June 30, 2020

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning wishes to extend deep thanks and appreciation to Fr. James Bernauer, S.J., for his twelve years of service as the Center’s Director. Under Fr. Bernauer’s leadership, the Center has deepened its contributions to academic thinking about the relationship between Jews and Christians, sponsoring innumerable guest lectures, interdepartmental faculty discussions, and robust conferences—including an international conference on Jesuits and Jews. Additionally, Fr. Bernauer developed interdisciplinary and interfaith graduate student seminars on themes of poverty, charity, and altruism in the Abrahamic faiths—giving meaningful support and experience to younger scholars in their contributions to interreligious dialogue and interfaith harmony. Under his tenure, the annual visiting Corcoran Chairs have become an integral and valued element of the Center’s academic offerings through their courses, lectures, and conferences. Fr. Bernauer’s own scholarship on the Holocaust and the historical relationships between Jesuits and Jews has made significant contributions to the field, and, we hope, will continue in his retirement.

The Center’s Associate Director, Ruth Langer, Professor of Jewish Studies in the Theology Department, has been appointed its Interim Director.