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My very first steps in the academic field were connected with Sefer. My first scholarly article was published in 1998 in *Tirosh*, my first serious teaching experience was lecturing on the history of anti-Semitism at a Judaica winter school in early 2000. Sefer's schools and conferences often serve as academic venues to present my scholarly findings to colleagues for the first time.

I always remember with gratitude how much I have gained thanks to Sefer; I would hardly have become a professional in my field had I not had the chance to participate in the wide array of Sefer's schools and programs.