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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“Challenges of Translating and Interpreting the Bible:  
March Programs at Rutgers Bildner Center”**

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – Two programs focusing on the challenges of translating and interpreting the bible will be presented by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers. Renowned scholar Robert Alter, the award winning translator of the Five Books of Moses, will present the talk “The Pleasures and Perils of Translating the Bible” on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Rutgers Student Center, 126 College Avenue in New Brunswick. Alter, Emeritus Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of California-Berkeley, will discuss the challenges faced in translating the bible from biblical Hebrew to modern English. The recipient of numerous awards, Alter was most recently named the 2013 Haskins Prize Lecturer (honoring scholarly careers of distinctive importance) by the American Council of Learned Societies. Alter’s public talk is held in conjunction with the Henry Schwartzman Endowed Faculty Seminar.

A literary look at the binding of Isaac will be given by Yael S. Feldman in a lecture based on her book “Glory and Agony: Isaac’s Sacrifice and National Narrative” on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Feldman’s talk will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Brower Commons, 145 College Avenue in New Brunswick. Feldman, the Abraham I. Katsh Chair of Hebrew Culture and Education at New York University, will explore modern Hebrew retellings of the biblical story of the binding of Isaac. Drawing on her book, a finalist for the 2010 National Jewish Book Award, she will illuminate the changing attitudes toward heroism and victimhood in Jewish history and other literary traditions. Feldman’s talk is supported in part by the Sagner Family Foundation.

Both lectures are free and open to the public. Advance registration is requested by contacting csjlrsvp@rci.rutgers.edu or 732-932-2033. Free parking is available.

For more information on the Bildner Center’s programs, visit [jewishstudies.rutgers.edu](http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu). The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life connects the university with the community through public lectures, symposia, Jewish communal initiatives, cultural events, and teacher training.

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