

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE – JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

היברו יוניון קולג' – מכון למדעי היהדות

3077 University Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90007
June 7, 2006

Fishman Celebration
c/o Nancy H. Hornberger
3700 Walnut Street, 3d Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6216

Shikl Fishman has played a very important role in my scholarly development. As an undergraduate at Columbia, I was turned on to the sociology of Yiddish and Jewish languages through his research and his editorial initiatives. In particular, I found inspiration in *Readings in the Sociology of Jewish Languages*, *Never Say Die!*, and issues 30 and 67 of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, works I still consult and cite regularly. When I was deciding where to attend graduate school in linguistics, his presence as a visiting scholar at Stanford was a major draw. There, I had the privilege of studying with him in a course and an individual tutorial. It was in these sessions that I really began to feel like a scholar. Shikl taught me to make strong, supportable arguments, to be careful in my wording, and to make my research on Jews applicable to the sociology of language. It was not just my scholarly language that benefited from these sessions; I also had the chance to improve my Yiddish by speaking and reading in *mameloshn*. I will always remember these sessions fondly, along with the meals and *shmueskrayzn* at the home of Shikl and Gella in Palo Alto. Thank you for everything!

א' ש"נאס דא/נק. ב'ס א' פונדאטא און צוואנציק!

Mit koved,



Sarah Bunin Benor

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