Israel Shapiro and the Development of Library of Congress Judaica Class

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Description: In 1927, the Library of Congress published the BM subclass for Judaica. It was a momentous occasion, for when it was published, the subclass was fully robust. This presentation is the story of the birth of the Judaica subclass, the forces that helped make this happen and the people involved.

Haim Gottschalk earned his MEd from the University of Judaism (now American Jewish University) in Los Angeles and his MLS from Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. While a student at IU, he did his library internship at the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit at the University of Cambridge, where he learned to work with and handle genizah fragments. Additionally, he worked with Judaica collections at various academic and synagogue libraries. Haim was co-editor of Yiddish Modernism: Studies in Twentieth-Century Eastern European Jewish Culture (Slavica, 2014) Currently, he is a cataloger in the Israel and Judaica Section at the Library of Congress and is the current chair of the Librarianship & Education committee.