

JewishGen's primary mission is the collection and dissemination of Jewish family history data.

#### Challenges

- Remaining a free resource
- Fundraising in a difficult economy
- Acquiring & delivering data rapidly
- Appealing to next generation
- Staying relevant to changing Jewish community
- Improving user-friendly access
- Maintaining personal privacy and data security
- Cooperating and collaborating internationally
- Competing with other data bases
- Charting direction of the organization

But does it also have a wider purpose?

- Foster collaborative research
- Develop/adapt innovative technologies
- Promote Jewish education
- Strengthen Jewish identity through cultural awareness
- Promote the Jewish historical narrative – “Diaspora-to-Return”
- Demonstrate solidarity with Israel
- Expand ties with non-Jewish institutions, ancestral communities
- Rescue Jewish cultural artifacts of significance to family history

Topics for consideration:

- How would you define the JewishGen mission?
- How should we appeal to younger generations?
- Should JewishGen have a broader educational role?
- What is the evolving role of JG's volunteers?
- In what direction should we expand JewishGen's offerings?
- Is the JG relationship with Ancestry.com working for you?
- What, if any, new technologies should JG explore?
- What new sources of revenue should JG consider?
- Can the JG contribution to the annual IAJGS conference be improved?

JewishGen Board Seeks YOUR Input

- What can we do better?
- What new resources, approaches would you like to see?
- Are we being responsive to your needs?

Please send your thoughts to

Hal Bookbinder, JewishGen Board Member, [hal.bookbinder@ucla.edu](mailto:hal.bookbinder@ucla.edu)