Supplementary Materials for "Denominations in Judaism"

Additional Questions for Congregational Leadership

- 1. "Why can't we just be—Jews?" [p. 31]
 - a. What does your community do that you see as particular to Conservative Judaism?
 - b. What does your community do that can be seen as "just Jewish"?
 - c. Were there program areas that you had trouble placing in one category or the other? Why didn't they fit neatly into this framework?
- 2. "For all that I believe in the necessity of multiple paths, and believe passionately in the essential rightness of the Conservative path, I am convinced that the "default position" among Jews right now should be partnership." [p. 32]
 - a. There are things that all Jews could do together, according to Chancellor Eisen. What are they? What does your community do that could be done in collaboration with Jewish institutions of other denominations?
 - b. How important do you think it is to work for greater unity, and why?
- 3. "[T]he Jewish community as a whole . . . benefits enormously from the diverse strengths and passions that varying denominations bring to our people and our tradition, and also benefits when work for Federation, social justice, environment, Israel, the arts, and many other causes crosses denominational boundaries." [p. 33]
 - a. In your experience, what "strengths and passions" have participants from other denominations brought to cross-communal activities that you have been a part of?
 - b. What "strengths and passions" have you and other Conservative Jews brought to cross-communal activities?

