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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Conversation on 'Why Israel Matters' to take place at CSUSB Palm Desert Campus**

PALM DESERT, Calif. – The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Cal State San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus will host a free event entitled, "Why Israel Matters" on Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the campus's Indian Wells Theater.

This event is part of a series of multigenerational, community-wide conversations about the experience of war. This particular discussion will focus on the relationship of a people to the land; in this case, the Jews to Israel. This example seeks to explain what it means to be indigenous to the land and to be threatened with the loss of that land.

Attendees will learn more about the historical context behind the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and why Israel matters so much to the Jews in Israel today and around the world throughout time. With input from a panel of speakers, film clips and facilitated discussion, the conversation will consider the status, birth and development of Israel, from an historical perspective up until modern times.

### **About the Presenter**

Arlette Poland is a retired lawyer turned theologian and professor. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from UC Berkeley, a master's degree in religion from Claremont School of Theology, a master's degree in ethical leadership from Claremont Lincoln University, a juris doctor degree from San Francisco Law School and a doctorate in philosophy in religion from Claremont Graduate University. She has been teaching at the college level since 1999 and lecturing with OLLI since 2005. Her areas of specialty based on her doctorate include Buddhism, Judaism, science and religion, and world religions.

Registration for the event is required either online at <https://pdc.csusb.edu/osher> or by calling (909) 537-8270.

The CSUSB Palm Desert Campus is located at 37-500 Cook St. in Palm Desert.

The CSUSB Palm Desert Campus offers bachelor's and master's degrees, a doctorate in educational leadership, and teacher credentials and certificates. With more than 1,400 students, it is the Coachella Valley's four-year public university and plays a vital role in educating and training the region's growing population.

For more information about the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, contact Mike Singer in the campus' Office of Public Affairs at [msinger@csusb.edu](mailto:msinger@csusb.edu) or (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107, or visit the campus website at [pdc.csusb.edu](https://pdc.csusb.edu).