Next Year in Jerusalem
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Acknowledgments

The 30th Annual Symposium on Jewish Civilization took place on Sunday, October 29, and Monday, October 30, 2017, in Omaha, Nebraska. The title of the symposium, from which this volume also takes its name, was “Next Year in Jerusalem: Exile and Return in Jewish History.” All of the essays collected here, with the exception of the ones by Jean Cahan and Shlomo Abramovich, were delivered at the symposium itself.

The academic sponsors of this symposium represent three major educational institutions in Nebraska: Creighton University (the Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization, the Kripke Center for the Study of Religion and Society), the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (the Harris Center for Judaic Studies), and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (the Schwalb Center for Israel and Jewish Studies).

As it happens, the topic for the 2017 symposium was suggested by Moshe Gershovich z”l, then director of the Schwalb Center. His all-too-early death deprived us of the active and inspiring participation on his part from which we had benefited in previous years.

In large measure, the symposium owes its success to two groups of dedicated and talented individuals. First are my academic colleagues: Dr. Ronald Simkins (Creighton), Dr. Jean Cahan (University of Nebraska–Lincoln), and Dr. Curtis Hutt (University of Nebraska at Omaha). Their generosity, individually and collectively, has been exemplary.

The second group consists of administrative assistants, the individuals who really know how to get things done. In this context, I offer sincere expressions of gratitude to Colleen Hastings, who works with the Klutznick Chair and Kripke Center at Creighton, and Kasey De Goey of the Schwalb Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

As many readers of this volume know well, the road from oral presentation to written publication is filled with obstacles. Our path has been inestimably smoothed over through our relationship with the Purdue University Press. For almost a decade we have enjoyed the professional and personable staff of the press, first under the previous director, Charles Watkinson, and now under Justin Race. They have made us feel comfortable in every way, and we look forward to many more years of association with the press.

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