Dear Marc,

I would like to suggest קיום של a conference followed by a book on the "perceptions of territory in ancient Judaism".

The department of Jewish studies in Duke with its prominent scholars would be appropriate place for holding and leading this project.

A fundamental figure in the research of this issue was the Duke's scholar W.D. Davies, the outhor of : "The Gospel and the Land: Early Christianity and Jewish Territorial Doctrine", 1974, and "The Territorial Dimension of Judaism".(With a symposium and Further Reflactions, 1991). Bayside this, his archive in Duke reflects his main position in the research of territorial aspect of the Land in the Jewish culture at the second half of the 20th century

In the last previous years, we are witness of the flowering of the ""spatial turn", in theory and in concrete research. This make platform for reexamination of the place of territory and the Land, in the Jewish culture, in the antiquity, in the new light of the "Spatial Turn"

This is the place to remark that the series of books "Eretz Israel BaHagot HaYehodit", A. Ravitzky (Eed.) (Yad Ben Zvi), discussed the issue of the Land of Israel from Medieval to modern periods, but not with the antiquity.

Propose date: The year 2021, remarks 20 years for the passing of W.D. Davies, and 30 years for the appearing his Territorial Dimension of Judaism, With a symposium and Further Reflections".

Place: Duke might be an excellent candidate for holding such a conference. Cooperation with Yad Ben Zvi in Israel and University of Haifa, is also an option.

Tentative participant from America and Israel:

Marc Brettler

Laura Lieber

Eric Meyers

Carol Meyers

Nili Wazana

David Frenkel

Gunter Stemberger

Sharlot fonRobert

Gil Klein (California)

Oded Irshai

Daniel Schwartz

Eyal Ben-Eliyahu

Sincerely,

Eyal

Eyal Ben Eliyahu

Department of Jewish History

University of Haifa