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Media Contacts

Rachel Richter or Oran Evenhaim

American Jewish University's Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies to Relocate to the Heart of Jewish L.A.

Los Angeles, CA – Today, American Jewish University (AJU) announced that the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies will be moving to a new location near the Pico-Robertson neighborhood. This decision was based on thorough research of Los Angeles Jewish life, Ziegler student and faculty feedback, and the recommendations of an external Blue-Ribbon Commission that was convened by AJU in January of 2022, and has been approved by AJU's Board of Directors. AJU's regional accreditor, the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), has approved the additional location through a substantive change process for the Ziegler School.

The new 7700 sq. ft. space is located at 350 South Beverly Dr. on the corner of Olympic and Beverly, and will feature a library, private offices for tenured faculty, shared workspaces, classrooms, a conference room, and Beit Midrash, and will be include a design allowing for collaboration and communal gathering. The strategic move aligns with Ziegler's mission to cultivate a strong sense of Jewish community and will provide a dynamic learning environment that benefits both students and faculty. The new location is within walking distance of multiple Kosher restaurants, synagogues, and Jewish institutions, which will immerse Ziegler students into the cadence of urban Jewish life and foster a rich Ziegler community.

"With this move, American Jewish University begins a new chapter for the Ziegler School, providing our students with innovative opportunities to flourish in the heart of Jewish life in Los Angeles, said Dr. Jeffrey Herbst, President of American Jewish University. "We are paying close attention to the shifting needs of the Jewish community, our offerings, and our students, and making important changes that will enable AJU's programs to thrive for generations to come."

With renovations in the planning process, the Ziegler School is expected to occupy the new space in early to mid 2024.

"The Ziegler School's top priority is the success and wellbeing of our students. This strategic relocation will create huge benefits for both our students and faculty by increasing access to Jewish life," said Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, Dean of the Ziegler School. "Relocating the program to Pico-Robertson will facilitate a more rich and dynamic learning environment, which supports our mission to provide our students with strong academic and professional training, personal spiritual enrichment, and a sense of community."

The Zeigler School has recently <u>redesigned its curriculum</u>, <u>created a change in tuition structure</u>, and has hired a new full-time Assistant Dean, all in accordance with the recommendations of the blue-ribbon commission.



To learn more about American Jewish University's Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, visit www.aju.edu/ziegler.

<u>About AJU</u>: American Jewish University (AJU) is a thriving center of resources and talent that serves the Los Angeles community of the twenty-first century. AJU equips students, faculty, campers, and learners of all ages with the tools to create the ideas, build the structures, and develop the programs to advance Jewish wisdom and elevate our world. For more information, visit <u>www.aju.edu</u>.

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