

Wisdom Beyond Boundaries

New Directions in the Study of Ancient Wisdom on the Occasion of the Hundredth Anniversary of Adolf Erman's "Eine ägyptische Quelle der Sprüche Salomos"

March 30–31, 2025

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem | Mount Scopus, Mandel Building, 5th floor, Room 530

Sunday, March 30

16:30 Gathering

17:00 Greetings

Tzahi Weiss, The Open University of Israel, The World Union of Jewish Studies

Naphtali Meshel, Head of the Department of Bible, Hebrew University

Eric Lawee, The Department of Bible, Bar-Ilan University

17:15–18:30

Egyptian Wisdom and Beyond

The session is dedicated to the blessed memory of Prof. Michael V. Fox, esteemed scholar of Wisdom

Chair: **Eric Lawee**, Bar-Ilan University

Bernd U. Schipper, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

In Memory of Prof. Michael V. Fox: A Tribute

The Book of Proverbs and Egyptian Wisdom Literature – 100 Years After Adolf Erman

Nili Shupak, University of Haifa
"Thus Solomon's wisdom surpassed ... all the wisdom of Egypt": The Contribution of Egyptian Wisdom Literature to the Study of Biblical Wisdom

Discussion (15 min)

Monday, March 31

9:00 Gathering

9:30–10:45

Mesopotamian Wisdom and Beyond

Chair: **Hila Dayfani**, Hebrew University

Nathan Wasserman, Hebrew University
Mapping Mesopotamian Wisdom: An Updated Catalogue of Akkadian Sapiential Texts

Yoram Cohen, Tel Aviv University
"Two Are Better Than One": SB V 75–79 of the Epic of Gilgameš and Qohelet 4:9–12

Discussion (15 min)

11:15–12:30

Qoheleth

Chair: **Menahem Kister**, Hebrew University

Nili Samet, Bar-Ilan University
Qohelet's Context: Chapter 7 as a Test Case

Tova Forti, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Dreams and Futility: Qohelet and Ben Sira Repudiate the Practice of Trusting in Dreams

Discussion (15 min)

12:30–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:15

Job

Chair: **Michael Segal**, Hebrew University

Ed Greenstein, Bar-Ilan University
Fatalism in the Ancient Near East, in Qohelet, and Even in Job

Rachel Frish, Hebrew University
Wisdom and Strength in the Book of Job

Discussion (15 min)

15:30–17:30

Second Temple Literature

Chair: **Nili Wazana**, Hebrew University

Stuart Weeks, Durham University
Tobit and the Wisdom Books

Noam Mizrahi, Director of the Orion Center, Hebrew University
Practical Wisdom and Moral Teaching in Ben Sira: The Case of Sir 11:10

Jonathan Ben-Dov, Tel Aviv University
Ants and Bees in Musar Lamevin: Between Biblical and Hellenistic Wisdom

Discussion (30 min)

