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Rabbi Norman Lamm Designated As Yeshiva University President

THE entire synagogue family of The Jewish Center was thrilled to learn during the summer of the designation of Rabbi Norman Lamm as the President of Yeshiva University. He succeeds the late Samuel Belkin, of blessed memory, to the leadership of the foremost Jewish institution of higher education in this country. Rabbi Lamm has already begun much of his new duties, but will fulfill many of his rabbinic functions at The Center as well while the search for his successor is under way.

During the eighteen years that Rabbi Lamm served at The Jewish Center, The Center membership has come to appreciate his qualities of intellect and personality. His accomplishments within The Center, and the membership and neighborhood which it serves, have been remarkable. Following the tradition of our Senior Rabbi Leo Jung, he has conducted his rabbinate on the highest level of dignity and integrity. He has been successful in bringing to The Center growing numbers of new worshippers and members. His sermons, lectures, seminars, and classes, were always packed events. In many ways, the intellectual stimulation which he provided and which attracted and retained younger members may have of itself been a stabilizing force in the neighborhood.

Rabbi Lamm's educational and leadership activities reached out beyond The Center itself to the neighborhood. He has served as a Vice Chairman of the West Side Jewish Community Council. He is Jakob and Erna Michael Professor of Jewish philosophy at Yeshiva University and led scores of students to their intensive interest in matters of Jewish concern. His educational interests included service and leadership at Camp Morasha, a leading educational summer camp. He has been instrumental in the leadership and support for Gesher, a unique educational foundation in Israel. He served for many years as the Chairman of the Advisory Board of Yavneh, the college level orthodox student organization.

Center members came to know Rabbi Lamm's intellect not only through his sermons and lectures. His published works have included *Faith and Doubt*, and *The Royal Reach*. The material for some portions of these works was based on sermons originally delivered at the Center. His *Hedge of Roses* was based upon a lecture to The Center's Couples Club. He served as the founder and first editor of *TRADITION*, an intellectual journal of note.

Together with a number of laymen at The Center, Rabbi Lamm was active in the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, in which he served as a member of the Board of Directors. He was recently elected to the Board of Overseers of Bar Ilan University, and serves on numerous other prestigious rabbinic and lay groups.

To us at The Center, however, even more significant than his numerous accomplishments in the educational, intellectual, and organizational fields of Jewish life, was his warm, intense, and ever ready concern and involvement for the lives, problems, and joys of the individual members of the synagogue. It is those qualities, together with the warmth of his wonderful wife Mindy, and their lovely family, that were most felt over the years. While he will be "lost" as our rabbi, the friendship and concern will obviously remain.

Our sense of loss is surpassed only by a pride and recognition of the critically important task which Rabbi Lamm undertakes as President of Yeshiva University. The burdens are truly staggering and all of his friends and congregants join in wishing him and his family every success, achievement, and joy in the new post.