

JEWISH STUDIES

at the University of Pennsylvania



Victorian Judaica Trade Card. Large die cut lithograph of a sail/steamer ship with the American flag and raised features. Cohen & Brumberg "The Great One Price Clothier" Gurney Block. Salem, Ohio (ca. 1870s). From the Kaplan Collection at the University of Pennsylvania.

THROUGH ITS JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM AND THE HERBERT D. KATZ CENTER FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC STUDIES, THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFERS AN UNPARALLELED ARRAY OF INTELLECTUAL AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES. ALONG WITH TEACHER-SCHOLARS, THE UNIVERSITY IS HOME TO SOME OF AMERICA'S GREATEST RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN JUDAICA AND HEBRAICA.

The Jewish Studies Program

Undergraduates: The conscious decision of faculty members who teach different disciplines within Jewish Studies to affiliate as a Program, rather than a Department, expresses the conviction that the riches of Jewish culture and the history of Jewish communities of different times and places ought not be isolated or marginalized, but fully integrated into many fields of the Humanities and, where relevant, the Social Sciences.

Faculty members associated with the Program teach an average of 400 undergraduate students per year. Students may declare a major or a minor in Jewish Studies.

Graduate students enrolled in many different departments within Penn's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and other Penn Graduate Schools, come together in reading groups of their own design that are sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program (JSP).

Graduate students also run a Jewish Studies-funded annual conference on a topic that cuts across disciplinary lines. The 2014 Spring Conference is on: "Warring Words: Rethinking Polemic in the Study of Jews and Judaism."

The Community: Many lectures, concerts, films and dance performances – sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program – are open to the public. Current cultural programs are listed in this newsletter.

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

This post-doctoral research institute in the heart of historic Philadelphia enables eighteen to thirty selected scholars, at different stages in their careers and working in many disciplines, to join in intellectual community, united by an annual theme. The highly competitive selection

process attracts gifted applicants from North America, Israel, Europe, and Latin America. The weekly seminars in which Katz Center Fellows present their research are also attended by Penn faculty members and graduate students. Penn graduate students have the opportunity to study with Katz Fellows

in an annual modular course. By presenting their research within the colloquia and lecture series of various Penn Departments and Programs, Katz Center Fellows broaden awareness of Jewish culture's integral place in the Liberal Arts curriculum.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR, JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

It has been both daunting and exhilarating for me to assume the role of Director of the University of Pennsylvania's Jewish Studies Program. I am grateful to the outgoing Director, Professor Beth Wenger for briefing me over many well-organized hours, and to Chrissy Walsh, the Program's capable and proactive Administrator, who faces all challenges with common sense, grace and cheerfulness. I am also most appreciative that my colleagues, fellow faculty members affiliated with Jewish Studies, give freely of their ideas and serve as sounding boards as the Program attempts to give the intellectual and cultural riches of Jewish civilization greater visibility on the Penn campus.

Working in partnership with the post-doctoral Katz Center for Judaic Studies, the campus-based Jewish Studies Program aims at facilitating greater awareness that the histories and cultures of ancient empires, the Christian West and the Islamic world cannot be properly studied without considering developments in contemporaneous and regionally proximate Jewish societies and subcultures. Just as the goal of integrating Jewish studies into the humanities shapes our undergraduate and graduate courses, it informs our efforts to partner with colleagues, departments and programs specializing in an array of disciplines across the university. We are delighted that these efforts are bearing fruit. The participation of scholars of Judaica (both standing Penn faculty and visiting Katz Center Fellows) in yearlong campus lecture and seminar series and in well-attended interdisciplinary Penn conferences enhances awareness of the integral place that subfields of Jewish Studies have in research agendas of the broadest intellectual significance and interest.

A major one-day conference held in April, 2013, "Shaping Legal Cultures from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages," was among the Program's many events that illustrated this point. Eighteen leading scholars, standing faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and Fellows of the Katz Center among them, came together to explore the ways in which region affected the "packaging" of legal traditions within disparate cultures that flourished in geographic contiguity between the sixth and the twelfth centuries. Scholars of late Roman, Sassanian, Byzantine, Jewish, Islamic and Christian canon law considered how their respective traditions of law were shaped by extra-legal phenomena such as patronage networks, institutions, circumstances of material production, compositional choices, modes of disseminating law and jurisprudential theories. By facilitating awareness of the regionalism of certain formative, though extra-legal, factors, this cross-cultural collaboration stimulated new avenues of historical research.

The Fall 2013 lineup of cultural events similarly reflects the Jewish Studies Program's impulse to build intellectual networks. The events scheduled as of the time of this publication link the Program with the following Penn entities: the Departments of Music, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; Germanic Languages and Literatures, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies; Middle East Center; the Alice Paul Center for Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies; the Program in Cinema Studies and the Workshop in the History of the Material Text.

The 28th Alexander Colloquium, to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 12th, will feature the Lucidarium Ensemble's "Una Festa Ebraica" concert – with dance performance! – of early modern Jewish



music, preceded by a lecture and a reception. Co-sponsors of this unusual cultural event are the Katz Center for Jewish Studies and the Consulate General of Italy in Philadelphia. This December, the Jewish Studies Program will partner for the first time with the Penn Law School in a day-long conference entitled "Thinking Legally vs. Thinking Historically."

The Jewish Studies Program cultural events series this Fall contains an excellent mix of themes, periods and modes: Diaspora and Israel; ancient, medieval, early modern and modern topics; talking heads and the arts. All these programs are open to members of the broader community. A complete list can be found on the website of the Jewish Studies Program. <https://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/jwst/>

We hope to see you at many of these events.

with good wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Talya Fishman".

Talya Fishman

Associate Professor, Department of
Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
Director, Jewish Studies Program

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR, HERBERT D. KATZ CENTER FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC STUDIES

This is certainly a period of transition in the leadership of the Jewish Studies Program and very soon, the Katz Center as well. It has been an enormous pleasure to work with my dear colleague and friend, Beth Wenger, in her capacity as Director of the Program, and I wish her well as she goes on sabbatical for a year and then continues in her present role as chair of the History department. She has served Jewish Studies at Penn with ingenuity and devotion and she will be a hard act to follow. I am sure I speak for all my colleagues in thanking her for a job well done and wishing her the best in the future. I am confident her successor, Talya Fishman, will bring to the job great energy and creativity and that the Center will continue to work closely with Jewish Studies under her new leadership.

As I write this message, I begin my twentieth and last year as Darivoff Director of the Katz Center. It is hard to believe so much time has lapsed and I await the arrival of my successor who will begin in the summer of 2014. The Center has fulfilled my wildest dreams in bringing more than four hundred scholars from around the world to Penn, energizing their individual scholarly projects, establishing meaningful and lasting relationships between them, and creating new collective visions of their respective fields of inquiry. I will leave my position confident in the future of the Center with a strong Board of Overseers chaired by Tom Katz, a sound financial base, a dedicated and efficient staff, and

a well-earned reputation within the international community of scholars that the Katz Center is an attractive, stimulating, and significant place to build and strengthen Jewish studies. It has been a privilege to direct this institution for so long and I will savor every minute of my last year as Director.

Having just closed an amazing year of learning and dialogue with a group of scholars studying the thirteenth century from the multiple perspectives of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim history, we turn, in 2013-14, to the early modern period, a period very close to my heart. In addition to nineteen regular fellows, we have also invited eight short-term and fifteen adjunct fellows to join our regular seminars and conferences throughout the year. This group of over forty might possibly constitute the largest concentration of scholars in one field we have ever hosted. In addition to our regular outreach program, we will coordinate our seminars with those of the History of Material Texts seminar directed by our colleague Peter Stallybrass. We have also been asked by the Folger Library in Washington D.C. to host a conference next spring, utilizing the multiple talents of our fellowship group.

Finally, in July, 2013, we completed our second season of the International Summer School for graduate students jointly sponsored by the Hebrew University and the Katz Center. With my co-director Yisrael Yuval, four other core faculty, and many other speakers, we organized a rigorous program of seminars, special programs,



presentations and walking tours of sites in Philadelphia and New York City for twenty-five doctoral students from around the world. In devoting itself to this age group, the Katz Center commits itself to creating communities of future scholars.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Ruderman".

David B. Ruderman

Ella Darivoff Director of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

Joseph Meyerhoff Professor of Modern Jewish History

The University of Pennsylvania Jewish Studies Program produces the Jewish Studies @ PENN newsletter annually. We are grateful to Michelle and Peter, C'81, WG'85, Roth for their ongoing sponsorship of this newsletter. Editors: Christine Walsh and Talya Fishman

The Jewish Studies Program

2013 FALL COURSES

Language Courses

JWST 031 BEGINNING YIDDISH I
JWST 033 INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH I
JWST 051 ELEMENTARY MODERN HEBREW I
JWST 052 ELEMENTARY MODERN HEBREW II
JWST 053 INTERMEDIATE MODERN HEBREW III
JWST 054 INTERMEDIATE MODERN HEBREW IV

JWST 059 ADVANCED MODERN HEBREW: CONVERSATION & COMPOSITION • Readings include plays, poems, short stories, and journalism published in Israel today. Themes include Jewish-Arab relations, the founding of the State, family ties and intergenerational conflict, war and recent dynamic changes in Israeli society.

JWST 171 ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL HEBREW I
JWST 173 INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW PROSE

Thematic Courses

JWST 102 MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN TRANSLATION: THE REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY
The artistic ways in which the city is represented in Israeli prose, poetry and film, reflects inner worlds, ideological and political conflicts.

JWST 102 WOMEN AND JEWISH LITERATURE • Through devotional literature, memoir, fiction, and poetry, students examine women's roles and selves, the relations of women and men, and interactions between Jewish texts and women's lives.

JWST 150 INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE • Survey of the major themes and ideas of the Bible, with special attention to the contributions of archaeology and modern Biblical scholarship, including Biblical criticism and the responses to it in Judaism and Christianity.

JWST 157 MEDIEVAL & EARLY MODERN JEWRY
Exploration of intellectual, social, and cultural developments in Jewish civilization from the dawn of rabbinic culture in the Near East through the assault on established conceptions of faith and religious authority in 17th c. Europe.

JWST 213 THE RELIGIOUS OTHER • Explores attitudes toward monotheists of other faiths, and claims made about these "religious others"—their bodies, habits and beliefs—in real and imagined encounters between Jews, Christians and Muslims from antiquity to the present. Sources from law, theology, literature, art and polemics.

JWST 230 SECULAR JUDAISM • Can Judaism exist without the religion? Through a historical lens, course examines lives of important Jews who at different times and places attempted their own answers to these questions.

JWST 230 JEWISH & CHRISTIAN MESSIANISM IN EARLY MODERN PERIOD • Focuses on the development of the kabbalistic vocabulary of Messianism, the interchange between Jewish and Christian kabbalists, and the most important Messiah-claimants in both religions in the 16th-18th centuries.

JWST 257 AKEIDAH IN MIDRASH & MEDIEVAL JEWISH BIBLE COMMENTARY • Traces the history of the interpretation of the Akeidah text [Gen. 22] in classical Jewish literature from early post-Biblical interpretations, through Rabbinic midrash, and into such medieval commentators as Rashi, RaSHBaM, Ibn Ezra, RaDaK and RaMBaM.

JWST 259 INTRO TO MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE: ISRAELI SHORT STORY • Drawing from Bible, Talmud, and Midrash, modern Hebrew authors represented inner worlds, psychological insights and political assertions. With texts by Brenner, Agnon, Applefeld and Oz as a backdrop, the course focuses on modern authors like Almog, Keret, Castel-Bloom and Matalon.

JWST 260 JEWISH FOLKLORE • Examines Jewish oral traditions occurring in literary and religious texts, some quite ancient. It explores ways in which traditions diversified as Jews migrated to different lands, and as these regions underwent historical, social, and cultural changes.

JWST 262 REPRESENTATIONS OF THE HOLOCAUST IN LITERATURE & FILM • Explores the difficulties faced by narrators, witnesses, allegorists, memoirists, scholars, teachers, writers and image-makers who felt the urgent need to describe their own or others' experiences during the genocide of the European Jews, 1933-1945.

JWST 356 ANCIENT INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE • The particular ways in which the Bible was read and interpreted by Christians and Jews shaped the development of these two religions and marked their differences. Ancient Biblical interpretation also laid the groundwork for virtually all subsequent techniques and methods that have dominated literary criticism and hermeneutics.

JWST 380 MODERN JEWISH INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY • An overview of Jewish intellectual and cultural history from the late 18th c. until the present. Course considers the Jewish Enlightenment, Reform, Conservative and Neo-Orthodox Judaism, Zionist and Jewish socialist thought, and Jewish thought in the 20th c., particularly in the context of the Holocaust.

JWST 399 SENIOR HONORS THESIS
JWST 735 EARLY JUDAISM/EARLY CHRISTIANITY SEMINAR

College of Liberal and Professional Studies Courses

JWST 100 THEMES IN JEWISH TRADITION: CREATION • Course surveys Jewish approaches to Adam, Eve, and primeval history from Genesis to the early Middle Ages. Themes to be explored include Creation, the origins of evil, and the problem of sin and knowledge.

JWST 231 STUDIES IN JUDEO-SPANISH/LADINO I
JWST 410 SONG OF SONGS IN ANCIENT, MEDIEVAL & MODERN INTERPRETATION • Course introduces students to the development of Jewish and Christian biblical interpretation by focusing on late antique, medieval, and contemporary interpretations of the Song of Songs. Course touches on the interplay of asceticism and eroticism, on issues of gender and religious language, on mysticism, and on the development of allegorical interpretation.

Related Course

PSCI 598 ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT • Seminar devoted to close consideration of important monographic contributions to scholarship examining the political dynamics of various aspects of the Arab-Israeli relationship. Particular attention will be given to the relationship between argument and evidence; and between argument and relevant bodies of theory.

The Jewish Studies Program

2013 - 2014 CULTURAL PROGRAMS

FALL 2013

Thursday, October 3 • 7:00pm

“Who Should be an American? The Past and Future of Immigration Policy”

Prof. Mae M. Ngai, Columbia University; Tamar Jacoby, Immigration Works USA; Jennifer Rodriguez, Philadelphia Mayor's Office; Joseph Berger, NY Times

National Museum of American Jewish History, 101 Independence Hall East. Co-sponsored with the National Museum of American Jewish History, the Penn Social Science & Policy Forum, and the Arlene and Stanley Ginsburg Family Foundation.

Thursday, October 15 • 5:30 pm

“The Impact of Torah Study on Halakhic

Codification” Professor Chaim Saiman, Villanova Law School: Gruss Professor of Talmudic Law, Penn Law School Silverman Hall, Bernard G. Segal Courtroom (S245A), 3501 Sansom Street. The Caroline Zelaznik and Joseph S. Gruss Lecture in Talmudic Civil Law, sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

Monday, October 21 • 5:00pm

Shemi Zarhin, Acclaimed Israeli Filmmaker, Presents his Novel, Some Day

McNeil Center for Early American Studies, 3355 Woodland Walk (Walnut & 34th) Co-sponsored with Cinema Studies, University of Pennsylvania, and the Israeli Film Festival, Philadelphia.

Tuesday, Oct. 29 – Saturday, Nov. 2

3rd Annual Middle East Film Festival: New Middle East Cinema

International House, 3701 Chestnut St. Co-sponsored with the Middle East Center, Cinema Studies Program, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania.

Wednesday, November 6 • 5:30pm

“Music from Exile” Concert: Daedalus Quartet, Charlie Abramovic & Randy Scarlatta

Widener Auditorium, Penn Museum, 3260 South Street. Co-sponsored with the Penn Humanities Forum, and the Department of Music.

Thursday, November 7 • 5:30pm

Kristallnacht Commemoration: Reading by Vladimir Vertlib, Chamisso Prize Winner

Annenberg School, Room 111. Co-sponsored with Germanic Languages & Literatures, and Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Pennsylvania.

Tuesday, November 12 • 5:30pm

Lucidarium Ensemble's “Una Festa Ebraica”: Concert of Early Modern Jewish Music, Preceded by Lecture and Reception

Van Pelt Library, 6th Floor. Sponsored by the Joseph Alexander Foundation & the Mackler Family; Co-sponsored by the Katz Center for Judaic Studies and the Consulate General of Italy in Philadelphia.

Wednesday, November 13 • 5:15pm

“Oldest Complete 12th-13th Century Torah Scroll: Some Unfamiliar Features”

Professor Jordan S. Penkower, Ben Gurion University
Claudia Cohen Hall, Room 402, 249 S. 36th Street.

Thursday, November 21 • 4:30 pm

“The Elijah cave in Haifa: A Late Antique Religious Site of Jews and Pagans”

Prof. Tal Ilan, Freie Universität, Berlin

Claudia Cohen Hall, Room 402, 249 S. 36th Street. Co-sponsored by the Departments of Religious Studies & Classical Studies.

Thursday, December 5 • 5:15pm

“The Gendering of Asceticism in Rabbinic Tradition”

Professor Ada Rapoport Albert, University College London

Meyerson Hall, Room B7, 210 South 34th Street. Co-sponsored by the Alice Paul Center for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, and the Department of Religious Studies.

Thursday, December 12 • 9:00am - 7:00m

Gruss Workshop: Thinking Legally vs. Thinking Historically

Law School, University of Pennsylvania. Co-sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

SPRING 2014 (a partial list)

Thursday, January 16, 2014 • 4:30 pm

“Platonism and Jewish Humanists of the Florentine Republic: Leone Ebreo”

Prof. Fabrizio Lelli, University of Lecce, Katz Center Fellow
Claudia Cohen Hall, Room 402.

Wednesday, January 29, 2014 • 5:15 pm

“From the Frontiers of Talmud Research”

Prof. Robert Brody, Hebrew University

location tba. Sponsored by David, C'71, and Patty, CW'72, Silvers.

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 • 4:30 pm

“Cristobal Mendes, alias Abraham Franco Silveira: The Puzzling Saga of a 17th Century Converso”

Prof. Yosef Kaplan, Hebrew University, with a response from Roger Chartier

location tba. Sponsored by the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Foundation.

Thursday, March 20, 2014

“Warring Words: Rethinking Polemic in the Study of Jews and Judaism”

JSP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference
location tba

Sunday, March 23, 2014

“The Visual Image and Modern Jewish Culture: Colloquium in Honor of Professor Richard Cohen”

6th floor, Van Pelt Library.

Tuesday, March 25, 2014 • 6:00 pm

Novelist, Tova Reich reads from One Hundred Philistine Foreskins

Kelly Writers House, 3805 Locust Walk

Tuesday, April 8, 2014 • time tba

Israeli Author, Esty G. Hayyim

location tba

CULTURAL PROGRAMS of 2012 - 2013

Joseph Alexander Colloquium

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Joseph Alexander Colloquium, on November 8, was a talk entitled, "Anne Frank: From Diary to Book," by **Prof. Jeffrey Shandler** (Rutgers University). Shandler explored how many transformations of the diary that shed light on the ways that Anne Frank's life and work have become fixtures of public culture throughout the world. The event was sponsored by the Joseph Alexander Foundation and the Mackler Family, and co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program and the Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures in commemoration of Kristallnacht.

The Joseph Alexander Colloquium, Penn's oldest endowed lecture in Jewish Studies, is supported through the generosity of the Joseph Alexander Foundation and the Mackler Family.

Bassini Internships in Jewish Studies

Under the direction of Undergraduate Director, **Nili Gold**, and graduate student **Tammie Wanta**, students initiated and organized the following events:

Laura Doherty invited **Dr. Bruce Nielsen**, Judaica Public Services Librarian and Archivist from the Katz Center, to trace the history of Judaism in Philadelphia from colonial times to the modern day, in his talk, "Judaism in the City of Brotherly Love."

Doniel Sherman and **Shlomo Klapper** brought **Prof. Rami Reiner** (Ben-Gurion University) to talk, in Hebrew, about Jewish life in medieval Europe as reflected in responsa, a genre of rabbinic literature.

Jacob Shamash and **Rebecca Klahr** organized a tour of the National Museum of American Jewish History.

Hannah Dardashti and **Michal Goldberger** invited **Prof. Rami Reiner** (Ben-Gurion University) to speak on "Promoting Immigration and Its Practical Consequences."

Laura Doherty and **Bryan Hoang** invited **Prof. Mark Leuchter** (Temple University) to speak on "The Lady Vanishes: The Gradual Disappearance of the Sacred Female from the Hebrew Bible."

Supported by a gift from Emilio, C'71, and Reina C'72/71, Bassini, the Bassini Internships are designed to enable undergraduate students to explore aspects of Jewish Studies outside the classroom, and expose peers to their findings.

Silvers Visiting Scholar in Jewish Studies

The seventeenth annual Silvers Visiting Scholar Program, on March 19th, was a talk by **Gal Beckerman**, entitled, "When They Come for Us, We'll Be Gone: The Epic Struggle to Save Soviet Jewry." On the 25th anniversary of the largest gathering ever in Washington DC, for a Jewish cause in the United States, Beckerman, Opinion Editor at *The Forward*, reflected on the history of the Soviet Jewry movement and its long term impact. The lecture was sponsored by David, C'71, and Patricia, CW'72, Silvers, and co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, Penn Hillel, and the Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey Chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

The Silvers Visiting Scholar Program, endowed by Patricia, CW'72 and David, C'71 Silvers, was established to bring distinguished scholars to campus to interact with students and other members of the university community.

Meyerhoff Lecture in Jewish Studies

On April 25th, **Prof. John Van Engen** (University of Notre Dame) delivered the sixteenth annual Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Lecture in Jewish History, entitled, "Jews, Friars, and Beguines: Narrating the History of Thirteenth-Century Europe." It was co-sponsored by the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Department of History, and Department of Religious Studies.

The Meyerhoff Lecture was established in 1997 through the generosity of a gift from the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Foundation to honor the appointment of the late Herbert Katz, W'51, as Chair of the Board of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies.

Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book

The thirteenth Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book was held on June 2nd and 3rd, 2013. **Professor Malachi Beit-Arie**, the Ludwig Jesselson Professor Emeritus of Hebrew Paleography and Codicology at the Hebrew University, and the world's leading authority on medieval Hebrew manuscript study, led the sessions on "Hebrew Codicology in the Digital Age." Topics included the singularity of medieval Hebrew book production and consumption, the consequences of a manuscript's distinctive features for understanding the textual transmission, and the implications of Hebrew codicology and paleography for textual criticism and editing. Workshop participants were shown how a comparative codicological approach helps to demonstrate the special circumstances of Hebrew manuscript production. Prof. Beit-Arie gave what he called the "world premier" of SfarData, the comprehensive on-line data base he developed for the codicology of dated Hebrew manuscripts.

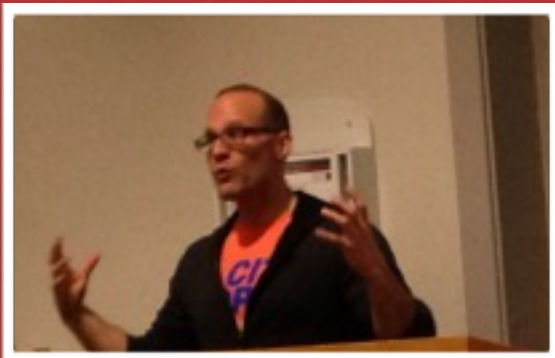
Thanks to the Manfred and Anne Lehmann Foundation for their generous support, and to Albert Friedberg, the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, the University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation, and Andrew H. Cohn, Esq., C'66, for additional funding.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS of 2012 - 2013

Below: Jeffrey Shandler (Rutgers University) with Beth Wenger before the 27th Annual Joseph Alexander Colloquium. November 8, 2013.



Above: John Van Engen (University of Notre Dame) with David Ruderman before the 16th Annual Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Lecture. April 25, 2013.



Above: Mark Leuchter (Temple University) speaking at a Bassini Intern event. April 23, 2013.



Above: Gal Beckerman (*The Forward*) delivering the 17th Annual Silvers Visiting Scholar Program. March 19, 2013.



Above: Attendees of the thirteenth annual Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book on "Hebrew Codicology in the Digital Age" with Malachi Beit-Arie (Hebrew University). June 2-3, 2013.

The Jewish Studies Program was saddened to learn of the death of our dear friend and supporter; **Helen Alexander Mackler**, a trustee of the Joseph Alexander Foundation, on October 27, 2012. Our condolences go out to her children Harvey and Karen Mackler; Randi and Bob Windheim, and Scott and Lynn Mackler, and their children. *Yehi zikhra barukh.*

The Jewish Studies Program

Kutchin Seminars in Jewish Studies

The Kutchin seminars are supported by the generosity of **Mel Kutchin, C'50**, and the late **Mitzi Kutchin**.

"New Halakhic Frontiers: An Analysis of the *Shira Chadasha* Movement," with **Prof. Daniel Sperber** (Bar Ilan University), co-sponsored by *Shira Chadasha* at Penn, the Orthodox Community at Penn, and Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance on October 15, 2012.

"The Beginnings of Midrash: Evidence from the Dead Sea Scrolls," with **Prof. James Kugel** (Bar Ilan University), co-sponsored by the Departments of Religious Studies and Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations on October 16, 2012.

Yiddish Sing-along, with **Alexander Botwinik**, co-sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Penn Hillel on November 1, 2012.

Screening of "**Footnote**" (2011, Israel) with panel discussion, co-sponsored by the Cinema Studies Program, Middle East Center, and the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, in collaboration with the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival on November 1, 2012.

Screening of "**Oma & Bella**" (2012, Germany) with Director **Alexa Karolinksi**, co-sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Cinema Studies Program, the Alice Paul Center for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, and by Temple University's Feinstein Center for American Jewish History, on November 27, 2012.

"The Legacy of Russian Humanities: From the Perspective of a Professor of Jewish Studies," with **Prof. Arkady Kovelman** (Professor of Talmud at the Moscow State University), co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, and the Slavic Languages and Literatures department, on January 30, 2013.

"A Traveling Homeland: The Babylonian Talmud as Diaspora," with **Prof. Daniel Boyarin** (University of California at Berkeley). This 3-part lecture, with a reception, was co-sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pennsylvania Press, on February 18, 19, and 21, 2013.

Film Screening of "*The World Is Funny*," (2012, Israel) with discussion by **Prof. Nili Gold**, co-sponsored by the Israel Film Festival of Philadelphia, on March 14, 2013.

Yiddish, Hebrew, Ladino and Dutch Sing-Along, with **Alexander Botwinik**, co-sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and Penn Hillel, on March 19, 2013.

On April 9, 2013, **Natan Sharansky** spoke at Penn about his childhood in the Soviet Union, his fight for the freedom of Soviet Jews, imprisonment in Siberia, emigration to Israel and his work as a politician in the Knesset. The event was co-sponsored by Penn Hillel, Hillel's Israel Sector, the Middle East Center, the Political Science department, English department and the Slavic Languages and Literatures department.

"Between Politics and Mythology: Josiah's Assault on Bethel in 2 Kings 23:15-20," with **Prof. Mark Leuchter** (Temple University), co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department on April 11, 2013.

Annual Conference:

On April 7, 2013, the Jewish Studies Program sponsored a major conference, "**Shaping Legal Cultures from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages**," organized by Professors Talya Fishman and Joe Lowry of NELC. The conference was co-sponsored by the School of Arts and Sciences, Middle East Center, and the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, Religious Studies, Ancient History, and History departments.

ADDITIONAL JEWISH STUDIES LECTURES

"The Divine Throne: The Cherubim on the Ark of the Covenant," by **Daniel Frese** (University of California at San Diego), co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, on January 28, 2013.

"Priestly Piety versus Mesopotamian Magic?" A Reevaluation of Biblical and Assyro-Babylonian Purification Rituals," by **Isabel Crazz** (Johns Hopkins University) co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, on February 4, 2013.

"Jeremiah's Two Scrolls and the Idea of Scripture," by **Jesse Rainbow** (Harvard University), co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, on February 11, 2013.

"Divine Fluidity? The Priestly Texts in their Ancient Near Eastern Contexts," by **Michael Hundley** (Cambridge University), co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, on February 25, 2013.

"A Treasure Beyond Imagination: The Copper Scroll and Other Buried Secrets from Jewish Antiquity," by **Steven Weitzman** (Stanford University) on March 21, 2013.

"A Biblical Prophet from the Alps: A Tale of World Literature and Jewish Culture," by **Anat Feinberg** (Hochschule für jüdische Studien, Heidelberg, Germany), on April 4, 2013.

"Toward a New History of Hasidism," by **David Biale** (University of California at Davis), on April 8, 2013.

Undergraduate Journal: KEDMA

Thanks to a generous gift from the Newton Fund, the Jewish Studies Program supports the student-led journal, *Kedma: Penn's Journal on Jewish Thought, Jewish Culture, and Israel*. The JSP provides funding for the journal, and several of its faculty members serve as advisors to the undergraduates who publish the journal. *Kedma* is embarking on its ninth year. Featuring a wide assortment of essays, reviews, interviews and creative pieces, *Kedma* is a forum for students and faculty to discuss, debate, and challenge ideas about Judaism, Jewish society and Israel. It seeks to bridge the political and religious spectrum by providing an open and intellectually honest forum for Jews and non-Jews, conservatives and liberals. It seeks to engage and excite Jews at Penn who are not normally active within the Jewish community, and to stimulate and challenge those who are. E-mail kedmajournal@gmail.com

Undergraduate Student Research

Graduating seniors in several departments wrote senior theses or research papers on Jewish Studies topics, working with faculty affiliated with the Jewish Studies Program. These students, named below, majored in Jewish Studies, History, Political Science, Religious Studies, and Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations. They presented their findings at a well-attended gathering of students and faculty on April 24, 2013.

Jacob Chefitz: "The 1924 Anglo-American Treaty on Palestine: The British Perspective on America's Role in the Palestine Mandate, 1920-1924"

Rachel Eisenstadt: "In Every Generation: The Twentieth Century Ideological Evolution of the Workmen's Circle Education Department"

Leanne Gale: "Invisible Boundaries: The Unintended Consequences of Joint Israeli-Palestinian Nonviolent Activism"

Sam Greenberg: "Evolving Fundamentalism: A Darwinian Perspective on Post-Statist Ideology in Israel"

Arielle Herzberg: "Ignaz Zollschan: An Insider's View of Early Twentieth Century Racial Science and Zionism"

Max Levy: "Shmuel Alexandrov and the Making of a Modern Russian Jewish Philosophy"

Adin Pearl: "Salud y Shalom: Perspectives on Jewish Identity in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade"

Maya Spitzer: "The Other Pro-Israel Lobby: The Mearsheimer and Walt Controversy and the Rise of J Street"



Students who presented their findings on April 24, 2013.

GRADUATION

Five undergraduate students graduated in Jewish Studies last spring. **Rachel Eisenstadt** graduated with a Jewish Studies Interdisciplinary Major. Four seniors graduated with an Interdisciplinary Minor: **Alexa Bryn, Leanne Gale, Rachel Levin, and Maya Spitzer.**

STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

The Phillip E. Goldfein Awards in Jewish Studies, supported by **Robert, C'63, and Phillip, C'34, Goldfein**, enable students to support research projects. This past year's recipients were: Graduate Students: **Sonia Gollance** for intensive Hebrew language study; **Alex Ramos** for archaeological excavation in Israel; **Jonathan Seif** for participation in the AJS conference. Undergraduate Student: **Eliezer Peltz** for archival research in Israel.

The Raymond and Ruth Brenner Grants in Jewish Studies are granted for special opportunities in Judaic Studies, and supported by **Raymond and Ruth Brenner** (parents of Jason, W'05, Adam, W'01, and Gregory, W'99, Brenner) and their family. Last year's recipients were: Undergraduate Students: **Rachel Eisenstadt** for archival research in Philadelphia; **Daneel Schaechter** for research in Israel. Graduate Students: **Martin Hershenzon** for archival research in Israel; **David Zvi Kalman** for participation in the AJS conference.

PRIZES AND HONORS

The **Moshe Greenberg Prize for Excellence in Hebrew**, awarded to a senior who began the study of Hebrew at Penn and who shows exceptional proficiency, was awarded to **Maya F. Spitzer.**

The **Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring Prize for Excellence in Yiddish Studies**, was awarded to **Rachel Eisenstadt.**

The **Merle Saunders Schaff Memorial Award**, awarded by the Department of Religious Studies for the best essay demonstrating creative thinking on any subject related to the archaeology of Ancient Israel or Judaic religious thought through the Middle Ages, was awarded to **Adriel Koschitzky.**

The **Judah Goldin Memorial Prize for Excellence in Advanced Hebrew Studies** was awarded to **Kevin S. Beckoff.**

Max Levy was a recipient of the **Rose Award** for his thesis, "Shmuel Alexandrov and the Making of a Modern Russian Jewish Philosophy."

The **Samuel Esther Goldin Endowment Award**, supported by **Dr. Rosaline Goldin** and **Ms. Julia Goldin**, to benefit outstanding students majoring in Jewish Studies, went to co-winners **Leanne Gale** and **Arielle K. Herzberg. Rachel Eisenstadt** and **Adin Pearl** were awarded Honorable Mention.

The Jewish Studies Program

GRADUATE STUDIES

Graduate Student Conference:

On May 2, 2013, Penn graduate students from a variety of disciplines convened to present and discuss their own research at a day-long conference titled, "Jewish Networks Throughout Time and Space."

The conference was organized by graduate students **Sonia Gollance** (German), **Marc Herman** (Religious Studies) and **Virginia Wayland** (Religious Studies).

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Rebecca Cutler, a doctoral student in the Department of History, explores the intersections of medicine and modern Jewish history. She is completing her dissertation on the transnational politics of American Jewish medical work in the post-World War II era.

Julia Kolchinsky Dasbach is a first-year doctoral student and Benjamin Franklin Fellow in the Comparative Literature Department. Her research interest is poetry of witness, and particularly the writing of children and grandchildren of trauma survivors. She earned her MFA in poetry from the University of Oregon, and recently, won *Lilith Magazine's* 2013 Charlotte A. Newberger Poetry Prize for a poem on the Jewish-female experience.

Sonia Gollance, a fourth year PhD student in Germanic Languages and Literatures, studies the intersection of German-Jewish and Yiddish literatures. Last fall, she ran a weekly Yiddish conversation group and participated in the first THAT Camp Jewish Studies, a Digital Humanities program. This summer, she attended the Katz CAJS—Hebrew University Summer School in the U.S., and the Jewish Holy Roman Empire Research Cluster's Summer Academy in Germany.

Marc Herman, PhD Candidate in the Department of Religious Studies, is a Benjamin Franklin Fellow and Wexner Graduate Fellow. His dissertation examines medieval Jewish legal epistemology in light of Islamic legal theory.

David Zvi Kalman, a fourth year PhD student in the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, has been a fellow at the Cardozo Law School Center for Jewish Law. In the past year, he has given talks at the conferences of Jewish Law Association, the Association for Jewish Studies, Lehigh University, Cardozo Law School, and Limmud Philly. This past year, Kalman has been hired by Mechon Hadar, a yeshiva in New York, to teach within the framework of Penn Hillel. He is currently completing a book, *Adashot*, to be published by Ktav in 2013.

Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg, a fourth-year PhD student in the History department, spent last year as an exchange scholar at Harvard University, where she did research on Zohar-criticism from the perspective of book history and print history, and took courses in Early Modern History and

Legal Theory and Jewish Law. Morsel-Eisenberg recently passed her qualifying exams and will spend this semester TA'ing and doing dissertation research.

Alex Moshkin, is a second-year doctoral student in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, whose research interests include modern Hebrew literature, 20th century Russian literature and the interconnection between culture, history and sociology. In his dissertation, Alex focuses on Israeli cultural production in the Russian and Hebrew languages by Russian immigrants who came during the 90s aliyah.

Josef Nothmann, a first-year doctoral student and Benjamin Franklin Fellow in Penn's History department, hopes to use his research at Penn to place Jews within the larger context of German history and culture of the last several centuries. Previous research included work on the life and travails of the German-Jewish emigre economic historian, Fritz Redlich.

Akhmad Sahal participated in the Brandeis University's Schusterman Center Summer Institute for Israel Studies this past summer. This academic year he serves as a visiting scholar at that Center. Sahal is working on a dissertation that considers the political thinking of Isaac Herzog, the first Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel, and of Sheikh Rashid Rida, the Syrian-Egyptian Muslim reformist. Both figures grappled with questions about how a modern state could be guided by religious law.

Tom Tearney, a second year student in Germanic Languages and Literatures, focuses on the intersections of German and Yiddish prose and poetry in the early 20th century, with emphasis on modernist poetry in Europe and North America. He will teach Elementary German in the fall and Intermediate German in the spring. Last summer he assisted the Frankfurt Jewish Museum with research on *minhag*-books of the Jewish community and the Fritz Bauer

The Falk Fellowship

Current Falk Fellows in the Jewish Studies Program are fifth-year student **Akhmad Sahal** (Religious Studies), fourth-year students **Sonia Gollance** (German), **David Zvi Kalman** (NELC), and **Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg** (History), third-year student **Ari Gordon** (NELC), and second year student **Tom Tearney** (German).

The Margaret Schoenfeld Falk Graduate Fellowship, awarded directly by the Jewish Studies Program, is indispensable for recruiting and supporting the very best candidates. The Falk Fellowship was endowed by Edward Falk, W'66, in memory of his mother, Margaret Schoenfeld Falk, to support a graduate student who works specifically in the area of Jewish Studies.

Institute with research on the Frankfurt Auschwitz trials. He also participated in the Ausseer Gespräche conference sponsored by the University of Graz.

Tammie Wanta is a doctoral student in the Department of Religious Studies studying Judaism and Christianity in antiquity with a special interest in literature and questions of transmission. She has been awarded the 2013-2014 Knapp Family Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship in Jewish Studies and is at work on her dissertation entitled "Wisdom Forgotten: Exploring the Afterlife of Traditions about the First Man's Knowledge." This past academic year, Wanta taught Women and Religion at Penn and Introduction to Judaism at Ursinus College.

LIFE AFTER GRADUATE SCHOOL

After her postdoctoral fellowship at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows at the Hebrew University, **Cornelia Aust** (PhD, History, 2010) accepted a position as Research Associate at the Leibniz-Institute for European History in Mainz, Germany. Aust's new research project concerns Jewish appearances and the ways that Jews were perceived in 17th-19th century Central and East Central Europe. Her article "Between Amsterdam and Warsaw: Commercial Networks of the Ashkenazic Mercantile Elite in Central Europe," appeared in *Jewish History*. This summer, she and her husband celebrated the birth of their second child, Jonathan Noam.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, **Andrew Berns** (PhD, History, 2011) was the Melville J. Kahn Fellow at Villa I Tatti: The Harvard University Center for Renaissance Studies. He has begun serving as Assistant Professor of History at the University of South Carolina. A revised version of his dissertation, provisionally entitled "The Bible and Natural Philosophy in Renaissance Italy," is under contract with Cambridge University Press. Dr. Berns is an Adjunct Fellow at the Katz Center this year.

Jennifer Glaser (PhD, Comparative Literature, 2008), is Assistant Professor of English and affiliate faculty in Judaic studies and Women's studies at the University of Cincinnati, served as a Fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan last year. Her publications appear in an anthology of essays from Random House, and numerous journals. She is completing a manuscript on race in Jewish American literature.

Susan Marks (PhD, Religious Studies, 2003) begins her second decade teaching at New College of Florida, the Honors College of Florida, where she holds the Klingenstein Chair of Judaic Studies. Her book, *First Came Marriage: The Rabbinic Appropriation of Early Jewish Wedding Ritual* (2013), argues that

The Knapp Fellowship

Current Knapp Fellow in the Jewish Studies Program is sixth-year student **Tammie Wanta** (Religious Studies).

The Knapp Family Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship in Jewish Studies, funds a dissertation completion fellowship for a graduate student working in Jewish Studies.

the ways we think about ritual offer new perspectives on available rabbinic material.

Rabbi Yehuda Seif (PhD, Religious Studies, 2013) considered the intersection between theory and Jewish and Christian charity practices in medieval Ashkenazic lands in his dissertation. He was the Executive Director of a non-profit organization, Jewish Education for Generations, and a Senior Program Officer at the Tikvah Fund. Yehuda now teaches Tikvah Scholars classes at Kohelet Yeshiva High School.

Adam Shear (PhD, History, 2003) is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh. His recent focus has been on the history of the early modern Jewish book, and the impact of print on the transmission of medieval Jewish culture. He co-convoked a research group on the Jewish book at the Center for Jewish History in NYC, and will be an Adjunct Fellow at the Katz Center this spring. Last year, Dr. Shear directed a series of community and academic programs on the history of the Jewish community of Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. He is co-editor of a Festschrift honoring David Ruderman to be published in 2014.

David Shyovitz (PhD, History, 2011), Assistant Professor of History at Northwestern University, holds a joint appointment at the Crown Center for Jewish Studies. His research and teaching focus on medieval cultural and intellectual history, particularly Jewish-Christian relations. His book project, provisionally entitled "The World Made Flesh: Nature and Embodiment in Medieval Jewish Culture," explores attitudes toward nature and the supernatural among medieval Christians and Jews. During the 2012-13 year, David lectured at several conferences in the US and in Israel.

Kerry Wallach (PhD Germanic Languages and Literatures, 2011), Assistant Professor of German Studies at Gettysburg College, organized an event on "Jews and the Civil War." She presented at the German Studies Association conference, the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem, the Duke German Jewish Studies Workshop, and in the American Academy for Jewish Research Workshop for Early Career Faculty. Her dissertation was awarded the Women in German Dissertation Prize for 2012. Recent publications include a chapter on prize contests in the Weimar Jewish press, and "Kosher Seductions: Jewish Women as Employees and Consumers in German Department Stores." She is writing a book about gender and Jewish recognizability in Weimar Germany.

Susan Zeelander (PhD, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2010) is a visiting scholar in the NELC department. Her dissertation, "Endings in Biblical Narratives" is available at <http://repository.upenn.edu/edissertations/169>. Zeelander made a presentation to the International Society of Biblical Literature in Amsterdam, and participated in a panel at the Old Testament Research Colloquium at Princeton Theological Seminary. She continues to teach adult education courses; her latest course focused on the prophet Elijah in the Hebrew Bible and his role in later Jewish tradition.

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Awards and Honors

Joseph Benatov was awarded a Lucius Littauer Faculty Grant to conduct archival research on newly available materials on the fate of Bulgaria's Jews.

Benjamin Nathans received a Guggenheim Fellowship for the 2012-13 academic year.

Beth Wenger was selected to serve as Convening Head Fellow at the University of Michigan's Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies for the 2013-14 year.



Isabel Cranz

Arrivals

We are delighted to welcome **Professor Isabel Cranz** (Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, 2012), who has joined the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations as an Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible.

Ibrahim Miari joined the Hebrew Language Program at Penn as a Lecturer in 2012. Miari grew up in Israel and is bilingual in Hebrew and in Arabic. He completed Hebrew and Arabic teacher training programs at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Hebrew College, STARTALK, and Boston University. Ibrahim taught Hebrew at Tufts University and Arabic at Boston University and Northeastern University. Miari brings training in the fields of theatre and dance to his language teaching.

Faculty News

Joseph Benatov, Lecturer in the Modern Hebrew Language Program, teaches Hebrew courses of all levels. In November, Benatov was guest lecturer for *Kivunim*—a gap-year-in-Jerusalem program for American students, where he spoke on the history of the Jewish community in Bulgaria. He also lectured at Temple Shaaray Tefila (Bedford Corners, NY) on the fate of Bulgarian Jews during the Holocaust. His article on the same topic appears in *Bringing the Dark Past to Light: The Reception of the Holocaust in Postcommunist Europe* (University of Nebraska Press, July 2013). During the academic year, he attended the national convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the annual gathering of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew. Benatov also recently translated into Bulgarian the Israeli author Etgar Keret's introduction to a volume of short stories, and Ethan Coen's play *Almost an Evening*, which premiered in Sofia, Bulgaria in May.

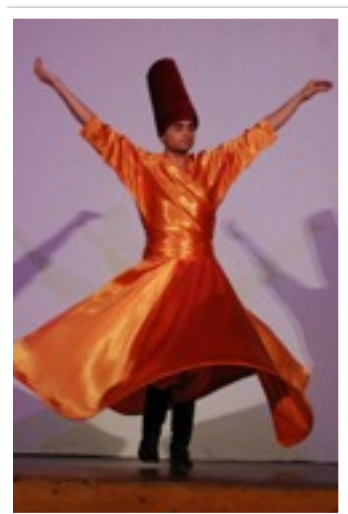
Alexander (Sender) Botwinik, a Yiddish lecturer, also teaches music and choir at Har Zion Temple. He is also the director of *Kolenu Beyakhad*, an independent Jewish community choir, and coordinates an annual choral youth *Zimria* (song festival). Last fall, Botwinik led a Yiddish sing-along at Penn Hillel; in the the spring, the sing-along included songs in Yiddish, Hebrew, Ladino and Dutch. In April, *Kolenu Beyakhad* gave a concert at Haverford College featuring music from the book *From Holocaust to Life: New Yiddish Songs*, composed by Alexander's father, David Botwinik. Alexander is now preparing a CD of his father's music.

Daisy Braverman, Lecturer in Judeo-Spanish, presented a paper at the Second Annual Ladino Symposium at UCLA: Survival in the Diaspora. The

title of the paper was "Teaching Judeo-Spanish in the University."

Michael Carasik, Adjunct Assistant Professor, teaches Biblical Hebrew at Penn and at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. This past year, he wrote "Sexual Harassment in the Ancient Israelite Workplace" for the *Society for Biblical Literature's* new Bible Odyssey web site, and reviewed for Alan F. Segal's, *Sinning in the Hebrew Bible: How The Worst Stories Speak for Its Truth*. Carasik completed the Deuteronomy volume of *The Commentators' Bible* containing his English translation of the *Miqra'ot Gedolot* commentaries, and began work on the Genesis volume. *The Bible's Many Voices* will be published in Spring 2014. Carasik's weekly podcast, "Torah Talk," is available at <http://torahtalk.michaelcarasik.com>. He is the weekday Torah reader at congregation Keshet Israel in Center City Philadelphia.

Natalie B. Dohrmann is Associate Director of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, and teaches in the departments of Religious Studies, History and the Jewish Studies Program. She is also the Executive Editor of the *Jewish Quarterly Review*. This



Ibrahim Miari

fall, *Jews, Christians the Roman Empire: The Poetics of Power in Late Antiquity*, which she co-edited with Annette Yoshiko Reed came out from Penn Press; it includes her piece, "Law and Imperial Idioms: Rabbinic Legalism in a Roman World." Dohrmann delivered a paper titled, "Mixed Messages: The Private Public Space of Rabbinic Legal Culture," at a conference at the University of Erfurt on Public and Private in Ancient Mediterranean Law and Religion. She is currently co-editing *Perspectives on Jewish Culture in Early Modern Europe, 1500–1800*, a festschrift for David Ruderman.

Ronit Engel is Senior Lecturer in Foreign Languages and Coordinator of the Modern Hebrew Language Program. Engel has continued to adapt Hebrew-language textbooks written in Israel for university students and new Israeli immigrants for use within the North American university environment. Engel's article on this project was published in the journal *Hebrew Studies*. She serves on the Committee on Pedagogy of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew and has played an active role in formulating the program for the 2013 NAPH annual meeting.

Talya Fishman, Associate Professor of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, is the new Director of Penn's Jewish Studies Program. In the Spring of 2013, she co-convened the JSP's conference, "Shaping Medieval Legal Cultures in Late Antiquity & the Middle Ages." Fishman spoke about "Perspectives on the Boundaries of Halakha in 21st Century Scholarship," at a conference on "Varieties of Medieval Jewish Literature" held in Berkeley, and addressed the National Board of Directors of Penn's Hillel on the topic, "When Academic Research Touches Life: Challenging Paradigms About the History of Rabbinic Authority." Dr. Fishman taught at the 2013 Graduate Student Summer School, "Jewish Education Through the Ages," convened by Penn's Katz Center and the Hebrew University. She continues her research into the non-biblical material found in

illuminated medieval Hebrew Bible codices, and plans to explore relevant materials in a spring seminar for Hebrew-readers, called "Using the Bible: Approaches to Scripture in Pre-Modern Jewish Culture."

Nili R. Gold, Associate Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature and Israel Studies, and Undergraduate Director of the Jewish Studies Program, continues to work on her book on the literary image of Haifa and its architecture. At the 2013 conference of the Association of Jewish Studies, Gold will lecture on "The Anthologized Poetry of Haifa." Gold's article on "The Suppressed Childhood Memories of Natan Zach" was the featured literary article in the Rosh Hashanah issue of *Ha'aretz*, and her article, "Mother Tongue and Mother Land" was published in the English-language German journal *Trumah*. An edited and interpreted transcript of Gold's interview with Aharon Appelfeld, conducted in 2011, appears in *Jewish Quarterly Review* (2013). As a member of the committee appointed by the Israel Council of Higher Education, Gold co-authored and submitted a report evaluating the Hebrew Literature departments in Israel universities this year. An active member of Penn's Cinema Studies Program, she is currently co-organizing the third annual Middle East Film Festival in conjunction with the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, **Kathryn Hellerstein**, Ruth Meltzer Senior Lecturer in Yiddish and Jewish Studies, published her poem, "The Night Before My Mother's Bat Mitzvah," in *Kerem 13*, two translations of poems by Celia Dropkin, "A Dream on a Windy Night," in *Ilanot Review* (Bar Ilan University), and "To Lucifer," in the 2013 *Jewish Currents* calendar. Her essay, "My Writers Block," appeared in the online literary quarterly, *Cleaver Magazine*. At the Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Hellerstein spoke on "A Pragmatic Perspective," "Yiddish is the New Black," and she lectured on "Yiddish Chinoiserie: China in

Modernist Yiddish Culture," in the Department of Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and the Center for the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis. She also co-taught "ConText: Mini Course in Jewish American Short Stories" in Philadelphia and read her poetry in "Words Off the Page: An Evening with Distinguished Women Poets," at the National Museum of American Jewish History, in Philadelphia. Hellerstein served as Secretary for the Executive Committee of the Yiddish Discussion Group at the Modern Language Association.

Arthur Kiron, the Schottenstein-Jesselson Curator of Judaica Collections and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, oversaw the gift to the Penn Libraries by Arnold and Deanne Kaplan of the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica, valued at \$8.5 million. He also supervised the donation of the Martin and Lorraine Beitler Collection of rare Judaica by Dr. Jonathan Jay Beitler, a 1525 manuscript of Abraham Farissol's *Iggeret Orhot 'Olam*, acquired by Barbara Brizdle and Lawrence Schoenberg for the Penn Libraries. Kiron directed the completion of the Gerwind-Bennett Isaac Leiser Digitization project, served on a number of library and university committees, delivered multiple public lectures to Penn alumni, led the annual Parents' Weekend Rare Judaica tour in the fall of 2012, and organized this year's annual Katz Center-Library Web exhibition, "Institutionalization, Innovation, & Conflict in 13th-Century Judaism: A Comparative View." Kiron is the Director of the Jesselson-Kaplan American Genizah project and serves on its National Advisory Committee. He also continues to serve on the Academic Advisory Boards of the Center for Jewish History, the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, the International Academic Advisory Board for Sephardic Studies based in Livorno (Italy), and the Rabat Genizah Project. He is on the Editorial Board of *Judaica Librarianship*, the Board of Directors of

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the American Veterans of Israel Legacy Corporation (AVILC), and serves on the Collections Committee of the National Museum of American Jewish History.

Ian Lustick is the Bess W. Heyman Professor of Political Science. He presented "Zionist Visions of Peace: The Legacy of Dissimulation" at the Association for Israel Studies meeting at UCLA, and spoke on changing patterns in the approaches used by scholars in different disciplines, over time, in their comparison of Israel with other countries. In the fall, Lustick taught a graduate seminar on the Arab-Israeli conflict, and "Politics in the Contemporary Middle East," in the spring. This spring, he will be making a research trip to Israel and Palestine, lecturing at the Hebrew University and working to complete his book on the challenges Israel faces adapting to new circumstances. "What Counts is the Counting: Statistical Manipulation as a Solution to Israel's "Demographic Problem,"" was published in the summer 2013 issue of *The Middle East Journal*. He has been busy this Fall responding to debates triggered by his September essay in the *New York Times Sunday Review* entitled, "Two State Illusion." Lustick has lectured at the Middle East Peace Foundation, the Middle East Policy Council, the Center for Jewish History, and George Washington University.

Last fall, **Ibrahim Miari** collaborated with the German department to organize and facilitate an event entitled, "Creating Multilingual Spaces." Penn students had the opportunity to interview and converse with Israeli and German theater artists who had been working together in Germany to create original theater in Hebrew, English and German. Miari also led a Sufi dance workshop for the Turkish language class; this incorporated the poetry of Rumi as well as Jewish and Muslim prayers set to music. Most recently, Ibrahim joined the



From left: Ibrahim Miari, Joseph Benatov, Christina Frei, and Ronit Engel at "Creating Multilingual Spaces," where Israeli and German theater artists living in Berlin talk on their Jewish Identity issues, Nov. 2012.

committee for Penn's annual Middle East Film Festival.

Benjamin Nathans, Associate Professor of History, was on leave in 2012-13, writing his book *To the Success of Our Hopeless Cause: A History of the Soviet Dissident Movement*, with support from a Guggenheim fellowship. Last November, the Jewish Museum opened its doors in Moscow, the culmination of four years of work by the museum design firm for which Nathans chaired an international committee of scholars of Russian-Jewish history. <http://www.jewish-museum.ru/ru/timeline> Nathans published articles in *Kritika* and *Ab Imperio* as well as chapters in books on human rights in German, Russian, and English. He delivered invited talks at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Harvard University, Cambridge University and the University of Manchester, Ohio State University, Rutgers University, the University of California at Berkeley, and the European University in St. Petersburg (Russia). He also gave the keynote address at the first joint conference of the Russian National Institute for Genealogical Research and the International Institute of Jewish Genealogy held at the Russian National Library in St. Petersburg. In spring 2013 Nathans' book *Beyond the Pale: The Jewish Encounter with Late Imperial Russia* was published in Hebrew.

Annette Yoshiko Reed, M. Mark and Esther K. Watkins Assistant Professor in the Humanities and Assistant Professor in Religious Studies, is a Faculty Fellow at Stouffer College House. In 2012-2013, she served as Acting Director of the Center for Ancient Studies. This year, she gave talks at Duke University, Yale University, Princeton University, and Université de Lausanne, as well as at the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Annual Meeting. She also completed two major co-edited projects, which will appear in 2013: *Jews, Christians, and the Roman Empire* (Penn Press), and the multi-volume *Festschrift* for Peter Schafer, *Envisioning Judaism* (Mohr Siebeck). Forthcoming publications include articles in *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy*, and *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, as well as contributions to multiple edited volumes. Reed continues to serve on the editorial board of Mohr Siebeck's book series *Texts and Studies in Ancient Judaism*; she is coordinator of the Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins, and is finishing her final year as Program Unit Chair of SBL's Hellenistic Judaism section.

David B. Ruderman begins his twentieth and last year as the director of the Katz Center at Penn. This past spring, he taught at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary; at the University of Antwerp co-sponsored by the Centre Saint Ignatius/Institute for Jewish Studies; and at the Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales in Madrid, Spain. He completed a new book based on the Stroum lectures he delivered at the University of Washington in October 2012. Ruderman was the keynote speaker at a conference on "God and the Enlightenment" at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, and offered closing remarks at two conferences in his honor, in Budapest and Antwerp. In Antwerp, he participated in two public dialogues on science and religion with

Prof. Steven Vanden Broecke, University of Ghent, and with Professor Peter Stallybrass of Penn on Jewish and Christian readings of Genesis. Ruderman and Stallybrass also spoke at the University of Amsterdam. Ruderman also lectured at Charles University in Prague, at the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien in Heidelberg, and at the University of Arizona. He was an invited speaker at the Current Trends plenary session of the annual conference of the Renaissance Society of America. Ruderman published several new articles this year. With Yisrael Yuval of the Hebrew University, he co-directed the Second International Summer School for Graduate Students in Jewish Studies in July, co-sponsored by the Hebrew University and the Katz Center.

Yechiel Y. Schur, the Klatt Family Director for Public Programs at the Katz Center and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, offered a freshman seminar on "Dreams in Jewish Culture and Tradition", as well as survey courses on medieval and early-modern Europe. He is currently writing an article on the twelfth-century Jewish scholar, Ephraim of Bonn, based on a lecture he presented in Israel in the spring. Schur also organized two public lecture series on Jewish Life in the Middle Ages, and coordinated the Second International Summer School for Graduate Students in Jewish Studies, co-sponsored by the Hebrew University and the Katz Center.

Larry Silver, Farquhar Professor of Art History, lectured in Israel last year. His keynote presentation at a conference on Art and Social Justice at Ben-Gurion University, "War is Hell: Visualizing Warfare as Social Injustice," considered representations of conflict and its effect on civilian populations from the sixteenth century to the present, through the media of prints and photographs. His paper at Tel Aviv University's Department of Art History on "Bruegel's Biblical Kings," honored the retirement of Prof. Yona Pinson. Recent publications include

"Cultural Selection and the Shape of Time," in *Darwin and Theories of Aesthetics and Cultural History*, and "Europe's Global Vision" in *A Companion to Renaissance and Baroque Art*. Silver also worked on a multi-media exhibition about the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I, held at the Albertina Museum in Vienna. His essay in the catalogue is called "The Papier-Kaiser," and discusses prints for the ruler. A publication on Dutch realism and still-life paintings appeared as "Art/Matters" in the British journal, *Art History*. As Silver intends to be an active participant at the Katz Center seminar in 2013-14, his new course on Jewish Art will be postponed until fall 2015.

Jonathan Steinberg, Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Modern European History, gave a public lecture in April on "Bismarck, Anti-Semitism and the Tragedy of German Jewry" at the Free Library in Philadelphia, at which 350 people were present. In August, he gave the inaugural address to mark the opening of the new Jewish Museum in Frankfurt am Main, speaking to an audience of 300 people on "*Der Börsenkrach von 1873 und Antisemitismus in Deutschland*" (The Stock Exchange Crash of 1873 and Anti-Semitism in Germany). Sponsored by the Historical Society of Deutsche Bank AG, the text of the lecture has been put online by Deutsche Bank.

David Stern, Moritz and Josephine Berg Professor of Classical Hebrew Literature, completed *The Monk's Haggadah: A Facsimile Edition of a 15th c. Passover Haggadah with a Latin Prologue by the Friar Erhard von Pappenheim (Munich Cod. Heb. 200)*, which he co-authored with two other scholars. He is completing a second book, *Jewish Literary Cultures: Studies and Essays in Ancient Jewish Literature*, the first of three volumes of Stern's collected essays and articles (Penn State University Press). Stern also published new articles, essays, and reviews in *Studia Rosenthaliana*, the *Jewish Studies Internet Journal*, *Ars Judaica*, *The Jewish Review of Books*, and

Kerem. His video lecture, "A Tour of the Jewish Book," is available through the Penn Libraries at www.youtube.com/watch?v=bl6SopYNWT4. Stern also delivered the Annual Grolier Society Lecture for the Library of Columbia University and the Adam Cherrick Lecture at Washington University, along with lectures at the Jewish Museum in New York City, Duke University, the Center for World Religions at Harvard University, and the Departments of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations and Comparative Literature at Harvard. In January, he organized a day-long conference at the Jewish Museum on "The Medieval Jewish Manuscript Today," and at the end of April, delivered a series of five classes, the Catherine Lewis Master Classes (on the history of the Jewish book) at the Bodleian Library, Oxford University. Stern continues to serve on the Executive Board of the American Academy for Jewish Research. He directed the Manfred Lehmann Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book for the thirteenth year. He was also appointed to the Advisory Boards of the Institute of Asian and African Studies at Moscow State University and the new Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center in Moscow. Stern served as Co-Chair of the Section on the Jewish Book at the World Congress of Jewish Studies held in Jerusalem this past summer. For the 2013-14 academic year, Stern has been selected as a Penn Faculty Fellow at the Penn Humanities Forum where he will work on a project dealing with the burning of the Talmud and other acts of violence against Jewish books.

Liliane Weissberg, the Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor in Arts and Science and Professor of German and Comparative Literature, curated two exhibitions in the past academic year. "*Über Haschisch: Gershom Scholem, Siegfried Unseld und das Werk von Walter Benjamin*," which opened at the German Literary Archives in Marbach, Germany, in December 2012, documents the relationship between

The Jewish Studies Program

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Scholem and his German publisher. Both the exhibit and the accompanying book authored by Weissberg were reviewed by the major German language press. The exhibition: "*Juden. Geld. Eine Vorstellung*" opened at the Jewish Museum in Frankfurt am Main, Germany in April 2013, and has elicited reviews, interviews, radio shows and television features. The substantial catalogue (of the same title) edited by Weissberg is already in its second printing. Weissberg also published articles on German-Jewish philosophy and literature, and co-edited an anthology, *Writing with Photography*. This past spring and summer, she was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies at the University of Munich, co-organized a summer school in Bad Aussee, Austria, in June, and taught a course for doctoral students at the Literary Archives in Marbach in July and August. Weissberg lectured widely in Europe and the United States, and served on numerous national and international committees. This past summer, she was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Research Award in recognition of her academic .

She is a visiting professor in German-Jewish Culture and History of Science at the ETH Zurich this fall.

Beth S. Wenger, Professor of History, has just completed her seventh and final year as Director of the Jewish Studies Program. She currently serves as Chair of Penn's History Department. Wenger is spending the 2013-14 academic year as Convening Head Fellow at the University of Michigan's Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies in a fellowship group focusing on "New Perspectives on Gender & Jewish Life." Wenger's *History Lessons: The Creation of American Jewish Heritage*, appeared last year in paperback from Princeton University Press. A new co-edited volume titled, *Gender in Judaism and Islam: Common Lives, Uncommon Heritage*, is currently under contract with New York University Press. Wenger's essay, "American Jewish Immigrants and the Invention of Europe," will be published in the anthology *History, Memory, and Jewish Identity*. An article entitled, "Did North American Jewry have an Early Modern Period?" will appear in *Perspectives on Early Modern Jewish Culture, 1500-1800*. Wenger's public lectures and conference papers include the Stanley and Sandra Kutler lectures in American Jewish History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She presented at the Association for Jewish Studies conference and at Yeshiva University. Wenger served as co-chair of the biennial Scholars Conference in American Jewish History whose 2012 theme was, "Beyond Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Studying American Jews." Wenger also served as co-convenor of a graduate student workshop in American Jewish history held in May, 2013. Her administrative positions include, Chair of the Academic Council of the American Jewish Historical Society and Co-Chair of the Doctoral Dissertation

Fellowship Committee of the Foundation for Jewish Culture. She is a Distinguished Lecturer of the Organization of American Historians and of the Association for Jewish Studies, and serves on the Academic Advisory Board of the Center for Jewish History. Wenger continues her role as consultant to the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.

Julia Wilker is Assistant Professor in the Department of Classical Studies where her research and teaching interests include Jews in the Greco-Roman World. In 2012 she published an edited volume on *Maintaining Peace and Interstate Stability in Archaic and Classical Greece* and wrote an article on the political history of Judea in the Hellenistic and early Roman period, to be published in *The Historical and Cultural Context of the LXX. Handbuch zur Septuaginta III*. Wilker also wrote on benefactions of client kings in the Roman Empire with a special focus on Herod the Great to be published in a volume on Roman client kings that she is co-editing. She is also finishing an article on the role of women in the early Hasmonean dynasty. Wilker spoke in Cologne on non-priestly elites in Judea (1st century BCE – 1st century CE); at a conference in Montreal on women of the Hasmonean dynasty; and in Konstanz, on structures of succession at Herod's court. She also participated in the symposium "The Lod Mosaic in Context" at the Penn Museum in April 2013, by giving a talk on Judea and the Roman Levant around 300 CE. In 2013-2014, she will continue to work on two projects: concepts of interstate relations in ancient Greece, and royal women in Hellenistic and Roman Judea. Wilker's courses this academic year include a fall graduate seminar on the literary self-presentation of provincials under Hellenistic and Roman rule and a spring undergraduate seminar on the Near East in Hellenistic and Roman times.



Early image of a money lender. Worms Mahzor, 13th c., Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem. From the catalogue of the April 2013 exhibition at the Jewish Museum in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, titled "*Juden. Geld. Eine Vorstellung*."

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

2012–2013 Fellowship Program: “Institutionalization, Innovation, and Conflict in Thirteenth-Century Judaism: A Comparative View”

Scholars of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam convened to engage in a dialogue that traversed the cultural, religious, and academic boundaries of the thirteenth century. The weekly Ruth Meltzer Seminars ranged from medieval Jewish medical incantations to the perception of Jews in twelfth- and thirteenth-century miracles of the Virgin Mary to Muslim philosophy and thirteenth-century Spanish Kabbalah. The fellows marked the end of the fall semester with a daylong **workshop on the medieval city**—mapping the interplay of knowledge, piety, and power in three medieval centers: Cairo, Paris, and Barcelona.

Prof. **John Van Engen’s** talk, “Jews, Friars, and Beguines: Narrating the History of Thirteenth-Century Europe,” the sixteenth annual Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff lecture, is described on p. 6 of this newsletter.

The fellowship year was capped on April 29th and 30th by the nineteenth annual **Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies**, “**Patterns of Relations: Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the Thirteenth Century.**” The program combined fellows and invited speakers, among them: **Anthony Bale** (Birkbeck College), **Jonathan Berkey** (Davidson College), **Robert Chazan** (New York University), **Mark Cohen** (Princeton University), **Görge K. Hasselhoff** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), **Michael McVaugh** (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), and **Ian P. Wei** (University of Bristol).

*The Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies was made possible through the generous support of **Martin D. Gruss, W’64.***



Elisheva Baumgarten (Bar-Ilan University), **Ruth Karras** (University of Minnesota), and **Katelyn Mesler** (Hebrew University) were appointed editors of a volume which will detail the work accomplished through the course of this fellowship year.

2013 Summer School for Graduate Students in Judaic Studies: “Jewish Learning through the Ages”

Twenty five selected doctoral candidates from Israel, North America, and Europe participated in our summer program on Jewish Learning Through the Ages (July 16–25, 2013) in Philadelphia and New York. This year’s faculty was headed by co-directors **David Ruderman** (University of Pennsylvania) and **Israel Yuval** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) who were joined by **Orit Bashkin** (University of Chicago), **Talya Fishman** (University of

Pennsylvania), **David Myers** (UCLA), and **Elchanan Reiner** (Tel Aviv University). In Philadelphia, the group explored historic sites and some of the city’s rich libraries and museums; In New York City the focus shifted to contemporary Jewish life in America. Participants met with prominent educators and visited landmarks in American Jewish history, such as the Lower East Side, the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, and Jewish Williamsburg (guided by an “insider,” formerly of the Ultra-Orthodox Satmar community). In addition to the formal program, the experience facilitated the informal exchange of ideas between students of disparate personal and academic backgrounds.



Arthur Kiron (University of Pennsylvania) presents to summer school participants a manuscript from the Katz Center’s rare book room. July 21, 2013.



A local Hasid openly converses with the participants in the summer school about life in Williamsburg, revealing an astonishing curiosity about and familiarity with nontraditional scholarly literature. July 23, 2013.

*The Summer School for Graduate Students in Judaic Studies is co-organized and cosponsored by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Katz Center. The Center is grateful for the generosity of longstanding supporters of the summer school initiative, **Julie Beren Platt** and **Marc E. Platt.***

2012–2013 Public Programs

As in previous years, the Katz Center collaborated with other institutions to build exciting and accessible programs for broad audiences. Three fellows were featured in a fall lecture series on the **significance of gender roles in understanding the medieval Jewish past**. We are grateful to our partners **Rabbi David Ackerman** (Beth Am Israel), **Dr. Philip A. Cunningham** (Saint Joseph's University), and **Rabbi David Straus** (Main Line Reform Temple), for their generous hospitality. In the spring, over six hundred people flocked to our Penn series on the Jewish Middle Ages. The lectures offered a sense of the interreligious exchange and creativity of this period in all fields of Jewish culture. Topics included the role of magic among medieval Jews, war and belligerence in the medieval Jewish tradition, and Jewish learning and education in the Islamic world. The Katz Center continued its tradition of offering one lecture in Hebrew, this year by **Ehud Krinis** (Ben-Gurion University), “Can Two Walk Together without Having Met? Theological Affinities between Jews and Shiites in the Middle Ages.”

The Katz Center also continued its collaboration with the VAAD: Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia. **Marina Rustow** (Johns Hopkins University) explored ways that rabbis living in the medieval Islamic world dealt creatively with community politics through dynamic coalition building and constructive thinking. **Charles Manekin** (University of Maryland) considered the variety of medieval Jewish philosophical positions on free will. We thank the hosting rabbis **Rabbi David Ackerman** (Beth Am Israel) and **Rabbi Robert Leib** (Old York Road Temple-Beth Am) for their hospitality. We also thank the President of the VAAD, **Rabbi Elisa Goldberg**, and **Rabbi Joshua Waxman** (Or Hadash) for their many contributions to the program.

This past fall, the Jewish Cultural Studies Program of Penn's Rodin College House organized a Shabbat dinner and discussion with **Judah Galinsky** (Bar-Ilan University) on Jewish charity. In the spring, **Rami Reiner** (Ben-Gurion University) offered a Hebrew seminar at Penn Hillel on medieval Jewish Responsa literature. Though the course granted no credit, was taught entirely in Hebrew, and involved decoding difficult medieval halakhic texts, more than twenty students regularly attended. This spring **Elchanan Reiner** (Tel Aviv University), Rami Reiner's brother, will continue the tradition.

*The Penn Lectures are made possible through a generous endowment from the **Harry Stern Family Foundation** and the **Klatt Family**. Rami Reiner's course was cosponsored by the Orthodox Community at Penn (OCP), the Jewish Studies Program, and the Katz Center. We thank Shlomo Klapper, C'15, for all his help organizing the classes.*

2013–2014 Fellowship Program: “Constructing Borders and Crossing Boundaries: Social, Cultural and Religious Change in Early Modern Jewish History”

Accomplished scholars from a wide variety of disciplines convene at the Katz Center this year to examine the many changes in the Jewish world which characterize the early modern period. Consideration of geographical, cultural, legal, political, and economic boundaries will advance wide ranging discussions on the nature of early Jewish modernity and the early modern period in general. We hope to explore how the establishment of Jewish centers in new places affected the development of Jewish society and culture, along with the nature and characteristics of Jewish transregional networks in the early modern age. Other issues include the shifting religious and cultural borders between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, and the impact of printing on cultural and intellectual boundaries inside Jewish society and between Jews and non-Jews. The Fellowship Program is enriched by two new collaborations—a partnership with Penn's Workshop in the History of Material Texts, and a spring 2014 symposium, “Jewish Books in Christian Europe,” in cooperation with the Katz Center, and the **Folger Institute of the Folger Shakespeare Library** in Washington D.C. Folger holdings will provide case studies for discussion. Further details will be available on our website in the fall.



The exterior of the Folger Institute (in Washington D.C.) at night. Courtesy of Folger Shakespeare Library.

2013–2014 Public Programs

In the fall we are organizing a series on changing Jewish-Christian relations in the early modern period. Our Penn Lectures in the spring will range from sixteenth-century Venice to communal politics in seventeenth-century Amsterdam to “imagined Jews” in eighteenth century literature. For more information, please contact Etty Lassman at 215-238-1290, lassman@sas.upenn.edu.

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

2013–2014 FELLOWS

Anne O. Albert

Bryn Mawr College
Louis Apfelbaum and Hortense Braunstein
Apfelbaum Fellowship
*Contested Communal Politics in 17th-Century
Amsterdam*

Francesca Bregoli

CUNY, Queens College
Primo Levi Fellowship
*Families Without Borders: Western Sephardi
Mobility and Early Modernity*

Elisheva Carlebach (F)

Columbia University
Dalck and Rose Feith Family Fellowship
*Jewish Community in the Early Modern
World: New Perspectives*

J. H. (Yossi) Chajes (S)

University of Haifa
Robert Carrady Fellowship
*The Earthly Journeys of a Cosmic Map: The
"Poppers" Diagrams and the Cultural History of
Early Modern Kabbalah*

Richard I. Cohen

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Ellie and Herbert D. Katz Distinguished
Fellowship
*"Real" and "Imagined" Jews in Modern
Culture and History*

Jesús de Prado Plumed

École Pratique des Hautes Études (Paris) and
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Maurice Amado Foundation Fellowship
*The Last Sephardi Sopher, the First New
Christian Hebraist: Alfonso de Zamora in His
Jewish and Christian Contexts*

Matt Goldish

The Ohio State University
Ruth Meltzer Fellowship
*Modena at the Crossroads: The Prophetic
Laboratory of Rabbi Abraham Rovigo*

Joseph R. Hacker (S)

Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Charles W. and Sally Rothfeld Fellowship
*Curious Englishman and Ottoman Jews: An
Encounter on Ottoman Soil*

Fabrizio Lelli

Università del Salento (Lecce, Italy)
Ella Darivoff Fellowship
*Changing Borders of Intellectual Freedom
Among 16th-Century Venetian Jewish Scholars*

Pawel Maciejko (F)

Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Erika A. Strauss Teaching Fellowship
*Sabbatianism and Jewish Heresy in the Early
Modern Period*

Lucia Raspe

Goethe-Universität (Frankfurt am Main)
Albert J. Wood Fellowship
*Minhag and Migration: Jewish Books of
Customs Beyond the Borders of Historical
Ashkenaz*

Elchanan Reiner (S)

Tel Aviv University
Nancy S. and Laurence E. Glick Teaching
Fellowship
*Between Manuscript and Printed Book:
Scholarly Culture in the Ashkenazi Culture in the
Early Modern Period*

David Rotman (F)

Tel Aviv University
Samuel T. Lachs Fellowship
*Print and the Hebrew Narrative: Hebrew
Literature in Early Modernity*

Yael Sela Teichler

Max-Planck-Institut für Bildungsforschung
(Berlin)
Rose and Henry Zifkin Teaching Fellowship
*Negotiating Harmony, Demarcating
Soundscapes: Music in Early Modern Jewish
Experience, c. 1580–1780*

Pavel Sládek (F)

Univerzita Karlova v Praze (Prague)
Ruth Meltzer Fellowship
*Karel Jugl's "Jewish Nightmare" (1745): The
Functions of Authenticity in Early Modern
Ethnographies of Jews*

Adam Teller (F)

Brown University
Jody Ellant and Howard Reiter Family Term
Fellow
*In All Directions: The Polish-Jewish Refugee
Crisis and the Shape of the Jewish World in the
17th Century*

Piet Van Boxel (F)

University of Oxford
Dalck and Rose Feith Family Fellowship
*For and Against Gersonides: The Reception of
Ralbag's Bible Commentaries in the Early
Modern Period*

Rebekka Voss (S)

Goethe-Universität (Frankfurt am Main)
Golub Family Fellowship
*Little Redheads Crossing the Sambatyon: A
Popular Yiddish Motif in its Early Modern
Cultural Expressions*

Joanna Weinberg (F)

University of Oxford
Ivan and Nina Ross Family Fellowship
Johann Buxtorf: Scholar, Corrector, Censor

Adjunct Fellows

Michela Andreatta

University of Rochester

Israel Bartal

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Andrew Berns

University of South Carolina

Flora Cassen

University of North Carolina

Joseph M. Davis

Gratz College

Yaacob Dweck

Princeton University

Andrea Gondos

Concordia University, Montreal

Anthony Grafton

Princeton University

Rachel L. Greenblatt

Harvard University

Warren Zev Harvey

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Gershon D. Hundert

McGill University

Sharon Koren

HUC-JIR, New York

Konstanze H. Kunst

University of Pennsylvania

Yitzhak Y. Melamed

Johns Hopkins University

Michael L. Miller

Central European University (Budapest)

Adam Shear

University of Pittsburgh

Jeffrey S. Shoulson

University of Connecticut

Short Term Fellows

Theodor Dunkelgrün

University of Cambridge

François Guesnet

University College London

Moshe Idel

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Robert Jütte

Institut für Geschichte der Medizin
(Stuttgart)

Maoz Kahana

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Yosef Kaplan

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Ada Rapoport Albert

University College London

Claude B. Stuczynski

Bar-Ilan University

Judaica at Penn's Libraries

JUDAICA AT PENN'S LIBRARIES

The Judaica collections at Penn—located at the Van Pelt Library, the Library of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, the Fisher Fine Arts Library, and the University Museum—continued to grow as an integrated unit within the University Libraries system under the management of **Dr. Arthur Kiron**, Schottenstein-Jesselson Curator of Judaica Collections. The full time staff of the Library at the Katz Center during the last academic year – **Dr. Bruce Nielsen**, Judaica Public Services Librarian and Archivist; **Judith Leifer**, who handles faculty requests and provides bibliographical support to the Curator, and **Josef Gulka, G'70**, who supervises circulation – provided an exceptionally high level of service, both in terms of quantity and quality. Overall, Penn's Judaica staff responded to over 700 public service contacts, shelved nearly 7,000 volumes, administered the circulation of over 870 rare items, and filled hundreds of Faculty Express, Inter-Campus, Borrow-Direct and Inter-Library Loan (ILL) transactions.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: \$8.5 million gift of the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica to the Penn Libraries

The Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of early American Judaica, encompassing more than 11,000 items and valued at over \$8.5 million, was donated by the Kaplans to the Penn Libraries in November of 2012. It is the most important private collection of its kind documenting the social and economic development of early Jewish life in the Western Hemisphere before the 20th century. The earliest items in the Collection include a 16th century codex of the proceedings of the Mexican Inquisition against a New Christian accused of Judaizing. Engraved maps dating from the 17th and 18th centuries are among the earliest to document permanent Jewish settlement in the New World. Components of the Kaplan Collection focus on the development of Jewish mercantile, social and religious activity in the Americas of the 19th century. The Kaplan have also ensured through substantial financial support that every item in the Kaplan Collection will be cataloged, digitally reproduced, and made available online to scholars and students. The Penn Libraries will hold an exhibition in January 2014 in its new Special Collections Center with highlights from the Kaplan Collection. An exhibition catalog whose publication is also funded by the Kaplans, will accompany the exhibition and feature essays by leading scholars in the field. An academic symposium about the significance of the Kaplan Collection for the study of Atlantic Jewish history will be held in February 2014.

The Kaplan Collection has been consulted by scholars for research, and some of its important artifacts have been lent to other institutions for exhibit. Among the latter are the American Jewish Archives, American Jewish Historical Society, The City Museum of New York, Skirball Museum (Los Angeles), Michigan Historical Society, The Upper Mid-West Jewish Historical Society and the Lehigh County Historical Society. The new National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia drew heavily upon the Kaplan Collection for its inaugural year-long exhibit.

Kaplan Gift leads to New Partnership with the National Museum of American Jewish History

The National Museum of American Jewish History (NMAJH) and the University of Pennsylvania Libraries have established a unique partnership to enhance public access to the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica. The Kaplan Collection contains hundreds of museum-quality colonial and early Federal era oil paintings, presentation silver, and Jewish ritual objects all of which will be available for exhibit by the Museum through its partnership with Penn. Through this special alliance, first envisioned by **Arnold Kaplan**, the Penn Libraries have placed these unique treasures in the Museum's custody on long-term loan. This extended loan arrangement is meant to encourage

creative curatorship, dynamic exhibition opportunities, and long-term strategic planning for both institutions. The security and accessibility of the Kaplan Collection, panorama of documents, books, maps, broadsides and other precious artifacts, will be maintained for the benefit of current and future generations.

New Katz CAJS/Library Web Exhibit!

To mark the conclusion of the 2012-13 year of research, the Penn Libraries partnered with the Katz Center Fellows to produce a beautiful virtual exhibit "Thirteenth-Century Entanglements: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam."

<http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/cajs/fellows13/>



Suriname map - color view. From the Kaplan Collection

Judaica at Penn's Libraries

Willy Lindwer Suriname Collection and Tobias Family and Business Archive

Since the gift of the Kaplan Collections was made in November of 2012, it has continued to grow. Two new acquisitions discussed below, illustrate the depth of the their commitment and their extraordinary generosity.

The Willy Lindwer Suriname Collection, an exceptionally rare and important private collection of manuscripts, printed books, pamphlets, lithographs and photographs documenting the history of the Jews of Suriname, was acquired for the Kaplan Collection in June of 2013. Michael Landy, a rare Judaica dealer based in New York, brokered the sale over the course of several years. Among the highlights of the collection is the first history of Jewish settlement in Suriname, the French *Essai Historique sur la Colonie de Surinam*, by David Cohen Nassy, published and printed in Paramaribo, 1788. There is also a beautiful, original wood framed lithograph of Suriname's young Rabbi Mozes Juda Lewenstein, printed in the Hague, ca. 1860, two miniature manuscript books kept by the Hazan of Paramaribo, a special inauguration speech book, special synagogue services, photographs of the city's two Jewish communities, pamphlets of various Jewish organizations, and a printed program for the Service held on the occasion of the Slave-Emancipation on Wednesday, 1 July 1863.



Emancipation of the Slaves, July 1, 1863.
From the Suriname Collection.

The Tobias Family and Business Archive contains over 750 pages of business correspondence, including personal, family and historical information, along with business receipts, manifests, invoices and legal documents. Tobias I. Tobias was a successful merchant whose family constituted an important branch of the New York Sephardic elite. The Tobias Archive covers the period from 1816 to 1865 with a few documents that date from as late as 1886. The collection provides

fascinating insights into America's formative years while exposing family gossip, business alliances and disputes, religious affairs, and social happenings. The letters are written in the elegant hand and fanciful English of a bygone era; some of them are still in their original addressed envelopes, affixed with seals, or bound into letter books. The collection offers a significant overview of nineteenth-century business practices: correspondence between partners, shippers, boat captains and investors, disputes between rivals, a lengthy lawsuit, debt proceedings, careful ledger accounts, receipts of sale and purchase – and interesting news of the mercantile landscape of Europe, America and a multitude of Caribbean locales. The careful descriptions of births, marriages and deaths are colored with unique anecdotes and commentary and provide a rare glimpse into the intimate lives of these early American entrepreneurs. The Kaplans purchased the Tobias collection from Eric Chaim Kline, a Los Angeles-based rare books dealer, who shipped it directly to Penn as a donation to the **Kaplan Collection** at the Penn Libraries.

In Memoriam

The Penn Libraries and their Judaica Collections department mourn the passing of four of its very important supporters: **Dr. Deborah Burstein Karp** (1924-2013), **Mr. Philip Lindy** (1930-2013), **Dr. Daniel Rettberg** (1952-2013) and **Dr. Alfred Moldovan** (1921-2013).

Dr. Karp, who received her Ph.D from Columbia University at the age of 65, authored several books of Jewish history. After the death in 2003 of her husband Rabbi Abraham J. Karp, a distinguished historian of American Jewish history, Dr. Karp donated a significant portion of his library to Penn's Judaica collections. The donation included manuscripts, pamphlets and early printed works of Judaica Americana as well as hundreds of extensive bookseller, auction, and exhibit catalogs.

Mr. Lindy was a man of enormous warmth and generosity who served as a member of the Board of Overseers of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies from 1997 to 2007. When he stepped down from the Board, he decided, in conjunction with the Center's director, Prof. David Ruderman, to make a substantial donation to support acquisitions for the Library at the Katz Center.

Dr. Rettberg received his Ph.D. from Dropsie College, and for the last twelve years served as the Rare Book and Manuscripts Bibliographer at the Klau Library, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Dan was also an Adjunct Associate Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Cincinnati. A regular at Penn's annual Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book, Dan served on numerous committees of the Association of Jewish Libraries. He combined his love of scholarship with his passion for books and libraries in a career that spanned over thirty

years. Dan curated numerous exhibits, organized many public events and authored dozens of articles and book reviews.

Dr. Moldovan founder of the Harry Friedman Society for Judaica Collectors, and member of the Acquisitions Committee of the Jewish Museum in New York City, passed away at the age of 92. In 2010, his son **Joseph Moldovan, C'76**, and daughter-in-law **Susan Alkalai Moldovan, C'76**, established the Moldovan Family Rare Judaica collection at the Penn Libraries in honor of Al and his wife, Jean Sorkin Moldovan. That same year, Benjamin Zucker donated the "Zucker Holy Land Travel Manuscript" to the Penn Libraries in honor of his dear friend, Al. He was an extraordinary figure of indomitable spirit who will not be forgotten.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of these individuals and extend our sincere condolences to their families. Their memories will remain a blessing in our Libraries' history and in the hearts and lives of all they touched.

Judaica at Penn's Libraries

NEW COLLECTION GIFTS

The Penn Libraries received two other important Judaica gift collections during the last academic year:

The Martin & Lorraine Beitler Collection of Judaica

Martin and Lorraine Beitler have a distinguished history of philanthropy to the Penn Libraries. In October of 2002, they donated The Lorraine Beitler Collection of the Dreyfus Affair which is now part of Penn's Rare Book and Manuscript Library at the Special Collections Center in the Van Pelt Library. A decade later, in December of 2012, their son **Dr. Jonathan Jay Beitler** donated the Martin & Lorraine Beitler Collection of Judaica in their honor, an extraordinary collection consisting of 669 pieces of Jewish ceremonial art and Judaica, mostly dating from the 19th and 20th centuries. Among the representative examples of contemporary American culture are a collection of seventy-two 20th century American campaign buttons, charity (*Tsedekah*) boxes, a cookie jar with a Jewish inscription, dreidels, magical amulets, coins, medals, memorial lamps, *mezuzot*, *mizrah* and *shiviti* documents. Other noteworthy items in the collection are special book-bindings, rare books, broadsides, periodicals, posters, graphics, and historical documents, including Holocaust-era materials and Zionist pamphlets.

The Samuel Lachs Personal Papers Collection

Thanks to **Dr. Phyllis Lachs**, and through the good offices of **Prof. Jeffrey Tigay**, the Penn Libraries have received two boxes of personal papers of the late **Prof. Samuel Tobias Lachs**, renowned scholar of rabbinic and early Christian literature. In addition to miscellaneous personal papers, the collection of unpublished scholarly materials includes: a draft of a work about the so-called Judeo-Christian tradition; several draft versions of a multi-volume series of translations into English from the Hebrew texts of midrashim gathered in Adolph Jellinek's multi-volume anthology of minor midrashim called *Bet ha-Midrash: midrashim ketanim yeshanim u-ma'amarim shonim/ Sammlung kleiner midraschim und vermischter abhandlungen aus der ältern jüdischen literatur* (Jerusalem: Bamberger and Wahrman, 1938). There is also correspondence with the Jewish Publication Society of America about the project and several pages of handwritten notes. Prof. Tigay kindly and expertly reviewed, described, and organized this material before transferring it to the Penn Libraries on behalf of Dr. Lachs.

These three groups of personal papers wonderfully complement the rare Judaica collection of Prof. Lachs donated to the Penn Libraries in 2009 by his wife Dr. Phyllis Lachs. Prof. Lachs' books and papers are now located at the Library at the Katz Center, formerly once part of Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, from which Prof. Lachs received his Ph.D. in 1958.

Special Projects:

In the Spring of 2013, the Penn Libraries announced the completion of our first **Jesselson Family-Deanne and Arnold Kaplan Foundation American Genizah Project: the Gershwind-Bennett Isaac Leeser Digital Repository**. Leeser is widely regarded as the most important Jewish leader in antebellum America. The **Jesselson-Kaplan American Genizah Project** is an international initiative, founded in 2006, to integrate digital technologies into the way early American Jewry is studied. Its primary goal is to create an open access digital repository or "genizah" of physically dispersed primary sources that document the development of Jewish life in the western hemisphere and around the Atlantic from the 16th-19th centuries. The **Gershwind-Bennett Isaac Leeser Digital Repository** provides integrated access to the dispersed corpus of Leeser's correspondence, the entire run of the *Occident* (the newspaper he edited) as well as his publications. Thanks to a start-up grant from the **Gershwind-Bennett Families**, we began transcribing and scanning the correspondence held at Penn and at the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, along with additional Leeser materials held in private collections. Our Leeser site now contains digital images of over 2,100 original letters. Each letter has been transcribed so that it can be easily read, and each letter has been encoded using TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) to allow for the most sophisticated type of full text search and discovery. In this digital initiative, the Penn Libraries partnered with the **Historical Jewish Press project**, directed by **Prof. Yaron Tsur (Tel Aviv University)** and managed by **Chezkia Kasnett** at the **National Library of Israel** in Jerusalem to make the entire run of the *Occident* immediately available on-line. Leeser's publications have been converted from ASCII files into fully searchable OCR documents. Special thanks to **Dr. William Noel**, Director of Penn's Kislak Center and the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Study (SIMS) and to **David McKnight**, Director of Penn's Rare Book and Manuscript Library, for their leadership in shepherding the project to completion, to **Michael Overgard**, the Jesselson-Kaplan Project Manager, **Dennis Mullen**, web-design expert at the Penn Libraries, and **John DiMattia**, software consultant to the project. To view this freely accessible public website, go to: <http://ubuwebser.cajs.upenn.edu/>

Herbert and Sheila Weiner have made a third, generous gift in memory of their father **Marvin Weiner, W'38**, to support the completion of the transcription of the personal papers collection of **Sabato Morais**, an Italian-born American Jewish religious leader perhaps best known as the principal founder of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City in 1886. The Weiner's father, Marvin, faithfully served on the board of the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, (predecessor institution to the Katz Center) during a critical time in the institution's history. He chaired its library committee, and helping to ensure the future of its collections.

The National Museum of American Jewish History

Internships

For seventeen years, Penn students have gained hands-on experience in Jewish history by serving as interns at the National Museum of American Jewish History on Independence Mall (NMAJH). Under the supervision of **Prof. Beth Wenger**, students study artifacts and prepare background for exhibitions. They receive Independent Study credit, either in the Department of History or in the Jewish Studies Program. Three undergraduates — **Ariel Cohen, C'14**, **Dena Schwartz, C'13**, and **Maya Spitzer, C'13** — participated in the internship program at the museum last year. Since the summer of 2012, Penn's Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships (CURF) also began sponsoring a paid summer internship at the National Museum of American Jewish History as part of its internship programs in the humanities. Undergraduates **Catherine Cleveland, C'15**, **Elliana Rao, C'15**, and **Lauren Shapiro, C'16**, served as museum interns in the summer of 2013. Here's what several of last year's interns had to say:

Ariel Cohen, C'14 — This internship was integral to my experience here at Penn. I've always loved art and art history but it was through this semester-long program that I deepened my experience in the curatorial world and figured out that I want to get my PhD in Art History in order to be a curator!

Dena Schwartz, C'13 — The internship at NMAJH gave me a new perspective on American Jewish history. I got to do lots of primary source research, which taught me about everything from Rotisserie baseball to the Borscht Belt, and I greatly appreciated the opportunity to see how museums bring history to life for visitors. Interning behind-the-scenes was a great way to experience the real-world applications of the research skills I used in the classroom.

Lauren Shapiro, C'16 — Interning at the National Museum of American Jewish History was both personally and intellectually rewarding. My primary assignments involved conducting research for upcoming special exhibitions and surveying the public to gauge interest in said exhibitions. All interns in the curatorial department helped gather information for an upcoming show, *Chasing Dreams: Baseball & Jews in America*; we worked to develop biographies of historical figures, assemble a timeline of Jewish involvement in baseball, and survey people on the National Mall to assess public perception of a Jewish baseball exhibition. I was also assigned to research for an exhibition about LGBT Jewish Americans and the intersections between Jewish and queer cultures, which may occur in 2018. We interns also attended a guest speaker series in which professionals from the Philadelphia art and culture community discussed a variety of topics with us, such as art administration, art law, and cultural education. I particularly appreciated the speaker series as it provided me with invaluable knowledge about working in the arts and breaking into the professional world. At NMAJH, I honed my skills in academic writing, research, and office interaction, all while studying a history and people that I am proud to call my own.



Photo credit: I. George Blyk

From left: Jane Eisner, E.J. Dionne, Jr., Sarah Barringer Gordon, and John J. Dilulio at "Religion and Politics" on October 17, 2012.

Lecture Series

The Penn Jewish Studies Program has begun a new collaboration with the National Museum of American Jewish History (NMAJH), thanks to a gift by the Arlene and Stanley Ginsburg Family Foundation. The series is designed to draw connections between key themes in American Jewish history and broader dimensions of American history and culture. Under the joint sponsorship of the program and the Museum, two major events are organized each year. The first event last year was a panel discussion, "Religion & Politics: Faith, Democracy, and American Public Life" on October 17, 2012, held at the NMAJH. Panelists **John J. Dilulio** (University of Pennsylvania), **E.J. Dionne, Jr.** (Washington Post) and **Sarah Barringer Gordon** (University of Pennsylvania), explored how Americans have struggled with the complex relationship between religion and political life. This was a particularly timely lecture, occurring just weeks before the presidential election. The event was moderated by **Jane Eisner** (Editor-In-Chief, *Jewish Daily Forward*). The second event was another panel discussion, "Dialogues & Divergences: The Ongoing Evolution of Black-Jewish Relations in America" on February 20, 2013, held at the NMAJH. Panelists **Cheryl Greenberg** (Trinity College) and **John L. Jackson, Jr.** (University of Pennsylvania), navigated the complexities of historic and contemporary Black-Jewish relations in America, with moderator **Sara Lomax-Reese** (President and General Manager of WURD Radio in Philadelphia). We plan to host two programs in the 2013-14 academic year, one focusing on broad questions of American immigration.



Photo credit: Matthew Christopher

(from left): Beth Wenger, Sara Lomax-Reese, Cheryl Lynn Greenberg, John L. Jackson, Jr., Ivy L. Barsky, at "Dialogues and Divergences" on February 20, 2013.

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