

EDITORIAL

In the academic year 2016/2017 at the Jagiellonian University we celebrated 30 years of Jewish studies. This anniversary has been an opportunity to recall the origin of interest in Jewish studies in Kraków, its history and some achievements. We organized conferences dedicated to our founding fathers, Prof. Józef Gierowski (1922-2006), and Prof. Chone Schmeruk (1921-1997). Also, there were many other events dedicated to this anniversary such as lectures by our graduates, visits by leading scholars, and alumni meetings. The development can be seen through institutional transformation. In 2000, the first university unit called the Research Center on the History and Culture of Jews in Poland became the Department of Jewish Studies. Then, in 2012 it developed into the Institute of Jewish Studies. At all of these stages, Jewish studies at the Jagiellonian University have forged a pioneering structure guaranteeing the highest of international standards and acting as an academic model for other institutions in Poland and the international academic world. In recognition of the achievements of the Institute of Jewish Studies at the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Edward Dąbrowa and Assoc. Prof. Michał Galas were elected respectively as the president and treasurer of the European Association for Jewish Studies (EAJS) at its Congress in Paris in 2014 and the next EAJS Congress will take place in Kraków on July 15-19, 2018.

The Institute of Jewish Studies at the Jagiellonian University is the only such institute in Poland, as well as the only place where almost all fields of Jewish studies from the ancient world to the present state of Israel are included both in the curriculum and the research of the Institute's faculty. It prompted us to establish in 2002 our peer-reviewed journal *Scripta Judaica Cracoviensia: Studies in Jewish History, Culture and Religion* dedicated to broad aspects of Jewish studies.

The editors of *Scripta Judaica Cracoviensia* would like to thank Prof. Edward Dąbrowa who served as the Editor-in-Chief from 2002 until 2016.

The invitation to contributors that was published in the first issue of SJC in 2002 is still valid today. One of the main reasons for the creation of the journal *Scripta Judaica Cracoviensia: Studies in Jewish History, Culture and Religion*, was to establish a “platform for the exchange of ideas, the presentation of research results, and the publication of new documents and sources by Polish and foreign scholars on the vast subjects of Jewish studies—from the biblical period to the present time.” We would like to invite scholars to submit their articles, reviews, and reports for publication in *Scripta Judaica Cracoviensia*.

The Editors