

JEWISH STUDIES

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.

left: "Irgun", first Hebrew version of "Monopoly". Lithographic printing "A. Koffman", Haifa. 48X48 cm. Purchased thanks to the Albert and Ele Wood Judaica Library Endowment at the Kedem auction in Jerusalem, June 2015.

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The Jewish Studies Program

Undergraduates: The decision of Jewish Studies faculty members to create a Jewish Studies Program, rather than a department, reflects the conviction that the riches and riddles of Jewish culture across space and time ought not be marginalized, but rather, fully integrated

into the humanities and social sciences. Faculty members associated with the Program teach an average of 400 undergraduate students per year.

Graduate students in different departments and schools at Penn convene conferences and reading

groups of their own design, assisted by the Jewish Studies Program.

The Community: Over thirty events per year are open to the public.

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. The 2016–17 theme is: "Political Ramifications: Expanding Jewish Political Thought."

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR, JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

In 2014-15, Penn's Jewish Studies Program partnered with other Penn entities to offer more than thirty events of relevance to the Jewish cultural experience. Students, faculty and members of the public attended musical and dramatic performances, films, a video exhibition by an Israeli artist -- and an array symposia and lectures that explored a broad force of historically oriented presentations spanning the gamut from the ancient to the modern included: remarkable new archaeological findings in the Galilee; "cheap books" in the Cairo Geniza; synergies and tensions at the intersection of Jewish studies and Islamic studies; Jewish colonists in 17th century Suriname; Hasidic storytelling, and behind-the-scenes Nazi directives that resulted in the devastations of Kristallnacht, 1938. Contemporary themes and issues treated included a reassessment of the political profile of philosopher Leo Strauss, challenges posed by Israeli marriage and divorce law and possible solutions, and new developments in Middle Eastern literature -- with Israeli Jews writing in Arabic, and Israeli Arabs writing in Hebrew.

Two professors affiliated with the Jewish Studies Program, Kathryn Hellerstein and David Ruderman, were celebrated at events marking the publication of their new books, and a symposium on the work of David Stern was held on the occasion of his retirement from Penn.

Partnerships between the Jewish Studies Program and a growing number of Penn entities are especially valuable; these collaborative enterprises help to cultivate frontier areas in research—and they give the Jewish experience greater visibility on campus and in the community. Collaborations with the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript

Studies, the Penn Law School, the Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies and the National Museum of American Jewish History are described in the coming pages.

Of special notice are two events coming up in the spring. On February 7, 2016, the Silvers Visiting Scholar Program will mark 500 years since the establishment of the first ghetto, in Venice, with a lecture and concert. On April 20, 2016, the Joseph Alexander Colloquium will consider the recent decision of the Spanish government to extend citizenship to descendants of Sephardic Jews in a presentation, "Remembering Sepharad: History, Memory and Politics."

The Jewish Studies Program has developed its position of prominence over the years by offering students—undergraduate and graduate—an opportunity to explore all aspects of the Jewish cultural experience through classroom experiences, encounters with visiting scholars and artists, and supervised research projects pursued independently, on campus, and elsewhere. As funding for independent research is particularly valuable, we are honored and delighted to announce the newly-created **Louis Schwartz and Elaine Friedman Schwartz Fund**, which will enable the Jewish Studies Program to provide support for either undergraduate or graduate students whose travel and materials are related to the production of independent research. Established through the generosity of James Schwarz, Esq., C'78, Parent 2016, this fund commemorates the lives of the donor's inspiring parents, and reflects his own passionate involvement in genealogical research.



Best wishes for a peaceful and productive 2016.

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

Talya Fishman

Director, Jewish Studies Program

Associate Professor, Department of
Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations

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

On behalf of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, I write to say that we very much look forward to another year of collaboration with Penn's Jewish Studies program as we transition from a theme focused on the history of scholarship to one that will take us beyond the boundaries of reason.

This last year (14-15), the focus of the Katz Center fellowship was the history of *Wissenschaft des Judentums*, academic Jewish Studies. Together with fellows from at least eleven countries, the topic gave us an opportunity to partner with Jewish Studies on a number of programs, including a conference that explored the role of Jewish scholars in the study of Islam, a lecture by the renowned historian Natalie Zemon Davis, and a final year-end Gruss Colloquium in April that explored scholarly practice itself, the role of collecting and correspondence, how scholars represent themselves, and their various ways of engaging the world beyond academia.

The coming year will explore various intersections between Jewish Studies and psychology. Katz Center fellows include scholars working in Hebrew, Yiddish and other languages on the role of specific emotions within Jewish thought and literature, the comparative study of guilt and confession in Jewish and American law, the representation of sensation in Israeli literature, the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Israeli psychiatry, along with many other topics.

The focus on psychology offers a chance for the Katz Center and Jewish Studies to move in some new directions

together. In its new strategic plan, Penn's School of Arts and Sciences has announced a new focus on "Mapping the Mind," the study of the brain and how it works. That kind of research mostly happens in fields like neuroscience and psychology, but there are ways for Jewish Studies to contribute as well. Psychoanalysis, after all, was once known as "the Jewish science", and Jewish history, literature and thought offer opportunities to think about the mind in cultural contexts different from those which shape present-day scientific conceptions. We will be using the year, in effect, to map the Jewish mind—the mind as conceived by Jews in different historical contexts and understood to include not just intelligence and reason but pain, desire, doubt, memory and the unconscious.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to share some of this research in the form of public programs cosponsored by Jewish Studies, including our annual Meyerhoff lecture on November 11, featuring a lecture on Freud by the philosopher Jonathan Lear. In the spring semester, also keep a look-out for a series that will explore new research into religious experience that will feature several Katz Center fellows. It should be a year of intellectual adventure.

I want to conclude by thanking Talya Fishman for her leadership of Jewish Studies and other colleagues in Jewish Studies for being so welcoming and supportive.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Weitzman".

Steven Weitzman

Director of the Katz Center of
Advanced Judaic Studies

Abraham M. Ellis Professor of Hebrew
and Semitic Languages and Literatures
Ella Darivoff

The University of Pennsylvania Jewish Studies Program produces the Jewish Studies 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

2015 FALL COURSES

Language Courses

JWST 031 BEGINNING 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 103 THE MESSIANIC IMPULSE IN JEWISH HISTORY • Explores the dual or dialectic function of the messianic idea, as Gershom Scholem described it: to restore the stability Jews had lost, or to establish something entirely new, a supernatural utopia.

JWST 149 SCRIMMAGE OVER SCRIPTURE: BIBLE IN THE CULTURES OF JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS • Explores the disparate ways in which elements of the Hebrew Bible have been from the 2nd through the 12th century used by faith communities in the Roman world, Byzantium, Sassanian Iran, Latin Christendom, and Islam. Jews.

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 154 MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN TRANSLATION: IMAGE OF CHILDHOOD IN ISRAELI LITERATURE AND FILM • Examines cinematic and literary portrayals of childhood.

JWST 156 JEWS & JUDAISM IN ANTIQUITY: HISTORY OF JEWISH CIVILIZATION I • Overview of Jewish history, culture, and society from its biblical settings through the Hellenistic-Roman, and rabbinic periods.

JWST 214 RE-READING THE HOLOCAUST • Explores how the Holocaust has been constructed as an historical event.

JWST 254 WOMEN IN THE BIBLE • Investigates the role women play in the Bible's narratives and legal passages.

JWST 259 INTRODUCTION TO MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE: THE CITY IN HEBREW AND ISRAELI WRITINGS OF THE 20TH CENTURY • Focuses on the artistic ways in which the city is represented in Israeli writings and the meanings it carries.

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 AND 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 266 JEWISH ART • Surveys the art made by, and for, Jews from antiquity to the present. It will begin with ancient synagogues and their decoration, followed by medieval manuscripts.

JWST 380 MODERN JEWISH INTELLECTUAL & CULTURAL HISTORY • Overviews Jewish intellectual and cultural history from the late 18th c. until the present. 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 438 READINGS IN MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE • Surveys modern Yiddish literature through readings of Yiddish prose and poetry from the end of the 19th century through the late 20th century.

JWST 457 APPROACHES TO TALMUD: TRADITIONAL AND ACADEMIC • Examines several key legal passages (sugyot) in the Babylonian Talmud from both a traditional and an academic perspective.

JWST 541 DAVID AND SOLOMON • Focuses on the biblical figures of David and Solomon investigates the relationship between biblical literature and historical reality, and explores topics in the history of biblical interpretation.

JWST 553 SEMINAR IN RABBINIC JUDAISM: WHAT WAS RABBINIC CULTURE PRIOR TO THE TENTH CENTURY? • Most of the foundational writings of rabbinic Judaism – corpora of midrash, Mishna, and the two Talmuds—were in existence by the end of the sixth century CE. Yet, for several centuries thereafter, there is little evidence attesting to the "lived" nature of rabbinic culture and society. Course will focus on writings by Jews and about Jews, produced between the 7th and 10th centuries, complemented by secondary sources.

JWST 582 WALTER BENJAMIN: ART, PHILOSOPHY, LITERATURE • Surveys Walter Benjamin's work beginning with his studies on language and allegory, and continuing with his autobiographical work, his writings on art and literature, and finally, on the imaginary space of the 19th c.

JWST 399 SENIOR HONORS THESIS

JWST 735 EARLY JUDAISM/EARLY CHRISTIANITY SEMINAR

College of Liberal and Professional Studies Courses

JWST 231 STUDIES IN JUDEO-SPANISH/LADINO I • Discuss the history and language of the Jews in Spain prior to their expulsion in 1492 and follow up with their history in the Ottoman Empire. Introduction to phonology of Ladino.

The Jewish Studies Program

Undergraduate Student Research

Supervised by faculty affiliated with the Jewish Studies Program, graduating seniors in Jewish Studies, History and Ancient History wrote senior theses or research papers on Jewish Studies topics. These students, named below, presented their findings before assembled students, families, and faculty on April 24, 2015.

Madeleine Brown: (ANCH supervisor: Campbell Grey)
“Roman *Virtus* and Greek *Ἀνδρεία* in Jewish Writing: Examining Cultural Integration Through Changes in Conceptions of Manly Virtue.”

Catherine Cleveland: (HIST supervisor: Ben Nathans) “Identity in Crisis: Israeli Identity and its Effect on Israeli-West German Relations, 1952-1965.”

Danielle Kerker: (HIST supervisors: Beth Wenger and Sarah Gordon) “The Implacable Surge of History”: Investigating Jewish Activism in Atlanta During the Civil Rights Movement.”

Ian Wenik: (HIST supervisor: David Ruderman) “One Law, One Movement: Many Directions: The Struggle of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, 1918-Today.”



(from left) Undergraduate students Ian Wenik, Catherine Cleveland, Danielle Kerker, and Madeleine Brown presented their senior theses or research papers findings. April 24, 2015.

National Museum of American Jewish History Internships

For eighteen 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. Two undergraduates — **Aliza Caplan, C’16**, and **Hannah Fagin, C’17**, — 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 **Eric Deaton, C’16**, and **Samantha Rahmin, C’17**, served as museum interns in the summer of 2015.

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 **Jacob D. Meiner**

The **Workmen’s Circle/Arbeter Ring Prize for Excellence in Yiddish Studies**, was awarded to **Deborah Schwartz**.

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 **Jacob Shamash**.

The **Judah Goldin Memorial Prize for Excellence in Advanced Hebrew Studies** was awarded to **Noah Ehrich**.

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 **Madeleine Brown, Catherine Cleveland, and Danielle Kerker**. **Ian Wenik** was awarded Honorable Mention.

Student Research Awards

Goldfein Scholarship Award

Tom Tearney, Duke German-Jewish Workshop
Nimrod Ben Zeev, summer research in Israel
Matthew Berkman, archive research in NY
Ayelet Brinn, Yiddish language course at YIVO’s Summer School
Alon Tam, research in Israel, Egypt and Europe

Brenner Award

Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg, summer research in Leipzig
Alex Ramos, archaeological excavation at Shikhin, Israel
Viviana Wu, research in Israel

The Phillip E. Goldfein Awards in Jewish Studies are supported by Robert, C’63, and Phillip, C’34, Goldfein. The Raymond and Ruth Brenner Grants in Jewish Studies are supported by Raymond and Ruth Brenner (parents of Jason, W’05, Adam, W’01, and Gregory, W’99) and their family.

Graduation

Three seniors, **Allie Dayno, Hector Kilgoe, and Grace Waweru**, graduated with the Jewish Studies Interdisciplinary Minor this spring. **Catherine Cleveland** graduated with a Jewish History Concentration through the History Department.

The Jewish Studies Program

GRADUATE STUDIES

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

With assistance from the Jewish Studies Program, graduate students **Pavel Khazanov**, **Alex Moshkin**, and **Julia Dasbach** convened an interdisciplinary graduate student conference, on March 19-20, 2015, to consider the literatures of the "Russian Diaspora" – produced in various European lands, and in Israel.

More than fifty participants attended – from Penn and elsewhere. The keynote address, "Manchuria: Conflicting Memories," was delivered by Thomas Lahusen (University of Toronto). Other presentations were made by faculty and students from: University of Alberta, Brown University, University of Virginia, University of Toronto, Stanford, Emory, Hochschule für Jüdische Studien, Rutgers, Johns Hopkins, Yale, University of Oregon, Princeton, and the University of Pennsylvania.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Julia Kolchinsky Dasbach is a third-year doctoral student in the Comparative Literature and Literary Theory program focusing on English and Russian. Her research deals with Holocaust memory and representation in literature and museums, and more specifically, the lyric rendering of trauma in contemporary American poetry composed by emigrants from the former Soviet Union. She is also a practicing poet whose work appears in several journals. She is the author of *The Bear Who Ate the Stars*, winner of *Split Lip Magazine's* 2014 Uppercut Chapbook Award and the recipient of fellowships from the Bread Loaf and TENT writers' conferences. A fellowship for the Auschwitz Jewish Center enabled her to spend this past summer studying the Holocaust in Poland.

Sonia Gollance is a doctoral candidate in Germanic Languages and Literatures whose dissertation explores depictions of mixed dancing in German-Jewish and Yiddish literature. In academic year 2014-15, she gave papers at the "Freedom to Move: Dance and Literature Workshop" in Graz, Austria; the AJS conference; the Duke Universal Workshop in German-Jewish Studies; and the Renaissance Society of America conference in Berlin. She also chaired the panel on Trends and Developments in Yiddish Literary Scholarship at a workshop in Jerusalem. In the spring, she was at the Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center at The Hebrew University, and in summer 2015, she participated in the Hebrew University—Katz Center summer program "Jews on the Move." Gollance has also lectured on Yiddish folk dance at the Jewish folk arts program KlezKanada. She is now pursuing work on her dissertation in Vienna as recipient of an Ernst Mach Grant. She is the graduate student representative for the Program Committee of the Association for Jewish Studies.

Ari M. Gordon is a fourth-year PhD student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. His dissertation explores Muslim-Jewish relations in early Islam and the construction of sacred geography. He delivered a paper on disability in early Islamic law at the American Academy of Religion Conference, and is preparing papers in the fields of sacred geography and Qur'anic-Biblical studies.

Marc Herman, PhD candidate in the Department of Religious Studies, is studying Judeo-Arabic legal writings. He was awarded the 2014–2015 Knapp Family Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in Jewish Studies to pursue his work on "Enumeration of the Commandments in the Judeo-Arabic



Dinner with graduate students and Prof. Jodi Magness (far back on left) after her presentation at the Silvers Visiting Scholar event, February 2, 2015.

Culture: Approaches to Rabbinic Legal Epistemology. He is presenting his research at the Association for Jewish Studies conference in December 2015 on "Reconsidering Geonic Approaches to the Oral Torah," and has presented at graduate student conferences at Harvard, Yale and McMaster.

Pavel Khazanov is a fifth-year doctoral student in the Comparative Literature Program, concentrating in Russian literature and culture. His research is focused on the Russian Imperial imaginary in late Soviet and Perestroika-era culture. In 2013-14, he co-organized a Russian Jewish Literature reading group at Penn.

Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg, a History doctoral student, is a 2015-2016 fellow of the Leo Baeck Graduate Program. With the support of Penn's Jewish Studies Program Brenner Research Award, she attended the *Pinkassim* workshop at the Simon Dubnow Institute in Leipzig, where she learned how to read Ashkenazic community notebooks from the early modern period. Her dissertation studies changes

in the organization of *halakhic* knowledge in Ashkenaz during the early modern period, using responsa literature from the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries as case studies. She is currently a scholar in residence at the Gruss Library of Jewish Law at NYU.

Alex Moshkin is a third-year doctoral student in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, whose research examines contemporary Israeli and Russian literatures through the lenses of culture, history, and sociology. He is a 2015 Dean's Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania, and a recipient of BGI Research Grant from Brandeis University. His dissertation examines Israeli-Russian literature and film in Hebrew and Russian languages 1989-2014.

Jordan Paul is a first-year doctoral student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations specializing in Modern Hebrew Literature. She presented a paper at the Indiana University conference "From Babel to Brooklyn: Jewish Languages, Culture, and Identity," and attended the joint Katz Center-Hebrew University program, "Jews on the Move."

Akhmad Sahal, doctoral student in Religious Studies, has been a research fellow at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University Kennedy

School since Fall 2014. His dissertation considers the political thought of Sheikh Rashid Rida, the Syrian-Egyptian Muslim reformist, and that of Isaac Herzog, the first Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel. Both figures grappled with questions about how a modern state could be guided by religious law.

Tom Tearney, is a fourth-year PhD student in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, whose research interests include German-Jewish and Yiddish drama of the early 20th century. In 2015, Tom presented research on Franz Werfel at the Duke Workshop in German-Jewish Studies.

Tammie Wanta is a doctoral student in Religious Studies studying Judaism and Christianity in antiquity with a special interest in literature and questions of transmission. Last year she held an appointment at Franklin and Marshall College and taught classes in New Testament and Early Christianity. She also presented research at the Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Texts section of the SBL Annual Meeting. Wanta's dissertation is entitled "Wisdom Forgotten: Exploring the Afterlife of Traditions about the First Man's Knowledge."

LIFE AFTER GRADUATE SCHOOL

Cornelia Aust (PhD, History, 2010), is a Research Associate at the Leibniz-Institute for European History in Mainz, Germany. She published two articles this year, "Merchants, Army Suppliers, Bankers: Transnational Connections and the Rise of Warsaw's Jewish Mercantile Elite (1770-1820)," and "Jewish Economic History," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*. Her new research project concerns Jewish appearance and the ways it was perceived by Jews and Christians in 17th to 19th century central and eastern Europe

Susan Marks (Ph.D., Religious Studies 2003), was promoted to Professor of Judaic Studies/ Klingenstein Chair at New College of Florida, the Honors College of the State of Florida. Last year, she co-edited (with Hal Taussig) *Meals in Early Judaism: Social Formation at the Table* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2014).

Yehuda Seif (PhD, Religious Studies, 2013) moved to Israel to open two new gap-year programs through the *Bnei Akiva* movement: *Yeshivat*, and *Midreshet Torah v'Avodah*. He has a forthcoming article in *Wealth and Poverty in Jewish Traditions* (Creighton University).

Adam Shear (PhD, History, 2003) is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh. His research has focused on the history of the book and the impact of print on the transmission of medieval Jewish culture. He is part of a scholarly pilot project to trace the movement of early printed books in Hebrew and other languages through time and

space. The project can be viewed on the web at: <https://footprints.ccnmtl.columbia.edu/>

David Shyovitz (PhD, History, 2011) is an Assistant Professor in the History Department and Crown Center for Jewish and Israel Studies at Northwestern University. He spent the 2014-15 year as a Yad Hanadiv Visiting Fellow at the Hebrew University, where he completed his forthcoming book *The World Made Flesh: Nature and the Body in Medieval Ashkenazic Culture*. He is currently at work on a new research project, tentatively titled "Oh Beastly Jew!" *Jews, Animals, and Jewish Animals in the Middle Ages*.

Kerry Wallach (PhD Germanic Languages and Literatures, 2011) is Assistant Professor of German Studies at Gettysburg College. Recently published articles focus on journalist Doris Wittner in *Discovering Women's History*, and the 1932 film *Der träumende Mund* in *German Studies Review*. She serves on the editorial board of *German Jewish Cultures*, a new book series of the Leo Baeck Institute London and Indiana University Press.

Susan Zeelander (PhD, NELC, 2010) is a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and continues to expand her research into the poetics of biblical narratives. "The End of Korah and Others: Closures Conventions in Priestly Narratives of Numbers" will be published in *Current Issues in Priestly and Related Literature: The Legacy of Jacob Milgrom and Beyond*. She has recently presented interactive courses for adult students based on the stories of Samson and of King David.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS of 2014 - 2015

Joseph Alexander Colloquium

Ibrahim Miari (University of Pennsylvania) performing his one-man show, "In Between," at the Alexander Colloquium, December 1, 2014.



The Twenty-Ninth Annual Joseph Alexander Colloquium, on December 1st, was a one-man performance entitled, "In Between," performed by Penn's Modern Hebrew lecturer, Ibrahim Miari. "In Between" is a one-man, semi-autobiographical theater performance on growing up as the son of a Muslim Palestinian father and an Israeli Jewish mother.

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. The event was co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program and the Theater Arts Program.

Bassini Internships in Jewish Studies

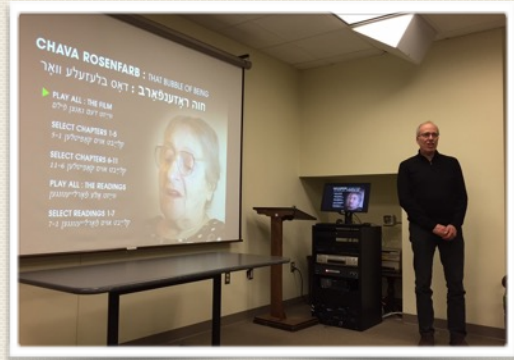
Under the direction of Prof. Kathryn Hellerstein, and graduate student Tom Tearney, Penn undergraduates initiated and organized the following events:

"Romeo and Juliet in Yiddish": Film screening initiated by undergraduate, Joan Turner, December 8th.

"Eran Riklis' Zaytoun": Film screening and discussion organized by undergraduates, Daniel Brooks, Jovonnie Gonzales, and Daniel Maser, March 26th.

"Chava Rosenfarb: That Bubble of Being": Film screening and Q&A with award-winning documentary filmmaker, Josh Waletzky, organized by undergraduates Debbie Schwartz, Danielle Novack, and Bryan Huang, April 16th.

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



Film director, Joshua Waletzky, speaking about *That Bubble of Being*, on April 16, 2015

Silvers Visiting Scholar in Jewish Studies



Mosaic of the biblical hero Samson in Huqoq. Presented by Prof. Jodi Magness (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) at the Silvers Visiting Scholar Program, February 2, 2015.

On February 2nd, the nineteenth annual Silvers Visiting Scholar Program sponsored a talk, "Samson in Stone: New Discoveries in the Ancient Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee," by Prof. Jodi Magness of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She discussed her excavations in the ancient village of Huqoq in Israel's Galilee that have brought to light the remains of a monumental Late Roman (fifth century) synagogue, paved with stunning and unique mosaics, including depictions of the biblical hero Samson.

The Silvers Visiting Scholar Program, endowed by David, C'71, and Patricia, CW'72, Silvers, was established to enable distinguished scholars to interact on campus with students and other members of the university community. The event was co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, Philadelphia Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America, and the University of Pennsylvania Departments of Anthropology, Art History, Classical Studies, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, and Religious Studies.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS of 2014 - 2015

Meyerhoff Lecture in Jewish Studies

On March 3rd, Prof. Natalie Zemon Davis (University of Toronto) lectured on "Regaining Jerusalem: Eschatology and Slavery in Jewish Colonization in 17-Century Suriname." She was introduced by Prof. Roger Chartier (University of Pennsylvania/Collège de France).

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 for Advanced Judaic Studies. The event was co-sponsored by the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Jewish Studies Program, and Department of History.



Prof. Natalie Zemon Davis (University of Toronto) speaking at the Meyerhoff lecture, March 3, 2015.

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

The fifteenth annual Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book was held on May 3rd and 4, 2015. Prof. Judith Olszowy Schlanger, Chair of Medieval Hebrew Palaeography and Manuscript Studies at the École Pratique des Hautes Études (Sorbonne) in Paris and an affiliated researcher at the Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, CNRS, led sessions on "Cheap Books From the Cairo Geniza: Formats, Texts and Readers in Medieval Egypt" Among the topics covered were: Books from the Cairo Geniza: 'Elite' or 'Popular' Culture?; Economics of Book Production and Trade Books Materials; Techniques of Production, Use, Reuse; Hebrew Script as a Social and Religious Marker; Book Formats, Book Sizes and their Functions, and Quality of Manuscripts and Quality of Texts.

Thanks to the Manfred and Anne Lehmann Foundation for their generous support, and to Albert Friedberg for additional funding.



Attendees of the fifteenth annual Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book on "Cheap Books From the Cairo Geniza: Formats, Texts and Readers in Medieval Egypt" with Prof. Judith Olszowy Schlanger, May 3-4, 2015

JSP Annual Conference: Judaism in Islamic Studies, Islam in Jewish Studies: Reflections and Surface Tensions

On November 16, 2014, JSP sponsored "Judaism in Islamic Studies, Islam in Jewish Studies: Reflections and Surface Tensions: A Conference" organized by Professors Talya Fishman and Joe Lowry, both of NELC. The conference was co-sponsored by the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations department, Religious Studies department, Middle East Center, and the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies.

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**.

In celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Robert & Molly Freedman Jewish Sound Archive at the University of Pennsylvania, the **Dan Blackberg Ensemble** performed a Klezmer concert of folk, theater, and klezmer songs, co-sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures, and the Penn Libraries on September 7, 2014.

Prof. Boris Gasparov (Columbia University) presented a lecture on "*Sub Specie Hominis: The Emergence of Kant's Critique in the Mirror of His Correspondence with Marcus Herz.*" This was co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures and Department of History, September 29, 2014.



Prof. Michael Meyer speaking about *Kristallnacht* on November 10, 2014.

Prof. David Frankfurter (Boston University) presented a lecture, "**The Magic of Craft: Workshops and the Materialization of Christianity in Late Antique Egypt,**" that was co-sponsored by Religious Studies, Classical Studies, Ancient History, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, the Center for Ancient Studies, and the Critical Writing Program, on October 13, 2014.

Prof. Willi Goetschel (University of Toronto) presented a lecture, "**Heine and the Post-Secular.**" This was co-sponsored by Germanic Languages & Literatures on October 16, 2014.

On October 30, 2014, a book celebration for **Prof. Kathryn Hellerstein** (University of Pennsylvania) was co-sponsored by Germanic Literatures and Languages, featured **Prof. Jeremy Dauber** (Columbia University) in "**Tradition of Question: A Conversation with Kathryn Hellerstein on the Study of Yiddish Women's Poetry.**"

Prof. Robert Howse (New York University) and **Prof. Anne Norton**, (University of Pennsylvania) presented "**Leo Strauss: Man of Peace?: A Dialogue.**" It was co-sponsored by the Political Science department on November 5, 2014.

Israeli director **Avi Nesher** screened his film "**The Secrets**" and held a Q&A led by director **Eran Riklis**, who was a visiting lecturer at Penn. It was co-sponsored by Cinema Studies on November 6, 2014.

On November 10, 2014, **Prof. Michael Meyer** (Hebrew Union College and Katz Center) presented "**Popular Anger or Planned Pogrom? What Really Happened During Kristallnacht 76 Years Ago.**" It was co-sponsored by Germanic Literatures and Languages,

On November 18, 2014, "**The Ma'abara Generation: A Conversation with Israeli Writer Yossi Alfi,**" was co-sponsored by Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations.

Israeli video artist, **Yael Bartana**, presented a lecture, "**Itinerant Belongings,**" co-sponsored by PennDesign on November 20, 2014.

Collegium Institute's conversation on "**Varieties of Modern Orthodoxy,**" on February 5, 2015, considered the encounter between orthodox religious movements and modernity in Jewish, Muslim, and Christian traditions. Panelists were **Prof. Alan Brill** (Seton Hall University), **Prof. Anna Bonta Moreland** (Villanova University) and **Prof. Talya Fishman** (University of Pennsylvania). It was co-sponsored by the Religious Studies Department, the Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society, the Penn Muslim Students Association, and Dialoguing in Abraham's Tent.

Prof. Noah Gerber (Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Katz Center Fellow) lectured on "**Jewish Scholarship and the Jewish Orient: The Aleppo Codex and other Cases**" on February 23, 2015. It was co-sponsored by the Departments of History, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations and Religious Studies; Middle East Center and the Penn Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

A day-long symposium held at the National Museum of American Jewish History on March 16, 2015, entitled, "**Solomon Schechter's Life and Legacy: American Transformations (1902–1915),**" is described on the section on events of the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies on page 18.

The Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins presented "**The Impact of David Stern's Scholarship on and Beyond Midrash**" on April 28, 2015. Speakers were **Prof. Martha Himmelfarb** (Princeton University) and **Prof. Azzan Yadin-Israel** (Rutgers University).



l to r: Prof. Kathryn Hellerstein, Prof. David Stern, Barbie Lehmann Siegel, Rebecca Stern and Jonah Stern, at the Lehmann Workshop, May 12, 2014.

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SURVEY

Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book - AT FIFTEEN YEARS

In the summer of 2015, a questionnaire was sent electronically to the 306 people who participated in at least one of the Lehmann Workshops held at Penn over the past fifteen years. [For the list of past workshops and their facilitating Master Teachers, see <http://tinyurl.com/past-lehmann-workshops>]

The data unearthed in the survey attests to the multifaceted impact of this pioneering project, established by (retired) NELC Prof. David Stern and Barbara Lehman Siegel.

- Integration of research on the material Jewish text into broader programs on the cultural, social, economic dimensions of material artifacts has contributed significantly to the de-parochialization of Jewish Studies, and to the enrichment of Humanities curricula that have conventionally been limited to considerations of the cultural products of Hellenism and Christianity. One respondent wrote, "It [the Lehmann Workshop] made me more interested in shifting my research toward Jewish materials."
- Engagement of wider audiences in an array of topics in Jewish history and culture through presentation of concrete artifacts. A

respondent who offers public lectures observed, "Audiences of non-specialists, whether academic or lay, can relate much more immediately to the material aspects of texts than to the words they contain."

- Cultivation of new and fruitful dialogues between codicologists and art historians, on the one hand, and, on the other, students of printed Hebrew, Aramaic and Yiddish texts—whether scholars of Bible, rabbinics, philology, historiography, philosophy, mysticism, liturgy, pietism, liturgy, law, literature or folklore.
- Development of new university courses that expose undergraduates to the artifactual dimension of texts, as well as adult-education classes in synagogues. Materials introduced at Lehmann Workshops have been shared in an array of classrooms.
- Sustained contact with Master Teachers and creation of collegial networks that have been of value for individual research. Greater integration of skilled librarians into the intellectual lives of their home institutions.
- Greater use of online manuscript resources – e.g., the Friedberg Genizah project website—in university classes.

LAW SCHOOL-JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM WORKSHOP

On Oct. 29, 2015, students and interested members of the public joined scholars in the fields of family law, legal history, rabbinic law, and cultural history at the Penn Law School to consider "The Interplay of Substantive Doctrines, Institutions and Cultural Factors in the Regulation of Jewish Marriage: Legal and Historical Perspectives." The topics considered ranged from medieval to contemporary, and they engaged data from the Cairo Geniza, responsa literature, Israeli rabbinical courts and American legislation. Notwithstanding the range of methodological approaches taken by the five presenters, each of the topics pertaining to the regulation of Jewish marriage and divorce illuminated the impact of institutional configurations, regional practices, political constraints and historical factors on substantive legal doctrine.

Each of the following presentations was followed by robust discussion: Prof. Eve Krakowski (Near Eastern Studies and the Program in Judaic Studies, Princeton University) spoke on the topic, "What was a Written Promise Worth? Jewish Marriage Contracts and their Uses in Fatimid Egypt." Prof. Oded Zinger (Center for Jewish Studies, Duke University) presented evidence from the Genizah concerning "Medieval Jewish Women in Jewish and Muslim Courts." Prof. Michael J. Brody (Emory Law School and former dayyan on the Atlanta rabbinical court) posed the question, "Is it Easier to 'Solve' the Agunah Problem in Countries with Established Religions or in Countries with no Established Faith?" Prof. Amihai Radzyner (Bar-Ilan University School of Law) discussed "The Influence of Secular Law on the Halakhic Divorce Process: The Problematic Case of Contemporary Israeli Rabbinical Courts." The Workshop concluded with a presentation, "Equality and autonomy in divorce: Encounter between Jewish Law and Modern Secular Law," given by Prof. Shahar Lifshitz, Dean of the Bar-Ilan University School of Law and Visiting Gruss Professor in Talmudic Civil Law at Penn Law School.

The workshop took place under the auspices of the Gruss Professorship in Talmudic Civil Law at Penn Law School, and was co-planned by Prof. Shahar Lifshitz, Dean of the Bar-Ilan University School of Law, the Gruss Visiting Professor, Prof. Tom Baker, Penn Law School, and NELC Professor, Talya Fishman, Director of Jewish Studies, Penn.



l to r: Prof. Talya Fishman, Prof. Shahar Lifshitz, Prof. Eve Krakowski, Prof. Oded Zinger, Prof. Michael J. Brody and Prof. Amihai Radzyner, October 29, 2015.

The Jewish Studies Program

2015 - 2016 CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Note: These events are all co-sponsored with other Penn entities.

FALL 2015

Wednesday, September 2 • 5:15pm
Ibn Kammuna on Philosophical Abrahamic Monotheism: A Graduate Seminar
Prof. Tzvi Langermann, Department of Arabic, Bar Ilan University
543 Williams Hall, 255 S. 36th Street

Thursday, September 3 • 5:15pm
Tales of Three Texts: Judaeo-Arabic & Hebrew Medicine: A Penn Library Manuscript
Prof. Tzvi Langermann, Department of Arabic, Bar Ilan University
Class of 1978 Pavilion, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, 6th floor

Tuesday, September 8 • 5:00pm
Myth and Magic: Storytelling in Hasidism
Prof. Andreas Kilcher, German and Jewish Studies, ETH Zurich
Max Kade Center, 3401 Walnut Street, Entrance A, Room 329

Wednesday, October 7 • 5:00pm
What's in a Nose? On the Origins, Dissemination, and Effects of Medieval Anti-Jewish Caricature
Prof. Sarah Lipton, Professor of History
SUNY Stony Brook
Class of 1978 Pavilion, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, 6th floor

Thursday, October 15 • 5:30pm
Poetic Trespass: Writing between Hebrew and Arabic in Israel/Palestine
Prof. Lital Levy, Assistant Professor, Comparative Literature, Princeton University
Annenberg School for Communication, Room 111, 3620 Walnut Street

Wednesday, October 28 • 5:00pm
Josephus in Early Modern Spain: 1492 and the Death and Life of Jews
Prof. Julian Weiss, Medieval & Early Modern Spanish Studies
King's College, London
Class of 1978 Pavilion, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, 6th floor

Thursday, October 29 • 2:30-6:30pm
Interplay of Institutions and Substantive Doctrines in the Regulation of Jewish Marriage: Legal and Historical Perspectives
Prof. Shahar Lifshitz, Bar-Ilan University
Prof. Eve Krakowski, Princeton University
Prof. Oded Zinger, Duke University
Prof. Michael J. Broyde, Emory Law School
Prof. Amihai Radzyner, Bar-Ilan University
Penn Law School, 3501 Sansom St.

Tuesday, November 3 • 5:30pm
Liberal Multiculturalism as a Remedy for Religion—State Relations in Israel
Prof. Shahar Lifshitz, Bar-Ilan University
Gruss Professor, Talmudic Civil Law, Penn Law School
Silverman Hall, Bernard Segal Moot Court Room, 3501 Sansom St.

Wednesday, November 4 • 4:00pm
Symposium in Memory of Terrence Des Pres: 40th anniversary of The Survivor
Peter Balakian, Al Filreis, Carolyn Forché, Annette Insdorf, Rabbi Joseph Polak, Alan Rosen, Leona Tokar
Kelly Writers House, 3805 Locust Walk

Monday, November 9 • 5:00-6:30pm
Commemoration of Kristallnacht: The Mitzvah Project: A Mischling in the Wehrmacht - One-Man Show and Talk Back
Roger Grunwald
Terrace Room, Claudia Cohen Hall, 249 South 36th St.

Thursday, November 12 • 5:00-6:30pm
Psychoanalysis and the I-Thou Relation
Prof. Jonathan Lear, Department of Philosophy
University of Chicago
Ben Franklin Meeting Room, 3417 Spruce St.



Venetian Ghetto

SPRING 2016 (a partial list)

Sunday, February 7 • 1:00pm
Lecture: "Ghetto: Metamorphoses of a Concept,"
Daniel Schwartz, Associate Professor of History
George Washington University
Concert: "Music for a Merchant," The Swiss-Italian ensemble, "Lucidarium," performs Venetian Jewish music of the Baroque era, evoking the sights and sounds of Shylock's world. This will be the 20th Annual Silvers Visiting Scholar Program.
Van Pelt Library, Class of 1978 Pavilion, 3420 Walnut Street

Wednesday, February 24 • 5:15pm
Oxford Jews and Christian Hebraism in the Thirteenth Century
Prof. John Tolan, Department of History
Université de Nantes
Location TBA

Thursday, March 3 • 5:15pm
Migrating Tales: The Talmud's Narratives and their Historical Context
Prof. Richard Kalman, Department of Talmud
Jewish Theological Seminary
Location TBA

Saturday, March 5 - Sunday, March 6
Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar
Various speakers
Location TBA

Wednesday, April 20 • 5:15pm
Remembering Sepharad: History, Memory, Politics
Prof. Julia Phillips Cohen, Department of History, Vanderbilt University. This will be the 30th Annual Joseph Alexander Program.
Location TBA

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National Museum of American Jewish History

Prof. Beth S. Wenger, NMAJH Founding Historian and Chair of the University of Pennsylvania's History Department, led a conversation with historians Prof. Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan) and Prof. Thomas J. Sugrue (Penn Social Science and Policy Forum) about the American Jewish experience in the broader context of American history and culture, entitled "Why Does Jewish History Matter to American History?" on November 2, 2014, at the NMAJH.



l to r: Prof. Beth Wenger, Prof. Deborah Dash Moore, and Prof. Thomas Sugrue

This program was the final installment of a three-year, biannual series presented in partnership with Penn's Jewish Studies Program and supported by the Arlene and Stanley Ginsburg Family Foundation.

New Penn-NMAJH Internship Program

Under the leadership of Ethel Weinberg and Judy Finkel, the National Museum of American Jewish History recently established an internship program. Starting in the summer of 2015, the NMAJH and Penn's Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies and the Penn Libraries hosted their first NMAJH intern, Alexis May under a new joint initiative. Alexis received training to use the archival data software Archivist Tool Kit and created the initial inventory of the Rabbi Michael Strassfeld Collection.

Summer Internship at the Library at the Katz Center

The Library at the Katz Center hosted a new summer intern, Michael Weiner, now a senior at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy. Michael diligently transcribed very difficult handwritten letters, written in a variety of Sephardic cursive hands, in the Library's Sabato Morais Collection. Michael's contribution will help complete the Sabato Morais Collection Digital Repository now underway.

Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop on the History of the Jewish Book, 2016

The coming workshop on May 8-9, 2016, will be led by Professor Piet van Boxel, President of the Jewish Historical Society of England, Distinguished Professor at the Oriental Institute at Oxford University, and former Curator of Hebraica and Judaica Collections at the Oxford University Library, on the topic of "Censorship of Jewish Books in the Early Modern Period." Prof. van Boxel co-edited *Crossings Borders: Hebrew Manuscripts as a Meeting-place of Cultures* (Bodleian Library, 2009), the companion catalogue to the internationally acclaimed exhibition of medieval Hebrew, Arabic, and Latin illuminated manuscripts that he curated from the Bodleian collection. Prof. van Boxel has written widely on the censorship of Jewish books, and his forthcoming monograph, *Jewish Books in Christian Hands; Theology, Exegesis and Conversion under Gregory XIII*, will be published by the Vatican Library in 2016.

Modern Hebrew Language Program at Denver University Conference

In early October 2015, Penn's star teachers, Ronit Engel, Joseph Benatov, and Ibrahim Miari, of the Penn Modern Hebrew Language Program participated in a pedagogical conference, in Denver, entitled "Communication and Technology in the Hebrew Classroom." The conference exposed participants to the range of technological tools available for use in the Hebrew language classroom, such as Movenote, GoogleVoice, and Kahoot, and it explored new approaches in the fields of collaborative, interactive, and e-learning and teaching. Following presentations on the "flipped-classroom" approach to language instruction and ways in which SmartBoard software might be used to facilitate it, participants had a chance to create their own, original instructional content using SmartBoard in a hands-on workshop. Ibrahim Miari presented the online lesson plan prepared by the Penn team. Under Ronit Engel's spirited leadership, Penn's Hebrew Language Program is known throughout the country for its effective pedagogy. The MHLP is already implementing these technological tools learned from the Denver conference in their classrooms — and students are responding positively.



r to l: Ibrahim Miari, Josef Benatov, and Ronit Engel attending MHLP conference

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Joseph Benatov is Lecturer in Foreign Languages in the Modern Hebrew Language Program. He teaches Hebrew courses of all levels. During the 2014-15 academic year, Benatov presented his research at the Limmud New York Conference and the national convention of the American Comparative Literature Association. He also lectured for members of the Doña Gracia Hadassah chapter in Philadelphia at Temple Mikveh Israel. He participated in the yearly pedagogical symposium of the Penn Language Center and conducted archival research in Israel. His ongoing research focuses on the history of the Sephardic Jewish communities of the Balkans.

Alexander Botwinik, Lecturer in Yiddish, also teaches music and choir at Har Zion Temple, in Penn Valley, PA. He is the High Holidays choir director at Adath Israel, and coordinates a regional annual choral youth *Zimria* (song festival). Botwinik is preparing two CDs: one of his father's Yiddish art songs and one of children's songs, from the book *From Holocaust to Life: New Yiddish Songs*. He performed twice this year at Haverford College, as part of the Yiddish Culture Festival, with singer-songwriter Amanda Seigel and, again, with tenor Richard Lenatsky.

Michael Carasik, Adjunct Assistant Professor, teaches Biblical Hebrew. This past year, he published the Deuteronomy volume of his *Commentators' Bible* series and began work on the Genesis volume. His article "Janus Parallelism in Job 1:20," will be published in *Vetus Testamentum*. His weekly podcast, "Torah Talk," is available at torahtalk.michaelcarasik.com as part of his "Bible Guy" blog. He has now started a twice-monthly companion podcast to his book, *The Bible's Many Voices* biblesmanyvoices.wordpress.com. That book and the *Commentators' Bible* are available on the Accordance

computer Bible platform. He continues to be the weekday Torah reader at congregation Keshet Israel in Center City Philadelphia.

Isabel Cranz, Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, specializes in the Hebrew Bible within its ancient Near Eastern contexts. She is revising her dissertation on biblical and ancient Near Eastern methods for addressing guilt and impurity in cultic and ritual settings. In 2014-15, Cranz gave presentations at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in San Diego and the Association for Jewish Studies in Baltimore. She also authored an article on ritual elements in Zechariah 5:5-11, forthcoming in *Biblica*.

Natalie B. Dohrmann is Associate Director of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, coeditor of the *Jewish Quarterly Review*, and a teacher in the departments of Religious Studies, History, and the Jewish Studies Program. "Free Radicals: Law and Genre in Early Rabbinic Literature" was delivered at a workshop on The New Ancient Legal History at the Frankel Institute at the University of Chicago. A related essay, "Means and End(ing)s: Legal Reading Habits and Literary Genealogy," will be published in the journal *Critical Analysis of the Law* in 2016. "Can 'Law' Be Private? The Mixed Message of Rabbinic Oral Law" was published in *Public and Private in Ancient Mediterranean Law and Religion*. Her essay "Sacred Law—Greek, Roman, Jewish," is forthcoming in *The Routledge Dictionary of Ancient Mediterranean Religions*.

Ronit Engel is Senior Lecturer in Foreign Languages, Director of the Modern Hebrew Language Program, and the new Undergraduate Chair of the Jewish Studies Program. In 2014 she lectured at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem on transmitting Hebrew culture to English speakers in American universities. An expanded version of the

lecture was published in the journal *Hed haUlpan*. She continues to serve on the Committee on Pedagogy of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew. At Penn she organized and chaired the Middle East Forum, a consortium of Hebrew, Arabic, Turkish, and Persian language programs designed to foster intercultural exchange and cooperation. She also initiated a discussion of immigration in Israel and the Middle East led by renowned Israeli poet and actor Yossi Alfi.

During the past academic year, **Talya Fishman**, NELC Associate Professor and Director of the Jewish Studies Program completed essays linked with presentations in Bochum, Germany, and Nantes, France. "Jewish Discussions of Creed in the Era of Confessionalization," will be published in *Through Your Eyes: The Reception of the "Religious Other" in Intercultural Exchange* (16th-18th Centuries), (Brill), and "Varieties of Jewish Textual Authority in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Historical Perspectives on Their Construction, Deployment and Ramifications" will appear in *Medieval Minorities: Law and Multiconfessional Societies in the Middle Ages*, (Brepols). She also wrote "Features of Medieval Sefardic Culture in Geographic Perspective: The Relative Inconspicuousness of Custom and the *Our Talmud* Tradition," for *Regional Identities and Cultures of Medieval Jews*, of which she is a co-editor (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization). When administrative responsibilities abate, she will resume writing a monograph, *Sensing Torah: Biblical Materiality and Religious Experience in Medieval Jewish Culture*.

Nili R. Gold, Associate Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature and Israel Studies, was on sabbatical in the academic year 2014-15, working on her book on the intersections of architecture, literature and memory in the city of Haifa. She conducted field and archival research in the fall of 2014,

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collaborating with the city's Department of Preservation and the Department of Architecture at Israel's Institute of Technology. She also conducted interviews with Israeli authors whose work depicts this city, among them A.B. Yehoshua, Sami Michael, and Yehudit Katzir. In June 2014, Gold delivered a lecture on Yoel Hoffmann's writing at the National Association of Professors of Hebrew Conference at Ben-Gurion University, and, in fall 2015, presented a chapter of her forthcoming book in a conference dedicated to the work of Sami Michael at Northwestern University, with the author in attendance. She enthusiastically returned to teaching at Penn this fall and to her role as a co-organizer of Penn's fifth annual Middle East Film Festival.

A Question of Tradition: Women Poets in Yiddish, 1586–1987, written by Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures (Yiddish) **Kathryn Hellerstein**, was awarded the Jewish Book Council Barbara Dobkin Award in Women's Studies in March 2015. She co-edited a special issue of *Studies in American Jewish Literature* on Jewish American Poetry that appeared in March 2015. Her translations of Yiddish poems by the Canadian poet Chava Rosenfarb were presented in the film *That Bubble of Being*, directed by Joshua Waletzky (League for Yiddish, 2015). She presented the following lectures: "Melech Ravitch in China: Transnational Translation," at the Transnational Literature and Translation at Swarthmore College; "Lincoln's Jewish Telegrapher and the Emancipation Proclamation," at the Kislak Center at the University of Pennsylvania; and "The Rosewaters and the Colmans: Two Jewish Families in Cleveland, 1840-1915," at the Symposium on the History of the Jews in Cleveland, at the Western Reserve Historical Society and Case Western Reserve University. While on sabbatical in 2015-16, Hellerstein will continue her research

on this topic at the American Jewish Archives, aided by a Joseph and Eva R. Dave Fellowship. She will also be a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and so serve as Scholar-in-Residence at Hadassah Brandeis Institute working on her project, "What is it to be a Jewish Woman poet? Women Poets as Jewish Translators."

Arthur Kiron is the Schottenstein-Jesselson Curator of Judaica Collections and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History. He also is the Director of the Jesselson-Kaplan American Genizah Project. His exhibition, "Constellations of Atlantic Jewish History: The Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica," is now viewable on-line. He organized the 16th annual Katz Center-Library on-line exhibition, "Doing Wissenschaft: The Active Study of Judaism as Practice, 1818-2018", and co-directed the 15th annual Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book. His essay, "Heralds of Duty: The Sephardic Italian Jewish Theological Seminary of Sabato Morais," was published in the *Jewish Quarterly Review*. At the annual Association of Jewish Libraries jubilee anniversary conference held in Washington, D.C., in June 2015, he participated in a roundtable discussion on "The Future of Librarianship." He



Prof. Kathryn Hellerstein (University of Pennsylvania) held a conversation with Prof. Jeremy Dauber (Columbia University) on her new book *A Question of Tradition: Women Poets in Yiddish, 1586–1987*, on October 30, 2014.

continues to serve on the editorial board of *Judaica Librarianship* and on numerous other professional, academic, and communal advisory boards.

Ian Lustick is the Bess W. Heyman Professor of Political Science. His article "Making Sense of the Nakba: Ari Shavit, Baruch Marzel, and Zionist Claims to Territory" was published in the Winter 2015 issue of *The Journal of Palestine Studies*. In the fall of 2014 Lustick gave two lectures at Brown University: a response to commentators on his 2013 New York Times article, "The Two State Illusion," and "The Two State Solution as a Degenerative Research Program." His article, "Zionist Theories of Peace in the Pre-state Era: Legacies of Dissimulation and Israel's Arab Minority," co-authored with Matthew Berkman, will appear this year in *Israel and Its Palestinian Citizens: Ethnic Privilege and Equal Citizenship* (Cambridge University Press). Lustick also contributed "The Political Dynamics of Settlement Projects: The Central State—Settler-Native Triangle," to *Settlers in Contested Lands* (Stanford University Press). He presented "Fatal Attraction: Four Constructions of the Holocaust in Israeli Politics" at the Association for Israel Studies annual conference in Montreal, in June 2015. In the fall semester of 2015 Lustick launched a course dedicated to Arab-Israeli relations.

Ibrahim Miari, Lecturer in the Modern Hebrew Language Program, teaches Hebrew courses at all levels. He has been serving on Penn's Middle East Film Festival Committee since 2013, and in fall 2014, he introduced the documentary film about Mahmoud Darwish, "Write Down, I'm an Arab." In December, 2014, Miari performed "In Between," a semi-autobiographical one-man show that portrays the complexities and contradictions

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inherent in Palestinian-Israeli identity. As part of "Asia Day, The Many Faces of Islam" event in February, 2015, Miari talked about Sufism and performed a traditional dance of the Whirling Dervishes to live musical accompaniment. In March, 2015, he participated in a panel discussion about cross-cultural theater and directed a staged reading performed by faculty and students for a conference entitled, "Intersections: Cross-Cultural Theater in Germany and the U.S." In April, 2015, he participated in a research colloquium at Middlebury College on "The Culture of Language: The Role of Israeli Culture in the Hebrew Language Classroom."

Benjamin Nathans, Ronald S. Lauder Associate Professor of History, delivered talks on the Soviet Jewish emigration movement, the new Jewish Museum in Moscow, Soviet dissidents, and other topics at Tel Aviv University, the European University in St. Petersburg, Saitama University in Tokyo, the POLIN museum in Warsaw, and the University of Chicago. Closer to home, he spoke to audiences at Har Zion Synagogue and the Naval ROTC Unit at Penn. His most recent work is forthcoming in the *Journal of Modern History and East European Jewish Affairs*.

Annette Yoshiko Reed was on sabbatical during 2014-15. As a fellow at the Katz Center she explored representations of "Jewish-Christians" in 19th-century Jewish and Christian historiography. She also co-organized a series of related sessions on "Formative Figures and Paths Not Taken: The Study of Ancient Judaism and Christianity between History and Historiography," through the Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins (PSCO). One of these was a session in honor of Prof. David Stern assessing his scholarship. Reed gave talks this year at Brown University, Columbia University, University of Groningen, and Université de Laval as well at Penn in PSCO and in the History

of Material Texts Seminar. She also spoke on "Demons in Ancient Judaism" for the CCAR Convention in Philadelphia. Publications that appeared this year include "Messianism between Judaism and Christianity" in *Rethinking the Messianic Idea in Judaism* and "Gendering Heavenly Secrets? Women, Angels, and the Problem of Misogyny and Magic" in



Ibrahim Miari (right), as part of "Asia Day, The Many Faces of Islam" event in February, 2015.

Daughters of Hecate: Women and Magic in Antiquity. Reed serves on the editorial boards of *Texts and Studies in Ancient Judaism*, and the journals *Early Christianity*, *Journal of Biblical Literature* and *Religion in the Roman Empire*. She is on the advisory board of the new online resource *Ancient Jew Review* www.ancientjewreview.com. She is Faculty Master of Fisher Hassenfeld College House.

David B. Ruderman published A Best-Selling Hebrew Book of the Modern Era: *The Book of the Covenant of Pinhas Hurwitz and its Remarkable Legacy* (University of Washington Press) in November 2014. He also published "The People and the Book: Print and the Transformation of Jewish Culture in Early Modern Europe," *Faithful Narratives: Historians, Religion and the Challenge of Objectivity* (2014), and "On Rereading Geoffrey Hartman's 'Religious Literacy'" in *About Geoffrey Hartman: Materials for a Study of Intellectual Influence*, *Philological Quarterly* (2015). He was a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary and the first Scholar-in-

Residence of the Jewish Historical Society of England (March 2015). His lectures during the past academic year include: Keynote Address, Fortieth Anniversary of the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, University of Maryland; Conversation (with Professor Daniel Richter) on his new book, *Annenberg Seminar in History*, Penn; "Kabbalah, Science, and Moral Cosmopolitanism in Pinhas Horowitz's *Book of the Covenant*," Philadelphia Free Library; "William Wotton and the Christian Recovery of the Mishnah in Early Modern Europe," PSCO; "On the Cultural Significance of the Venetian Ghetto," Jewish Studies Program, Central European University, Budapest; "The Ghetto and the Urbanization of Early Modern Jewry," Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest; "The Revival of the Jewish-Christian Debate in Nineteenth-Century Europe: The Evangelical Missionary Alexander McCaul and his Jewish Interlocutors," Institute for Advanced Study, Central European University, Budapest; "A Best-Selling Hebrew Book of the Modern Era: Pinhas Hurwitz's *Book of the Covenant*," Seminar in Early Modern History, Oxford University; Keynote Address: "Towards a Portrait of Alexander McCaul, the Evangelical Missionary," Conference on Mission and Missionaries in the 19th Century, Conference in Honour of David Ruderman, Jewish Historical Society of England, London; "Cross-Cultural Dialogues in Early Modern Europe," with Anthony Grafton, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Madrid; Keynote Address: "Are Jews the Only True Monotheists? Some Critical Reflections in Jewish Thought from the Renaissance to the Present," British Association of Jewish Studies, University of Manchester. As the recipient of an Alexander von Humboldt Research Award, he will spend time at Goethe University, Frankfurt, and other German universities during the next several years. Dialogues in Early Modern Europe," with Anthony Grafton,

Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Madrid; Keynote Address: "Are Jews the Only True Monotheists? Some Critical Reflections in Jewish Thought from the Renaissance to the Present," British Association of Jewish Studies, University of Manchester. As the recipient of an Alexander von Humboldt Research Award, he will spend time at Goethe University, Frankfurt, and other German universities during the next several years.

Larry Silver, Farquhar Professor of Art History, presented a paper on "Jewish Artists as Marked" while on sabbatical at the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles. In June, he presented a paper about sixteenth-century urban panorama prints at Ben-Gurion University conference on "Maps and Travel: Knowledge, Imagination and Visual Culture." His first course offering in Jewish Studies, a survey of Jewish art from ancient synagogues through the twentieth century, debuted this fall.

Steve Weitzman joined Penn's Jewish Studies program in 2014-15, as the Ella Darivoff Director of the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies and Abraham M. Ellis Professor of Hebrew and Semitic Languages and Literatures. Among his publications this past year are a co-edited volume, *Rethinking the Messianic Idea in Judaism* (Indiana University Press) and, together with geneticist Noah Rosenberg, a special issue of the journal, *Human Biology*, devoted to the interdisciplinary study of Jewish genetics. His current projects include a forthcoming study of the Dead Sea Scroll known as the Copper Scroll, to be published in the *Harvard Theological Review*, and a book that revisits the question of the origin of the Jews.

During 2014-15, **Liliane Weissberg**, Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor in Arts and Science and Professor of German and Comparative Literature, presented papers on Freud, Sara Levy, Franz Rosenzweig, and Henriette Herz. She gave the Richardson Lecture in Psychiatry in New York, the Center State Lecture at

Tennessee Tech University, and the keynote lecture for a conference at Duke University in Jewish Studies. She was also honored at a dinner by the President of Germany, Joachim Gauck. Publications this past year include essays on the notion of "conversion" in fin-de-siècle Vienna, the Jewish salon in Berlin and Vienna, Sigmund Freud, Charlotte Salomon, Gershom Scholem, Moritz Daniel Oppenheim and Salmon Maimon. She has prepared a critical edition of Benjamin Veitel Ephraim's autobiography for publication, and (with Andreas Kilcher) an anthology on the notion of "commentary" in Jewish philosophy. Weissberg spent spring and summer 2014 and 2015 at the German Literary Archives in Marbach, financed by the Humboldt Prize for life achievement in the profession. She also served as a Visiting Professor at the University of Stuttgart. During the summers of 2014 and 2015, she taught seminars in Germany on literature, material culture, museum work and "World Literatures and Global Archives." In both years, she also participated in the Summer School of the University of Graz. She is a founding member of the Center for Enlightenment at the Universität Potsdam, and a research member of the Europa Universität Viadrina and the Universität Freiburg. She is the recipient of the USC Shoah Foundation 2015-16 Rutman Teaching Fellowship. This academic year, she will be Visiting Professor at the RWTH Aachen (Germany) and the Universität Innsbruck (Austria).

Beth S. Wenger, Professor of History and Chair of Penn's History Department, was recently elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Jewish Research. Wenger also serves as Chair of the Academic Advisory Council of the Center for Jewish History in New York, and remains a member of the American Jewish Historical Society Executive Committee. She also serves as a Distinguished Lecturer of the Organization of American Historians and of the Association for Jewish Studies. A founding historian of the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, Wenger

continues her role as consultant to the Museum. Wenger's anthology, co-edited with Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, *Gender in Judaism and Islam: Common Lives, Uncommon Heritage*, was published in 2014 by NYU Press. Articles published include "Jewish Men and the Anxieties of Breadwinning," *New Perspectives on Gender* (University of Michigan, 2014), and "American Jewish Immigrants and the Invention of Europe," in *History, Memory, and Jewish Identity* (Academic Studies Press). Wenger delivered several public lectures this past year, including papers at the conference honoring the life and legacy of Salo Baron at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, and at the conference on Solomon Schechter at the University of Pennsylvania. She also delivered a paper on her new project on Jewish masculinity at the AJS conference in Baltimore.

Julia Wilker is Assistant Professor in the Department of Classical Studies, with research and teaching interests in Jewish history of the Hellenistic and Roman periods. On leave for 2014-15, she spent the summer and fall in Jerusalem, supported by the Trustees Council of Penn Women Fellowship. In spring, she held a Margo Tytus Fellowship at the University of Cincinnati, and used the collections of the Hebrew Union College. Wilker continues to work on her book project on women and dynastic rule in Hellenistic and Roman Judaea. Publications include an article on the concept of sea power in late classical Athens, and a co-edited volume on Roman client kings (2015). She gave talks at the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Vienna; at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, DC; at the universities of Cologne and Halle-Wittenberg (Germany), and the University of Cincinnati; and at a workshop on the image of the Roman Emperor in Durham (UK). She is a 2015-16 faculty fellow at the Penn Humanities Forum with a project on presentations and perceptions of royal polygamy in the Hellenistic period.

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014-2015

American, Israeli and European Fellows worked individually and collaboratively to advance studies on Jewish learning outside the rabbinical seminary. Research presented at the weekly Ruth Meltzer seminars contributed to the new understanding of the 19th century *Wissenschaft des Judentum*, its cultural heirs, its rivals and its spheres of influence. A volume linked to this theme will be edited by Michael A. Meyer, Christian Wiese, and Noah Gerber, to be published in the Jewish Culture and Contexts series of the University of Pennsylvania Press.



CAJS Fellows, 2014-15

The culminating 21st Annual Gruss Colloquium, "Doing *Wissenschaft*: The Active Study of Judaism as Practice, 1818 - 2018," explored the scholarly habits and practices of the pioneer of academic Jewish studies.

Jewish Quarterly Review

The journal published vibrant forums such as "Eat Drink and Keep Kosher" (*JQR* 104.1) and "Jorge Luis Borges and the Jewish Question" (*JQR* 104.3), and it ran a special issue called "Coming to America: The Reception of Sepharad and Ashkenaz in America" (*JQR* 105.2). Spring 2014 (*JQR* 104.2) was devoted to early modern Judaism and dedicated to David Ruderman on the occasion of his stepping down as the Katz Center director.
jqr.pennpress.org

Solomon Schechter's Life and Legacy: American Transformations (1902-1915)

The Katz Center's public symposium at the NMAJH examined Schechter's impact in his final years, after he moved to America, shaping JTSA and the American Conservative movement, engaging with the ideals of the American melting pot, and writing extensively about what America meant for the future of Judaism. Presentations considered Schechter's life, his international networks of correspondence with scholars and philanthropists, and his broad-minded, if idiosyncratic vision of Judaism. A concluding roundtable reflected on the ways in which Schechter's ideas and actions, even his failures, shed light on pressing concerns in the contemporary Jewish world.

The program was capped by a lively lecture by novelist Dara Horn, whose *A Guide for the Perplexed* features Schechter as a literary character. A number of Schechter's descendants were in attendance at the symposium.

This event was conceived in partnership with the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities at Cambridge University. A second conference, on Schechter's Cambridge period, was held there in November 2015.

www.schechterlegacy.com



Prof. Ismar Schorsch, speaking about Solomon Schechter at the NMAJH.

Outreach

In partnership with local host institutions throughout the Philadelphia area, Katz Center fellows participate in a variety of programs geared toward the general public. For more information, see our website: katz.sas.upenn.edu/public-programs

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies



Novelist Dara Horn at the Schechter symposium

2016–2017 Academic Year

Looking ahead: “Political Ramifications: Expanding Jewish Political Thought, 2016-2017.” Over the course of their history, Jews have championed a range of ideological views and operated within a variety of political contexts. These experiences have generated a rich body of political thought, but there is a need to advance such thought in light of new developments in political theory and a changing world beyond academia. One way forward is to continue to stretch the boundaries of Jewish political thought in ways that intersect with the study of law, religion, history, literature, and other subjects, or that approach the subject in a comparative framework. Next year, we will host a group of scholars working in fields from ancient to contemporary, on projects that enlist philosophy and theory to unsettle regnant paradigms of power and statehood, draw on archival research to challenge established understandings of Jewish political history, or make use of other less expected sources for political thought. For full information, please see our website (katz.sas.upenn.edu).

Special Programs

- Summer Collaboratory 2015: The Katz Center teamed up with Stanford University’s Taube Center for Jewish Studies to sponsor a summer collaborative workshop in support of the *The Feminist Talmud Commentary*, edited by Tal Ilan et al. (Mohr Siebeck), a multivolume project that draws on the work of scholars from across Europe, Israel, and the US.



Attendees of the Summer Collaboratory 2015.

- The Katz Center, the Israel Institute for Advanced Study and the Hebrew University partnered to present a week-long summer program in Jerusalem., where graduate students engaged the theme, “Jews on the Move: Translocations, Transmissions and Transformations in Jewish Culture.” In the summer of 2016, the graduate program on the theme, “Shaking Foundations,” will take place at the Katz Center.



Katz Center fellows and colleagues applauding Thomas Katz, Esq., Chairman of the Katz Center’s Board of Overseers

THE 2015-2016 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

“Jews Beyond Reason: Exploring Emotions, the Unconscious, and Other Dimensions of Jews’ Inner Lives” The mind, as the Jewish philosopher Philo of Alexandria recognized two thousand years ago, is not guided by rationality alone; it is also driven by appetite and by the passions. From his age until our own, Jewish thinkers and producers of culture have recognized something nonrational at the core of being human. Ancient rabbinic sources speak of the *yetser*, an inclination or impulse, as a driver of human behavior, and source of creativity and destructiveness. The medieval philosopher Maimonides subordinated imagination to reason, and yet without imagination, he also realized, there would be no prophecy. And the world owes the discovery of the unconscious to the Jewish physician Sigmund Freud. Jewish thought, history, and culture offer many opportunities to explore those aspects of the mind that lie beneath reason, that go beyond it, that resist it.

During its 2015–2016 fellowship year, the Katz Center is focused on those aspects of internal life that lie beyond reason—emotions and feelings, the unconscious, sensation, imagination, impulse, intuition, and the nonrational dimensions of reason itself. Research fellows come from disciplines as varied as history, literary criticism, philosophy, psychology, anthropology, art, and law.

Please visit our website to learn more about the year.
(F) indicates fall semester only; (S) indicates spring semester only

Yael Balaban (F) Levinsky College, Israel
The Sense of Smell in Modern Hebrew Literature

Anne C. Dailey (F) University of Connecticut School of Law
Jody Ellant and Howard Reiter Family Fellowship
Guilty Minds: Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Confessions in Jewish and American Law

James A. Diamond (S) University of Waterloo
Robert Carrady Fellowship
Joyful Cognition: Emotional Prophecy, Perception, and Value in Jewish Thought

John M. Efron (S) University of California, Berkeley
Maurice Amado Foundation Fellowship
A Sensory History of German Jewry

Yael S. Feldman (S) New York University
Maurice Amado Foundation Fellowship
Forgetting to Remember: Is Jewish Selective Memory an Unconscious Defense or a Necessary Tool for Survival?

Keren Friedman-Peleg (S) School of Behavioral Sciences, College of Management–Academic Studies, Israel
Primo Levi Fellowship
Beyond the DSM: The Emotional Experience of Trauma and PTSD, and the Culture of Jewish Psychiatry in Israel

Galit Hasan-Rokem, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Ellie and Herbert D. Katz Distinguished Fellowship
Imagined Jews: European Christians’ and Jews’ Dialogical Creation of the Wandering Jew Tradition

Miriam Jerade (F) Katz Center
Ivan and Nina Ross Family Fellowship
A Jewish Ethics beyond Reason? Rosenzweig, Levinas, and Derrida

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Ruth Meltzer Fellowship
A Jewish Bacchanalian Revel: The Place of G. W. F. Hegel in Jewish Philosophy

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Ruth Meltzer Fellowship
The Uncanny and the Unconscious in Cross- Representations of Israeli and Palestinian Experience

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Rose and Henry Zifkin Teaching Fellowship
Doubt and Certainty in Jewish Pietism from Maimonides to Mussar

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Dalck and Rose Feith Family Fellowship
An Early History of Compassion: Emotional Rhetoric and Power Dynamics

Eva Mroczek (F) University of California, Davis
Albert J. Wood Fellowship
The Repressed David

Paul Nahme (S) Brown University
Divine Logic: Hokhmat Talmud as the Subversion of Reason in the Talmudic Analysis (*lomdus*) of Shimon Shkop, Moshe Avigdor Amiel

Hannah Pollin-Galay (S) Katz Center
Primo Levi Fellowship
A Rubric of Pain Words: Lexicons of “Holocaust Yiddish” and Wartime Emotional Paradigms

Eli Schonfeld, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg
Charles W. and Sally Rothfeld Fellowship
On *Nechama*: A Phenomenological Enquiry into Consolation in Jewish Texts and Practices

Shira Stav, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Louis Apfelbaum and Hortense Braunstein Apfelbaum Fellowship
Incestuous Desire: An Inner Stream in Modern Hebrew Literary Imagination

Zohar Weiman-Kelman (F) Katz Center
Philology, Sexology, and Future Yiddish

Rachel Werczberger, Ben-Gurion University; Tel Aviv University
Ella Darivoff Fellowship
Jewish Prayer in Late Modernity and the Emergence of New Emotional Styles

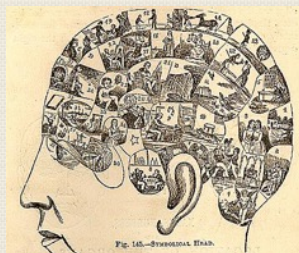
Rakefet Zalashik, Katz Center
Longing and Belonging: Nostalgia among Jewish Immigrants

Short Term Fellows

Leora Auslander, University of Chicago
Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan
Mona Koerte, Technische Universität Berlin
Paul Lerner, University of Southern California
Itamar Laurie
Amos Morris-Reich, University of Haifa
Ilana Pardes, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Lenore J. Weitzman
Elliot Wolfson, University of California, Santa Barbara
Nancy S. & Laurence E. Glick Teaching Fellowship

Adjunct Fellows

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Steven Bowman, University of Cincinnati
Ephraim Kanarfogel, Yeshiva University
Rebecca A. Kobrin, Columbia University
Elliot Ratzman, Temple University
Phillip Webster, University of Pennsylvania
Erika A. Strauss Teaching Fellowship
Anat Zanger, Tel Aviv University



Judaica at Penn's Libraries

JUDAICA AT PENN'S LIBRARIES

The Judaica collections at Penn—located at the Van Pelt Library, at the Library at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, at the Fisher Fine Arts Library, and at the University Museum—continued to grow as an integrated unit within the University Libraries system under the management of **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, in both quantity and quality. Overall, Penn's Judaica staff responded to nearly 600 public service contacts, shelved nearly 4,600 volumes, administered the circulation of over 500 rare items, filled hundreds of Faculty Express, Inter-Campus, Borrow-Direct and Inter-Library Loan (ILL) transactions.

NEW JUDAICA COLLECTION GIFTS

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

Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica: New Acquisitions

During the summer of 2015, Arnold and Deanne Kaplan added 313 new items of Atlantic Jewish business, religious, and political history to the Kaplan Collection. The most recent acquisitions, from 1740 until the 1940s, document Jewish social, religious, political and commercial life in 24 U.S. states and two territories, as well as four continents (North and South America, Europe and Asia). Donated items include bank drafts, baptismal certificates signed in Yiddish(!), bills of exchange, broadsides, business cards, citizenship certificates, deeds, estate inventories, glass bottles, mortgages, peddler's licenses, magic lantern slides, photographs, playing cards, silver spoons, sheet music, stock certificates, textiles, trade cards and a most unusual example of American Jewish folk art in the form of a miniature, wooden synagogue ark and bimah, made in Minneapolis, ca. 1940, which has been placed on long term loan with the NMAJH in Philadelphia, as part of our ongoing partnership forged thanks to the Kaplan Collection gift established at Penn in 2012.

Kaplan Collection "Finding Aid" now Online

During 2015, project manager, **Michael Overgard**, and part-time library assistant **Jordan Rothschild**, completed the matching of the metadata and images for more than 11,000 Kaplan collection items. **Allyson Zucker, C'16, W'16**, under Overgard's supervision, completed the editing of the Kaplan database. Their work in turn made it possible for **Holly Mengel**, the Kislak Center archivist at the Penn Libraries, to produce the on-line Kaplan Collection finding aid which is now viewable and searchable:

http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/d/ead/upenn_cajs_ArcMS56

Rabbi Michael Strassfeld Collection

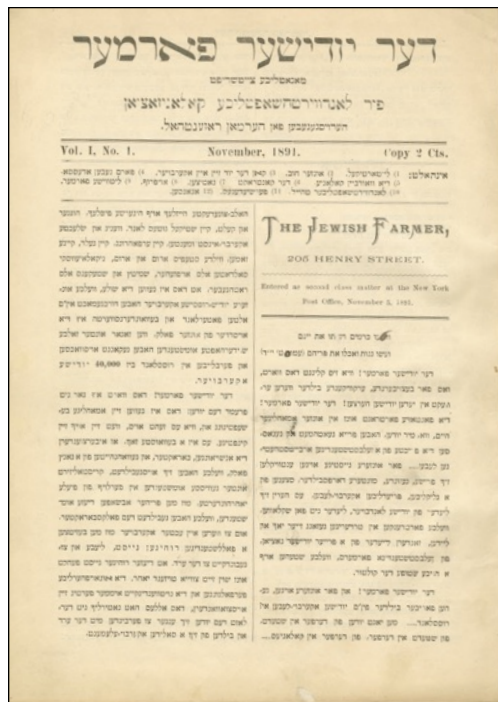
We are delighted to announce that **Rabbi Michael Strassfeld** has donated his personal papers and Jewish sound recording collection for studying American Judaism and Jewish culture since the 1960s. Rabbi Strassfeld was one of the key leaders of the Haverah movement, co-author of the *Jewish Catalog*, and a pioneer of the Jewish Counter Culture movement which explored dynamic new forms of Jewish life beyond the denominational structures of American Judaism in the last decades of the 20th century.

Alvin Goldstein Papers

Evan Goldstein, PAR14, PAR18, and Susan Goldstein, C'88, PAR 14, PAR18, have donated the personal papers of Evan's father Alvin Goldstein, primary sources which provide a snapshot of American Jewish student Zionist activities from 1954-1956. The documents offer detailed information about the founding and first

two conventions of the Student Zionist Organization (SZO) (1954 and 1955); information related to the 50th commemoration of the death of Theodore Herzl in 1955; a 1955 list of publications of the Youth and Chalutzit Department of the Jewish Agency; and efforts by the SZO to fundraise in support of the American Friends of the Hebrew University and the Jewish National and University Library.

Thanks to the generosity of **Evan Goldstein, PAR14, PAR18, and Susan Goldstein, C'88, PAR 14, PAR18**, Penn Libraries purchased, in honoring Evan's father, Alvin Goldstein, one of only two known complete sets of *Der Yidisher Farmer* (*The Jewish Farmer*), a Yiddish-language newspaper, published from November 1891-October 1892. It was edited by a Russian-born *Am Olamnik* named Herman Rosenthal (1843-1917) who came to America in 1881, and founded the first agricultural colony for Russian Jews on Sicily Island in Louisiana. After the failure of that community, Rosenthal moved to South Dakota and helped organize the Cremieux colony. He later became a prominent administrator in the Woodbine, NJ colony, aided by the Baron de Hirsch fund, which supported the printing of *Der Yidisher Farmer*. By 1898, Rosenthal had left farm-life and was appointed chief of the Slavonic division of the New York Public Library. This rare, complete set bears witness to his early involvement in a critical chapter in the history of Jewish life in the United States in small communities beyond the great centers of urban life on the coasts.



Der Yidisher Farmer (The Jewish Farmer), a Yiddish-language newspaper, published from November 1891–October 1892. Purchased through the generosity of Evan and Susan Goldstein at the Kestenbaum and Company auction house. March 19, 2015.

Judaica at Penn's Libraries

We are deeply grateful to **Barbara Horowitz** for her donation, in memory of her husband **Bertram H. Horowitz, W'55, CGS'98**, a beautiful Italian Jewish marriage certificate (*ketubah*), handwritten in Ancona [Italy] on 21 Iyar 5639 [May 14, 1879], decorated with water color floral motifs. It binds in matrimony Abner, son of Abraham and Leah, daughter of Moses, according to the religion of Moses and Israel.

Thanks to the generosity of **Miriam Freund** and in partnership with **Penn's Jewish Studies Program, the Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Sound Archive** is now home to a very rare copy of a collection of 85 songs published by the Society for Jewish Folk Music (*Gezelshaft far Yidisher Folks-Muzik*) in St. Petersburg in 1914. The Society included many prominent members of the Russian Jewish intelligentsia and took part in the Jewish Historical-Ethnographic Expedition, led by S. An-ski, which traveled throughout the Tsarist Pale of Settlement between 1912 and 1914 to survey, record, and transcribe Jewish folk songs and special melodies. This *Lider-zamelbukh far der Yidisher shul un familie* [Anthology of Songs for the Jewish School and Family] contains a diverse representation of Jewish and non-Jewish musical compositions.

DIGITAL JUDAICA AT THE PENN LIBRARIES

Sabato Morais Collection Digital Repository

Thanks to the generosity of the **Jesselson and Kaplan Foundations**, as well as **Herb and Sheila Weiner**, in memory of their father, **Marvin Weiner, C'38**, the Penn Libraries will soon be putting on-line the second Jesselson-Kaplan American Genizah project: the Sabato Morais Collection Digital Repository. This project is dedicated to Marvin Weiner, who was responsible for finding and saving the Sabato Morais Ledger, which had disappeared in the 1940s. After discovering the scrapbook in the early 1950s, Weiner assiduously catalogued items in the ledger on index cards. The Weiners have supported this project from its inception, providing starting up funding for the transcription of unpublished manuscript letters and documents. **Michael Overgard**, Project manager, completed the text encoding of the transcribed letters and writings of Morais. <http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/morais/introduction.cfm>

New Katz CAJS/Library Web Exhibit!

The Penn Libraries partnered with the 2014-15 Katz Center Fellows to produce the virtual exhibit, "Doing Wissenschaft: The Active Study of Judaism as Practice, 1818-2018." To view this current exhibit, go to: <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/cajs/fellows15/> To view past Katz CAJS/Library Web exhibits, go to: <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/cajs/>

Moldovan Family Holy Land Digital Map Collection

The Moldovan Family Holy Land Map Collection is now viewable online: <http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/moldovanmaps/index.cfm>

The physical collection consists of 94 maps dating from 1480-1797, printed in 23 distinct locations across Europe. Over

fifty cartographers and engravers are represented. The collection features the unique surviving copy of Antonio De Angelis map of Jerusalem, printed in Rome in 1578. Before his death in 2013, Dr. Moldovan presented these digital facsimiles to the Penn Libraries. He was not only one of the world's foremost Judaica collectors over the last half-century, but a hero of the Civil Rights movement. As a founding member of the Medical Committee for Human Rights, he risked his life to provide a medical presence at Selma, Alabama on "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965. We are grateful to the late Dr. Moldovan, to his son Joseph Moldovan, Penn C'76, and to the entire Moldovan family for their support for our Judaica collections and programs.

Digital Exhibition of the Kaplan Collection

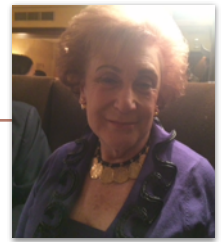
The physical exhibition "Constellations of Atlantic Jewish History: The Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica" is now viewable on-line at: <http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/kaplanexhibit/>

Kaplan Exhibition Companion Volume Prize Winner

The companion volume *Constellations of Atlantic Jewish History: The Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica* by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries (2014), edited by **Arthur Kiron** and designed by **Andrea Gottschalk** at the Penn Libraries, received the **Arline Custer Memorial-MARAC award**, October 2014.



Framed, Italian Jewish marriage certificate, handwritten in Ancona on 21 Iyar 5639 [May 14, 1879]. It binds in matrimony Abner, son of Abraham and Leah, daughter of Moses, according to the religion of Moses and Israel. Donated by Barbara Horowitz in memory of her husband, Bertram H. Horowitz.



Thank You!

We are especially happy to acknowledge and thank our library volunteers, Dr. David G. Cook and Louise A. Strauss, C'82 as well as the following individuals for their gifts and donations during the last academic year [* indicates the donor is a former Katz Center Fellow]:

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Interview with Daisy Braverman, Instructor in Ladino

Undergraduate student, Ariel Susson, Class of 2019, interviewed Daisy Braverman, Penn's Instructor in Ladino. Highlights of that interview are presented here, in edited form.

AS: Is there a difference between Ladino and Judeo-Spanish?

DB: When I was growing up, the term "Ladino" was used to refer to Hebrew texts that had been translated, word for word, into our spoken vernacular, using Hebrew syntax. We referred to the language we spoke as either "Español," or "Spañol," or "Judeo." Over the past decade or so, the National Authority of Ladino in Israel has chosen to call the language "Ladino."

AS: How is your family history story linked to Ladino as a language?

DB: Growing up in Istanbul, Turkey, my parents primarily spoke French to me, but we also spoke Turkish and Judeo-Spanish. I spoke Turkish with my peers. When we moved to Izmir, my Judeo-Spanish became quite fluent because my grandmother, there, was totally ignorant of Turkish. We spoke French at home because, because when the Alliance Israelite Universelle was founded in 1860, they established schools for Jews all over the Middle East where French language and culture was taught.

AS: When teaching, do you place more of an emphasis on the culture expressed through Ladino, or on the formal features and structures of the language?

DB: I don't think you can really make a dichotomy between language and culture. I'm trained as a linguist so language, of course, is my thing. There is currently a movement to remove the loan words from Judeo-Spanish, words that crept in from Turkish, French, Greek and Arabic. But do you know what would happen if we did that? We'd be speaking Spanish, not Judeo-Spanish!

Interestingly, certain cultural practices are undergoing revival. I was back in Izmir in August for a family wedding, and a tradition from my mother's time, the baño de novia, "bridal bath"- with roots in the miqveh, I guess —was performed. They sectioned off a part of a private swimming pool, and a woman who knew the blessings dunked the bride-to-be. Rituals like this were not practiced by most people of my generation but, now, people are rediscovering these traditions which are really very lovely.

AS: I wanted to ask you about the songs. Are the romanceros ballads?

DB: Romanceros are too complicated to teach. By the way, while their lyrics may be old, their melodies are much more recent, many of them taken directly from Turkish songs.

AS: In addition to taking your course, how can students, such as myself, become more engaged and involved in the study of Ladino?

DB: They can join an online group called Ladinokomnita, where people share poetry or songs, often recorded only on youtube. I use these materials in class.



Ma'am Lo'ez, Ladino commentary on the Book of Exodus, published in Izmir (Smyrna)

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