

Contact: Darcy Maher, 732-729-9877; Email: [dbmbildner@comcast.net](mailto:dbmbildner@comcast.net)

February 21, 2016 / FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **The Apostle Paul and the Rabbis Public Lecture at Rutgers on April 4**

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – Dr. Ishay Rosen-Zvi (Tel Aviv University) presents a novel approach to the relationship between the apostle Paul and the rabbis at a public lecture on April 4 at Rutgers. Paul played an instrumental role in the establishment of Christianity as a world religion, while the rabbis worked to reinterpret Jewish practice after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. Rosen-Zvi suggests that there was more interplay between the two than previously thought, and asserts that some early rabbinic debates were shaped by, and responses to, Paul's views.

The talk, "The Apostle Paul and the Rabbis," will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Brower Commons, 145 College Avenue, New Brunswick. The lecture is free and open to the public. It is cosponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life and the Department of Religion. The talk is presented in conjunction with the Henry Schwartzman Endowed Faculty Seminar. Free parking is available. Advance registration is requested by emailing [csjlrsvp@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:csjlrsvp@rci.rutgers.edu) or calling 848-932-2033. Space is limited. Seating is first come, first seated. For more information, visit the website [BildnerCenter.rutgers.edu](http://BildnerCenter.rutgers.edu).

Rosen-Zvi has focused his research on Midrashic hermeneutics, the formation of the Mishna, Temple rituals in rabbinic literature, and gender and sexuality in late antiquity. His books include *The Mishnaic Sotah Ritual: Temple, Gender and Midrash* and *Demonic Desires: "Yetzer Hara" and the Problem of Evil in Late Antiquity*.

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.