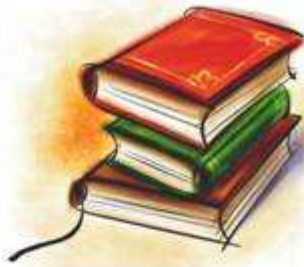


From: Jackson_Jeffrey
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2009 8:25 AM
To: FACSTAFF
Subject: Rescue or Theft? The Post-War Transfer of French-Jewish Archives to the US
Attachments: Leff Poster.pdf; image001.jpg

Monday, October 26th
7:00 pm, Blount Auditorium

Rescue or Theft?



The Postwar Transfer of French-Jewish Archives to the US

Dr. Leff will tell the story of Zosa Szajkowski, historian and archive "salvager," who recovered and then moved thousands of documents about Jewish history from France to the US from 1940-61. He used these documents to create the field of French Jewish history, but then sold them to US research libraries. This fascinating story illuminates the connections between knowledge, document collecting, and power. What is the relationship between archives, memory and communal identity?



Dr. Lisa Moses Leff, Associate Professor of History at American University, is the author of the *Sacred Bonds of Solidarity: The Rise of Jewish Internationalism in Nineteenth-century France*.

Sponsored by the Departments of History, Modern Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies, The Search Program, the Marcus Orr Center for the Humanities at the University of Memphis and The Memphis Jewish Community Center



Rescue or Theft? The Post-War Transfer of French-Jewish Archives to the US

Monday, October 26 @ 7:00 PM
Blount Auditorium
Free and open to the public.

Prof. Lisa Moses Leff (American University) will tell the story of Zosa Szajkowski, historian and archive "salvager," who recovered and then moved tens of thousands of documents about Jewish history from France to the United States from 1940 through 1961.

Professor Leff will address Szajkowski's complex motivations including his sense of

what it means to be a historian (as well as money troubles, insanity, and views about where Jewish documents do or don't belong).

This story sheds light on what archives are (not a site of remembering but a site of forgetting) and suggests that they are themselves affected by historical forces, and the relationship between archives, memory and communal identity.

Professor Leff is the author of *Sacred Bonds of Solidarity: The Rise of Jewish Internationalism in Nineteenth-Century France*.

This event is co-sponsored by the departments of History, Modern Languages and Literatures, and Religious Studies, the Search Program, the Marcus Orr Center for the Humanities at the University of Memphis, and the Memphis Jewish Community Center.

For more information on my new book, visit www.ParisUnderWater.com

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