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**Renowned Archaeologist Jodi Magness Presents Discoveries in Ancient Israeli Synagogue  
Public Lecture at Rutgers-New Brunswick, December 10**

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – Since 2011, exciting excavations in the ancient village of Huqoq in Israel’s Galilee have been directed by famed archaeologist Jodi Magness, the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. On December 10, Magness will come to Rutgers to share her team’s discoveries, including the remains of a monumental fifth-century synagogue paved with stunning and unique mosaics that include the first non-biblical story ever found decorating an ancient synagogue.

The slide-illustrated lecture, “More Than Just Mosaics: The Ancient Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel’s Galilee,” will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Douglass Student Center, 100 George Street, New Brunswick. The talk is free and open to the public and free parking is available on campus with vehicle registration. Sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life, the talk is supported by the Sagner Family Foundation. Advance registration is requested - email [rsvpBildner@sas.rutgers.edu](mailto:rsvpBildner@sas.rutgers.edu) or register online on the Bildner Center website: [BildnerCenter.Rutgers.edu](http://BildnerCenter.Rutgers.edu).

Magness currently serves as the president of the Archaeological Institute of America and as the director of the Huqoq Excavation Project. She has published ten books, including *The Archaeology of the Holy Land*, and has led numerous archaeological digs.

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.