

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Debbie Walter may be contacted at 732-932-7084 x 614 or dwalter@ur.rutgers.edu.

### **RUTGERS' BILDNER CENTER SPONSORS INTERFAITH PROGRAMS**

#### **Discussions on Jewish-Christian relations designed to promote mutual understanding**

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – A series of interfaith dialogues on Catholic-Jewish relations will take place at Rutgers over the next two months.

The public is invited to the first event, “Jewish-Christian Relations Today: A Historic Transformation,” featuring distinguished scholars Rabbi Eugene Korn and Father John T. Pawlikowski. The lecture and panel discussion will take place Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Traves Hall, Douglass Campus Center, 100 George Street. A reception follows the presentation and advance registration is requested.

The event is sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers in cooperation with the Diocese of Metuchen, Rutgers Hillel and the Rutgers Catholic Center, and with support from Joseph and Harriet Tabak.

“The opportunity to bring these communities together to discuss contemporary issues in light of the historical relationship will encourage an ongoing dialogue and increase mutual understanding in the community,” said Karen Small, associate director of the Bildner Center.

Eugene Korn is a scholar, teacher and lecturer in the areas of Jewish thought and ethics, Jewish-Christian relations, and Israel. He was ordained by the Israeli Rabbinate and earned a doctorate in philosophy from Columbia University. Rabbi Korn is the North American Director of the first Orthodox interfaith center in Israel, The Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding and Cooperation, spearheaded by Rav Shlomo Riskin of Efrat.

Pawlikowski, a professor of ethics and director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program at the University of Chicago, is a leading figure in Christian-Jewish dialogue worldwide. He is a founding member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council and president of the

International Council of Christians and Jews. He is the author of 10 books, including *Christ in the Light of the Christian Jewish Dialogue* and *Ethics in the Shadow of the Holocaust* (co-edited with Judith Bank).

The next program, a two-part dialogue on Jewish-Christian relations designed for Rutgers students, will take place Oct. 7 and 28. The dialogue, developed by Jewish studies faculty, Rutgers Hillel and the Rutgers Catholic Center, is intended to engage and educate Catholic and Jewish students, and promote mutual understanding.

To register for the programs, contact the center at [csjlsvp@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:csjlsvp@rci.rutgers.edu) or call 732-932-2033. For more information, 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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