

Sept 8 2017

In light of recent unwarranted political attacks, the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia University expresses its strong support for the Center for Jewish History and its President and CEO, Professor David N. Myers. Professor Myers received his doctoral training at Columbia under eminent professor of Jewish History Yosef Yerushalmi, ז"ל, Director of the (then) Center for Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia. Prof. Myers is one of the leading scholars in the field. For close to a quarter century he served with distinction at UCLA: as the Sady and Ludwig Kahn Chair in Jewish Studies, as Director of the UCLA Center for Jewish Studies, and as Chair of the Department of History. Scholars of Israel and Jewish studies who care about the future of Israel hold a wide variety of positions and opinions about how to achieve a secure and just future. The diversity of voices regarding such a critical matter is not only to be tolerated in the world of academe—it is the very hallmark of the Jewish tradition as well as the necessary foundation for academic discourse to thrive. Professor Myers is exceptionally qualified to lead the Center for Jewish History; we look forward to its growth and success under his direction.

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