 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
[Organized by the ICCJ Young Leadership Council]
Elena Dini, Joe Philipson

Voice, Engage, Support and Act: Interfaith Cooperation on Campus

In this workshop, members of the Young Leadership Council will lead participants in a discussion about interfaith cooperation in institutions of higher learning.

We will draw on the historical role of faith communities and interfaith dialogue in the context of colleges and universities, and evaluate the current situation of campus ministry, chaplaincy, and interfaith work.

The goal of the workshop is to compare and contrast challenges and success stories from interfaith cooperation at colleges and universities around the world, toward concrete takeaways that might build on what participants are already doing at their institutions.

B3 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
[Organized by the ICCJ Theology Committee]
Dr Pavol Bargár, Rev. Dr Michael Trainor, Dr Deborah Weissman

Religion as Problem and Solution

Some social scientists have argued that in modern, secular society, religion would disappear. But in many parts of the world, religion has made a comeback—some would say, “with a vengeance” because throughout the world religions are involved in violent conflicts. Often these conflicts have political, national, ethnic, social and economic aspects, as well. And so all too often the image of religion in the world today is one of extremism, xenophobia and violence. But is this accurate?

B4 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Rev. Dr Lawrence Frizzell, Dr Frederek Musall

Higher Education in Christian-Jewish Relations

The development of Jewish-Christian Studies on the Master’s and Doctoral levels prepares the next generation for the important work ahead. Exchange of experiences from North America, European and Israeli perspectives will provide a stimulating context for discussion.

B5 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
[Organized by the International Abrahamic Forum]
Sheikh Ghassan Manasra, Rev. Dr John Pawlikowski, Rabbi Dr Burton Visotzky

The Marrakesh Declaration – Muslims in the US and Christians in the Middle East
Workshop Session C – Wednesday Morning

C1 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Josey G. Fisher, Dr Henri Parens

What Teachers and Students Bring to Their Understanding of the Holocaust: An International, Interreligious Discussion
This workshop considers the role that one's personal background plays in educating and learning about the Shoah. Depending on individual and familial histories, people will have different questions and concerns: What is it we want to discover? What is the focus of our inquiry? What are the hardest questions that the Shoah raises for us? What role does our religious and national background play? What outcomes might the study produce? The workshop will enrich and inform our thinking about the field of Holocaust education and related disciplines and concerns.

C2 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Anette Adelmann, Piotr Dudek, Sarah Egger

Day of Judaism / Israel Sunday
In several European countries, special days are annually set aside by various churches to celebrate the Jewish tradition and Europe's Jewish heritage. In some Protestant communities this day is called Israel Sunday, while in Catholic dioceses it is named the Day of Judaism. This panel will consider the purposes and nature of these observances with special focus on Austria, Germany and Poland.

C3 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Rev. Dr Peter Pettit, Rev. Dr Ursula Rudnick

A Prelude to 2017: Luther and the Jews
This workshop will give a brief introduction to Martin Luther’s writings on Jews and Judaism and then analyze how the Lutheran churches in the United States and Germany have dealt with Luther’s antisemitism over the past decades. Discussion will focus on both Jewish and Christian responses to these recent developments, including possible distinctions among responses in the US, in Europe, and elsewhere. We will ask how this has affected the Jewish community and explore the impact of Luther’s negative legacy on Christian communities and on the agenda for Christian theology moving forward.

As the 2017 ICCJ conference will be held in Germany to mark the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, this workshop introduces many of the themes and questions to be considered next year at ICCJ’s conference in Bonn.

C4 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
Elizabeth Harris-Sawczenko, Rev. Dr John Pawlikowski, Rabbi Dr David Sandmel

Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism: A Distinction Without a Difference?
In today’s political and religious discourse the terms “antisemitism” and “anti-zionism” are used by people on all sides. Both of these terms are highly emotive. Some claim that charges of antisemitism are used (or abused) to shut down dialogue or critique of Israel and the policies of the State of Israel, while others hold that one can be anti-zionist without being antisemitic. This presentation will explore the challenges of defining these terms and what is at stake in the debate over their meanings.

C5 (Campion Student Center, Room TBD)
[Organized by the ICCJ International Abrahamic Forum]
Dr Mustafa Baig, Dr Amineh Hoti, Dr Jonathan D. Sarna

Sharia and Halakha in the United States Today
The workshop discusses questions such as: What do Jews and Muslims share together in the predominantly Christian society of North America? What particular and common challenges do they face and how can they increase cooperation and respect among them and between them and the majority society?
FIELD TRIPS TO LOCAL SITES – TUESDAY AFTERNOON

1: National Museum of American Jewish History
Now housed in a brand new building on Independence Mall, the NMAJH presents exhibits and experiences that preserve, explore, and celebrate the history of Jews in America. Its purpose is to inspire in people of all backgrounds a greater appreciation for the diversity of the American Jewish experience and the freedoms to which Americans aspire.

2: Historic Walking Tour of Jewish Philadelphia
Jews were present in Penn's City from early colonial days, but in the 19th century the Jewish population increased enormously, making the city the "Jewish capital of America." This walking tour will visit some of the most important Jewish synagogues and sites, highlighting the cultural contributions of the city's Jewish citizens over the years.

From its earliest days, Philadelphia was recognized for the unusual diversity of Christian and other religious traditions. This walking tour will vividly display this pluralism by visiting an amazing array of historical houses of worship, all located within a few city blocks of one another.

4: Expressing Religious Freedom and Pluralism in Art
The cultural heart of the city, the Philadelphia Museum of Art houses a collection of over 250,000 works of art from the Americas, Europe, and Asia and attracts more than a million visitors each year. This guided tour will focus on artwork that illustrates the high value placed on religious freedom in Philadelphia as well as on works pointing toward key issues in the Jewish-Christian dialogue.

5: Independence Hall and Liberty Bell
Visit the building originally known as the Pennsylvania State House in which the Declaration of Independence was voted upon 240 years ago and where the Constitution of the United States was composed. Also see the famous "Liberty Bell" and learn about its origins in colonial days and the extremely powerful symbolism it came to hold during the American Civil War and afterward.

6: National Constitution Center
The Constitution Center brings the United States Constitution to life by hosting interactive exhibits and constitutional conversations and inspires active citizenship by celebrating the American constitutional tradition. As the Museum of "We the People," the Constitution Center features hundreds of interactive exhibits, engaging theatrical performances, and original documents of freedom.
OTHER EVENTS

Monday, 11.07.2016, 12.30 pm:
Lunch Meeting of the Advisory Board of CCJR’s Journal “Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations”
Saint Joseph’s University, Campion Student Center, Room TBD

Monday, 11.07.2016, 7.00 pm:
Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (CCJR):
Annual General Meeting [AGM]
Saint Joseph’s University, Campion Student Center, Room TBD

Monday, 11.07.2016, 7.30 pm:
Association of Friends and Sponsors of the Martin-Buber-House: Annual General Meeting [AGM]
Saint Joseph’s University, Campion Student Center, Room TBD

Thursday, 14.07.2015, 9.00 am:
International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ): Annual General Meeting [AGM]
Saint Joseph’s University, Campion Student Center, Room TBD
SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

Adelmann, Anette
Germany, Anette Adelmann, General Secretary of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)

Afridi, Mehnaz

Ahrens, Jehoschua
Germany, Rabbi Jehoschua Ahrens, former communal rabbi in Bulgaria, Switzerland and Germany, Director for Central Europe of the Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding and Cooperation (CJCUC), Efrat / Israel

Aposteker, Liliane
France, Liliane Aposteker, First Vice-President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)

Baig, Mustafa

Bargár, Pavol
Czech Republic, Rev. Dr Pavol Bargár, post-doctoral researcher at the Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University in Prague, Board member of the CCJ in the Czech Republic, Executive Board member of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)

Barnett, Victoria
USA, Dr Victoria Barnett, Director of the Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust at the U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Bensahel, Jean-François
France, Jean-François Bensahel, President of the Union libérale israélite de France, President of the Copernic Synagogue, Paris

Crossin, John

Cunningham, Philip A.
USA, Dr Philip A. Cunningham, Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)

Dini, Elena
Italy, Elena Dini, graduated in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Interfaith Dialogue, and Interreligious Studies, student of Catholic Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome

Dudek, Piotr

Egger, Sarah
Austria, Sarah Egger, Director of the Austrian Coordinating Committee for Christian-Jewish Cooperation

Firestone, Reuven
USA, Rabbi Dr Reuven Firestone, Regenstein Professor in Medieval Judaism and Islam at the Hebrew Union College, Senior Fellow of the Center for Religion & Civic Culture, University of Southern California

Fisher, Josey G.

Frizzell, Lawrence

Gergeman, Adam
USA, Dr Adam Gergeman, Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies at the Department of Theology and Religious Studies and Assistant Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations, Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA

Haarmann, Volker

Harris-Sawczenko, Elizabeth
UK, Elizabeth Harris-Sawczenko, Deputy Director of the Council of Christians and Jews, former Development Director of the New Israel Fund, currently trustee of the Abraham Fund Initiatives and member of the Muslim-Jewish Women Leaders Initiative in the UK

Hofmann, Norbert
Vatican, Rev. Dr Norbert Hofmann SDB, Secretary to the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews of the Holy See
Hoti, Amineh
Pakistan, Dr Amineh A. Hoti, Executive Director of Markaz-e-Ilm, the Centre for Dialogue & Action (CD&A), founder of the Society for Dialogue and Action at Lucy Cavendish College, distinguished Fellow of the Institute of Strategic Studies, Pakistan

Krueger, David M.

Langer, Ruth
USA, Dr Ruth Langer, Professor of Jewish Studies, Associate Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College, Chair of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (CCJR)

Manasra, Ghassan

Miller-Rubens, Heather

Musall, Frederek

Oxx, Kate
USA, Dr Kate Oxx, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA

Parens, Henri
USA, Dr Henri Parens, Professor of Psychiatry at the Thomas Jefferson University, training and supervising analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia

Pawlikowski, John
USA, Rev. Dr John T. Pawlikowski, Professor of Social Ethics and Director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois

Pettit, Peter
USA, Rev. Dr Peter A. Pettit, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding at the Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA

Philipson, Joe
USA, Joe Philipson graduated from Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts, in 2015 with a degree in religion and political science

Pieper, Friedhelm

Pruiksma, Dick
Netherlands, Rev. Dick Pruiksma, former ICCJ General Secretary, member of the Council for Jewish-Christian Relations of the Protestant Church in the Netherlands, coordinator of the Council's "Paul-within-Judaism" project

Reinhartz, Adele
Canada, Dr Adele Reinhartz, Professor in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies at the University of Ottawa, Ontario and Corcoran Visiting Chair in the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College

Rey, Terry
USA, Dr Terry Rey, Associate Professor of Religion at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Rosen, Jeffrey
USA, Jeffrey Rosen, President and CEO of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Professor of Law at the George Washington University Law School, Philadelphia

Rudnick, Ursula
Germany, Dr Ursula Rudnick, Professor at the Leibniz Universität Hannover, consultant for Jewish-Christian relations of the Evangelisch-Lutherische Landeskirche Hannovers

Sanders, Ed Parish

Sandmel, David
USA, Rabbi Dr David Fox Sandmel, Director of Interfaith Affairs at the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

Saperstein, David N.
USA, Rabbi David N. Saperstein, United States Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom since January 2015, former Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC)
Sarna, Jonathan
USA, Dr Jonathan D. Sarna, Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA and the Chief Historian of the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia

Shin, Joyce

Szteinhendler, Shmuel
Chile, Rabbi Shmuel Szteinhendler, rabbi of the congregation Beit Emunah, Chair of the Chilean Council of Christians and Jews, member of the Executive Board of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCI)

Straus, David

Tapie, Matthew
USA, Dr Matthew Tapie, Assistant Professor of Theology and Director of the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies, Saint Leo University, Saint Leo, FL

Trainor, Michael
Australia, Rev. Dr Michael Trainor, Senior Lecturer at the School of Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University, Adelaide

Visotzky, Burton L.
USA, Rabbi Dr Burton L. Visotzky, Appleman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, Director of the Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue

Watt, David
USA, Dr David Harrington Watt, Professor of History at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Weissman, Deborah
Israel, Dr Deborah Weissman, Immediate Past President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCI)

THE 2016 PHILADELPHIA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairs:
Philip A. Cunningham (President, ICCJ)
David Straus (Co-Chair, National Council of Synagogues)

Members (in alphabetical order):
Anette Adelmann (General Secretary, ICCJ)
Howard Alpert (Co-President, Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia)
Sue Levi Elwell (Scholar in Residence, Washington Hebrew Congregation)
Adam Gregerman (Board of Directors, CCJR)
Adam Kessler (Director, Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia)
Ruth Langer (Chair, CCJR)
Heather Miller-Rubens (Board of Directors, CCJR)
Peter A. Pettit (Director, Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding Muhlenberg College, Allentown)
Ruth Sandberg (Director, Jewish-Christian Studies Program, Gratz College, Philadelphia)
Ronald Simkins (Vice-Chair, CCJR)

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Ehud Bandel, Israel  Member
Pavol Bargár, Czech Republic  Member
Shmuel J. Szteinhendler, Chile  Member

ICCJ CONFERENCE STAFF

Anette Adelmann  ICCJ General Secretary
Petra Grünewald-Stangl  ICCJ Staff member
Birgit Meurer  ICCJ Staff member
Diana Cunningham  Local staff