

## **Prof. Simcha Emanuel - CV September 2020**

Simcha Emanuel is a full professor in the Department of Talmud at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He holds the Ludwig Jesselson Chair of Codicology and Paleography. He received his Ph.D. from the Hebrew University, where he also completed his bachelor's and master's degrees. He has also taught at the Department of Talmud at Tel Aviv University.

Professor Emanuel is a scholar of medieval halakhic literature with a primary focus on three areas: the study of medieval talmudic and halakhic literature, both that which has come down to us and that which has been lost over time; the history and biography of medieval halakhic sages; and the history of *halakhah* itself. Emanuel bases his research on medieval Hebrew manuscripts. *Inter alia*, he developed the study of the “European Genizah” – tens of thousands of leaves that are being discovered all over Europe in book-bindings and in the covers of archival files. His studies have been published in six books and many dozens of articles. His articles and books include the publication of numerous texts – from complete manuscripts, from Cairo Genizah fragments, and fragments from the European Genizah – that have never before been published.

Emanuel is a member of the National Library Council in Jerusalem – the National Library of Israel has been his “home away from home” for decades – as well as the scientific committees of Books within Books: Hebrew Fragments in European Libraries and the book series, *European Genizah: Texts and Studies*, published by Brill. In the past he was the head of the Department of Talmud at the Hebrew University, and for many years he served as secretary of the Mekize Nirdamim Society.

His studies have earned him prizes and research grants, including: the Council for Higher Education Yigal Alon Fellowship (1996-1998); the Polonsky Prize for Creativity and Originality in the Humanistic Disciplines (The Hebrew University, 2009); and the Rav Kook Prize for Talmud Research (Tel Aviv Municipality, 2012).