

Jewish Studies @ PENN

THE JEWISH STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Fall 2003/Winter 2004



Marcus Jastrow (1829-1903), author of *A Dictionary of the Targumim, the Talmud Babli and Yerushalmi, and the Midrashic Literature* and Rabbi of Temple Rodeph Shalom, Philadelphia. Jewish Studies at Penn celebrated the 100th anniversary of the publication of the dictionary with an international conference and a major library exhibit; Jastrow's son Morris was the first Director of the University Library, and Jastrow's own library is in Penn's collection. For more on the Jastrows, see p. 5 inside.

Jewish Studies at the University of Pennsylvania

Penn, through its Jewish Studies Program and the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, offers one of the most comprehensive programs in Jewish Studies in America.

The Jewish Studies Program (JSP) is an interdisciplinary academic group with a faculty of twenty-one from ten departments that coordinates all courses relating to Jewish Studies in the university, as well as undergraduate majors and minors and graduate programs in different departments. The JSP also sponsors many events including two endowed lectureships and the Kutchin Faculty Seminars.

The Center for Advanced Judaic Studies (CAJS) is a post-doctoral research institute that annually brings eighteen to twenty-five distinguished scholars to Penn as fellows to pursue scholarly research on selected themes. These fellows are selected from the finest and most prominent Judaic scholars in the world. Every year several CAJS fellows teach courses at Penn, and both graduate students and University faculty participate in the Center's weekly seminars. The Center is also home to one of America's greatest research libraries in Judaica and Hebraica and includes a Genizah collection, many manuscripts, and early printings.

Together the Jewish Studies Program and the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies make Penn one of the most exciting and richest communities of Jewish scholarship and intellectual life in the world.

Table of Contents

COVER PAGE: JSP AT PENN statement	1
Greetings from the Director, JSP	2
Greetings from the Director, CAJS	3
Jewish Studies Program News	4-7
Recent Gifts	2-3

Penn's Judaica Library News	6-7
Center for Advanced Judaic Studies Highlights	8-9
2002-2003 Special Events and Programs	10-11
About Our Students	12-13
Faculty News	14-16

Jewish Studies

Jewish Studies Program

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR, JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

The past year has been an eventful one for the Jewish community at Penn. The beginning of the fall semester witnessed the opening of Steinhardt Hall, the home of Hillel at the University of Pennsylvania—a luxurious new space that will serve the entire Penn community. The Jewish Studies Program joins with the entire Penn community in saluting Hillel on this wonderful accomplishment, and in celebrating this milestone in the history of the Jewish presence at Penn. We look forward to working with Hillel in the future—pursuing our separate missions but working jointly to strengthen the university as a whole.

For the Jewish Studies Program at Penn, the past year was exceptionally busy—and not just for the usual reasons. Last spring, as soon as classes ended, JSP, along with the other inhabitants of Williams Hall, was moved out of our home in the building and sent into “galut” so that William’s HVAC system could be replaced and refurbished. Our particular exile has been in the wilderness of 3701 Market Street in the University City Science Center—much too far from the library and from any good food trucks. Like the many exiles that have recurred throughout Jewish history, ours has also been exceedingly disruptive—hence, among other things, the lateness of this newsletter. We hope, God-willing (and with the contractor’s help as well), to return home to Williams after classes have ended this spring.

Disruptions notwithstanding, JSP had a very active and productive year. In December 2002, we sponsored a moving symposium on Chaim Potok and American Jewish Culture, in memory of our late colleague and friend. The symposium was attended by nearly 300 people, and attracted attention throughout the Philadelphia area. This past fall we published the proceedings of the conference – three essays – in a small booklet. This past November, JSP sponsored another very well-attended international conference, “Marcus Jastrow and Rabbinic Lexicography” that celebrated the centenary of the publication of Jastrow’s *Dictionary of Talmud and Midrashic Literature*. Marcus Jastrow’s handsome face graces the cover of this year’s newsletter. More details about both conferences, and about Jastrow’s Penn-connection, will be found in articles inside.

In the spring term, our enrollments reached an all-time high with approximately 650 students enrolled in our many courses that semester. We continued to develop and expand our offerings in Jewish education. Once again we offered our annual course in Jewish education in the spring, and we also began a pilot internship program in which Penn undergrads go to Philadelphia’s

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Assistant Editor: D.M. Stern

Akiba Hebrew High School and help teachers and students in class. We continue to work closely with Penn’s Graduate School of Education to develop a full Master of Science in Jewish Education program. We have also continued to expand our Jewish Studies Interns program that encourages students to develop Jewish Studies projects outside the classroom. Details about all these initiatives and developments will be found inside this newsletter.

All these programs and the many others we sponsor are made possible only through the support and generosity of our many loyal and dedicated friends. Penn is blessed in the riches of its offerings, and through your support we hope we can continue to make those riches available to ever greater numbers of students and members of Penn’s larger community. We look forward to seeing you on campus at our events and programs.

David Stern
Ruth Meltzer Professor of Classical Hebrew Literature
Director, Jewish Studies Program



Recent Gifts

The Jewish Studies Program and the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies are grateful to the following alumni and friends for their ongoing support and contributions during the past academic year:

JSP Gifts

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CAJS Gifts

Mr and Mrs Ronald H Abraham

Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC STUDIES

At a special dinner during the Gruss Colloquium last spring, The Center for Advanced Judaic Studies commemorated its tenth anniversary. It was a special occasion marking both the academic and fund-raising success of an institution initially uncertain of its future when it was founded in 1993. Since that time some 200 scholars from Israel, the United States, and Europe, have spent either a year or a semester at the Center, and hundreds more have served as short term fellows, adjunct fellows, and special visitors to the Center’s seminars and conferences. The Center initiated a series of public programs in Philadelphia, New York, Miami, and now Los Angeles which continue to flourish and expand. The important interactions of fellows with undergraduate and graduate students through regular courses and special lectures and seminars stimulate the Penn campus. There is much to celebrate in looking back at this decade of achievement and creativity.

During the past year a remarkable group of scholars convened at CAJS to reflect on the meaning of Jewish culture and society in Eastern Europe over the last four centuries. Conceived by Professor Benjamin Nathans of Penn’s History department, this group may have represented the most sustained intellectual gathering of scholars in this crucial field of Jewish studies since the Shoah. Professor Nathans also served as acting associate director during the past year, overseeing the seminars, the public programs, and the pedagogic activities of the twenty resident fellows.

The Center’s main publication, The Jewish Quarterly Review, underwent re-organization with a new editorial staff that includes Professors Elliott Horowitz of Bar Ilan University and David Myers of UCLA as main editors, and Dr. Natalie Dohrman as executive editor

and assistant director of publications of the Center. JQR is now being published for the first time in its history by the University of Pennsylvania Press. The first issue in its new format just appeared at an official “unveiling” this past December at the Association for Jewish Studies national conference.

Finally, I am proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Elsie Stern as the new assistant director for public programs at CAJS. Under her direction, the Center will expand and deepen its programs for the larger community and will eventually establish a summer institute for communal leaders, directly linking town and gown.

As we enter our second decade of existence, it is a distinct pleasure to offer thanks to our many friends and benefactors who have supported us with enthusiastic commitment, particularly those who serve on our Board of Overseers. Without singling out each of these persons, I cannot help but acknowledge the extraordinary leadership of Herbert Katz, who has just stepped down as chair of our board, and his wonderful successor Ione Strauss.

We all look forward to an even brighter and more creative future in the years to come. And again, we invite you to visit us in Philadelphia and to attend our programs across the country.

David B. Ruderman
Joseph Meyerhoff Professor of Modern Jewish History
Director, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies



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Mr Albert J Wood
Mrs Eloise Larrea Wood
Mr and Mrs Walter Zifkin

If you, too, would like to support Jewish Studies at Penn, please contact the School of Arts and Sciences Office of External Affairs at (215) 898-5262.

Jewish Studies Program News

JEWISH EDUCATION UPDATE

Continuing our commitment to make Jewish education an integral part of the Jewish Studies Program at Penn, JSP sponsored last spring (2003) and this current semester (spring 2004) an annual course in Jewish education. Entitled “Teaching Jewish Texts” – emphasizing both content *and* pedagogy – the course last year concentrated upon the teaching of Talmud and this year on the teaching of TaNaKH. Last year’s course was spectacularly successful, and this year’s promises to repeat that success. Taught both times by Ruth Fagen, the former head of HaSha’ar, the institute for Jewish education at the Drishah Institute in New York City, the annual course has been made possible through the generous gifts of **Jeffrey Schwarz (W’80, MBA’81)** and from the **Lindenbaum Family** (parents of **Abigail C’97**).

Along with this course, which is co-sponsored by the School of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School of Education, JSP continues to work with GSE in developing a full Master of Science in Education (M.S. Ed.) program in Jewish Education. We hope that in next year’s newsletter we will be able to report on some major developments with this project.

In addition to these formal courses, JSP last year began a new program with the Akiba Hebrew Academy in Merion Station, PA, which involved sending Penn undergraduates into Akiba classrooms where, for an hour a week, they studied Judaic subjects—Talmud and Jewish Thought—with the high school students. The double purpose of the program is to expose Penn students to Jewish education as a career option, and to use the Penn students as mentors and role-models for the Akiba students. The program began last year with seven participants, two of whom continued through the spring semester. One of those two, **Jacob Cytryn (C’04)** reports the following about his experience:

The program allowed me to student-teach in a classroom at Akiba High School approximately once a week during the spring semester. Working in the classroom of Dr. Joshua Levisohn, director of Akiba’s Jewish Studies program, I had the opportunity to both directly supervise student-learning and to watch a master teacher go about helping his 11th grade students grapple with issues of Jewish ethics and religious authority. The program created an environment where I could meet and interact with high school students as a teacher, a chance undergraduates are rarely afforded in a formalized setting like a day school.

Additionally, having become more conscientious of my own teaching through a Jewish Education course I took at Penn [with Ruth Fagen], helping out at Akiba allowed me to test some of my skills out and watch the ideas we had discussed in class actually executed in a real learning environment.

This year’s program, which has just begun, has expanded to include eight students, including one working at the Stern Hebrew High School in Northeast Philadelphia.

Penn graduate students also participated in various teaching venues. Both **Tammy Jacobowitz** and **Naftali Cohn** continued to serve as mentors on senior research papers at Akiba Hebrew High School. **Jon Stein** taught a course at the Drishah Institute and at Lishmah, both in New York City. **Shawn Aster** taught several courses at Bar Ilan University in Israel last spring, and **Shalom Holtz** and **Susan Zeelander** taught adult education at synagogues in New Jersey and in the Philadelphia area.

If you are interested in helping us further these goals and support Jewish Education programs at Penn, please contact us at jsp-info@ccat.sas.upenn.edu.

JEWISH STUDIES INTERNSHIP

Last year, JSP began a new program called “Jewish Studies Interns,” whose purpose is to involve undergraduates in Jewish Studies *outside* the classroom. Under the direction of JSP Undergraduate Director Dr. Kathryn Hellerstein and graduate student Tammy Jacobowitz, students were asked to plan informal programs for themselves and their friends in order to explore various topics in Jewish Studies that are not covered in classes. Thanks to a generous gift from **Emilio C’71** and **Reina C’72/71 Bassini**, the interns receive a research stipend and certificate upon the completing their internship.

So far the program has been phenomenally successful. The following programs were run by JS Interns last spring and this fall:

In March 2003, **Andrew Joseph** organized a tour of Jewish Philadelphia in which a group of students explored the rich Jewish roots of the “City of Brotherly Love” with a professional guide.

In April 2003, **Simon Brief** coordinated a conversation with two faculty, Dr. Talya Fishman (UPenn, Religious Studies) and Dr. Beth Wenger (UPenn, History), over the question, “How does my Judaism affect my teaching?”

In November 2003, **Tiffany Behringer**

organized a discussion on “Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film,” led by Dr. Al Filreis (UPenn, English); and **Joshua Schainker** and **Ted Rosenbaum** ran a program entitled “Finding a Jewish Counter Culture – Spirituality and a New Judaism” with two visiting CAJS fellows, Dr. Riv Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota) and Dr. Chavah Weissler (Lehigh University).

In December 2003, **Galit Heller** and **Andrew Joseph** screened and discussed the Israeli film “Passover Fever” with a group of Penn students who were joined by two visiting Israeli soldiers.

In addition to supporting the Jewish Internships, the **Bassini Fund** also continues to fund the “Bassini Dinners,” our continuing and very successful program to support student-faculty dinners (or lunches) which seeks to extend faculty-student interaction outside the classroom.

STUDENT RESEARCH

Supporting student research, especially on the undergraduate level, is one of Jewish Studies’ top priorities. Thanks to the generous support of **Phillip, C’34** and **Robert, C’63, Goldfein** and **Raymond and Ruth Brenner, PAR’99/01/05**, JSP annually provides some \$10,000 in support to student research projects on both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Among the projects supported last year:

Alison Silber, C’05

This past summer I traveled to Morocco to study its Jewish community, still vibrant with some 200,000 Jews but dwindling because many Jews have left for Israel in the past twenty years. Still, I found the Jewish culture of Morocco, particularly in Casablanca, to be both subtle and strong, with all the necessities of a Jewish community: a kosher restaurant, day school, butcher shop, and Sephardic synagogue. While I arrived in Casablanca just weeks after the bombings (at four sites where Jews were known to congregate), I sensed a collective sympathy for and unity with the Jewish community throughout Morocco. Even though it saddens me to see the Jewish community relocating itself to Israel, it was reassuring to know that the Jews of Morocco could have maintained their lives in Morocco had they so desired.

Jacob Cytryn, C’04

My project focuses upon exploring the practical and theoretical aspects of teaching the skills and arts of programming at a Jewish summer camp; in this way, I hope to explore some fundamental questions of Jewish

informal education more generally. Last summer I pursued research in four areas: First, I evaluated a curriculum introduced to sixteen year-old campers at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin during the summer of 2002; this research involved interviews, personal reflections, and the re-teaching of much of the curriculum to other campers in the summer of 2003. Second, I created a digital copy of the curriculum so as to make it easier to disseminate and edit. Third, I consulted with a variety of experts in the field of Jewish programming at summer camps and Jewish informal education, and fourth, I continued my reading of contemporary theories in education, including integrated learning and curriculum writing. The end-result of this research will be, I hope, the publication of this curriculum

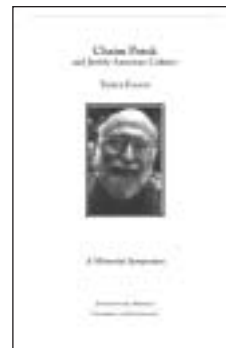
David Shyovitz, C’04

My research focuses on the origins of the Mourner’s Kaddish prayer in medieval Ashkenaz. The Kaddish prayer existed for centuries, and served a variety of roles, before becoming tied to mourning in the late eleventh and twelfth centuries. This usage is first documented in the customs literature of late eleventh century northern France, and from there it spread quickly to Germany and beyond. But what were the reasons for the prayer’s sudden rise, and for the speed with which it spread? To answer this question, I am looking at the shift of mentalities which was underway in this period and how notions relating to sin, punishment, and death were undergoing transformation in the eleventh and twelfth centuries in both the Jewish and Christian spheres. As I show, the new theological developments in each religion mirror and play off of those in the other. The analysis of the origins of the Mourner’s Kaddish can thus shed light on both the dominant mentalities in medieval Europe, and the ways in which those mentalities were shaped by the Jewish-Christian comparative context.

POTOK AND JASTROW CONFERENCES

Over the past year, the Jewish Studies Program sponsored two conferences at Penn:

Last December 2002, through the **Mel and Mitzi Kutchin Seminar Fund**, and with the support of the School of Arts and Sciences, JSP co-sponsored a Memorial Symposium entitled “Chaim Potok and Jewish-American Culture.” Nearly three hundred people attended the symposium and heard the writers Hugh Nissenson and Jonathan Rosen and



Professor Daniel Walden speak about Potok’s novels and his influence upon American-Jewish culture. Dr. Rena Potok, who teaches in Penn’s English department, also read selections from her **Annette Freund Special Needs Fund**, the three talks have now been published in a handsome booklet. To receive a copy, please write to us at jsp-info@ccat.sas.upenn.edu, and we will be happy to send you one.

On November 16, 2003, the Jewish Studies Program co-sponsored a one-day international conference entitled “Rabbinic Lexicography and Marcus Jastrow,” in celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the publication of Marcus Jastrow’s *Hebrew and Aramaic dictionary of Rabbinic literature*. Since its completion in 1903, Jastrow’s Talmud has become an indispensable tool for all English-speaking students of Talmud, the basic text of Jewish law, in universities as well as in traditional Jewish frameworks, and at the conference, a series of speakers paid homage to Jastrow’s accomplishment by detailing the history of Jewish dictionary-making. Less commonly known, however, is the fact that Jastrow was a Philadelphia rabbi, and that his son Morris was a Penn professor and the first director of the University Library. The conference was devoted both to the history of Rabbinic Lexicography and to the careers of Marcus and Morris Jastrow, and featured Professor Michael Sokoloff of Bar-Ilan University in Israel as its keynote speaker, as well as Professors Neil Danzig of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Joanna Weinberg of Oxford University, Stephen Burnett of the University of Nebraska, Lewis Glinert of Dartmouth, Rabbi Dr. Lance Sussman of Philadelphia’s Congregation Knesset Israel, Dr. Michal Galas of the University of Cracow, and Dr. Arthur Kiron, Curator of Judaica in the University of Pennsylvania Libraries.

The conference was co-sponsored by Penn’s School of Arts and Sciences and its Middle East Center, as well as by the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, Congregation Knesset Israel, and Temple Rodeph Shalom (where Jastrow served as rabbi).

The conference coincided as well with a remarkable exhibit in the Library on the Jastrows and the history of Rabbinic (and general) lexicography. Although the exhibit officially closed shortly after the Jastrow conference, a web-version is in the works. Plans are currently being discussed to have the papers from the conference published in future issues of *The Jewish Quarterly Review*.

[Chaim Potok and Jewish-American Culture: Three Essays A Memorial Symposium](#)

GRUSS VISITING PROFESSOR IN TALMUDIC LAW

In 1987, Mr. Joseph S. Gruss, through a bequest from his wife Caroline’s estate, established the **Caroline Zelasnik Gruss and Joseph S. Gruss Chair in Talmudic Civil Law** at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Since then, nearly every year, the Gruss Chair has brought a distinguished scholar specializing in some area of Jewish law to the Penn Law School. Past chair holders include Professors Hayyim Soloveitchik, Aaron Kirschenbaum, and Moshe Halbertal, and Israel Supreme Court Justices Menahem Elon and Yitzhak Englard.

This past fall, **Dr. Josef Stern**, Professor of Philosophy at both the University of Chicago and Bar-Ilan University in Israel, served as the 2003 Gruss Professor. Stern taught a course in the Law School on Maimonides and, for the second year, delivered the Gruss Lectures. The lectures were on the subject of “The Unbinding of Isaac; Maimonides on the Aqedah” and “Martyrdom versus the Life of the Law.” Stern, who is widely known for his analytic approach to the study of medieval Jewish philosophers like Maimonides, continues to bear an uncanny resemblance to the Director of the Jewish Studies Program at Penn. In fact, no one’s absolutely certain who delivered the lectures.

HEBREW AND YIDDISH NEWS

Hebrew

Penn’s Hebrew language program continued to thrive with over ninety students enrolled in the first two years of language courses. Due to the success of the Penn program, Lecturer and Hebrew Language Program Co-ordinator **Ronit Engel** was asked to serve as consultant to the Hebrew Language Program at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. A former student in the program, **Matthew Hartman**, has developed a new computer program for teaching Hebrew verbs, and Penn will serve as the initial laboratory for trying out the program during the coming year. Under the direction of Engel and Assistant Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature **Nili Gold**, a number of Israeli poets and writers gave special classes while visiting Penn, including Hamutal Bar-Yosef and Lisa Katz. During the coming year, Yossi Alfi, a well-known Israeli writer and actor, will teach and perform for students.

Yiddish

Thanks to a generous grant from the Forward Foundation and from the Philadelphia Shalom Aleichem Club, Penn was able to continue to hire **Alexander Botwinik** as a lecturer in Yiddish language to teach the first year language courses. As usual, both Botwinik and Dr. **Kathryn Hellerstein**, Ruth Meltzer Senior Lecturer in

Jewish Studies Program News

Yiddish and Jewish Studies, assigned their students projects utilizing the **Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Music Archive at Penn**. Botwinik also organized and conducted two annual Sing-alongs (Zingeray).

Hellerstein and Bowinik also enriched the classroom experience by introducing students to Yiddish culture through resources in the Philadelphia and New York areas. Thanks to a generous annual gift from the **Charlotte Yiddish Institute**, they took the Yiddish language students to the Folksbiene Yiddish theater production of Isaac Bashevis Singer's play, *Yentl* in November 2002 and, in April 2003, to hear the Klezmatiks, a leading klezmer revival musical group, perform at the Robert and Molly Freedman Annual Concert at the Annenberg Center at the University of Pennsylvania. Hellerstein also organized a Symposium on Women and Eastern European Jewish Culture with CAJS fellows Chava Weissler (Lehigh University), Ada Rapoport-Alpert (University College, London), and Moshe Rosman (Bar Ilan University), as well as a poetry reading of Yiddish and Hebrew women poets with herself and Lisa Katz of Hebrew University.

The 2003 Workmen's Circle/ Arbeter Ring Prize for Excellence in Yiddish Studies at Penn was awarded to **Micah Liben**.

JSP AND THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

This fall, the Jewish Studies Program and the National Museum of American Jewish History, located in Center City, initiated a new collaboration by jointly sponsoring a position for a museum historian who would also serve as a post-doctoral fellow at Penn. The first person to hold his position is **Dr. Ari Kelman**, who began both posts this past fall. At NMAJH, Kelman coordinates research efforts on the Museum's core exhibition, which will open in their magnificent new building on Independence Square in 2007. At Penn, Kelman will teach a course or two every year; this past fall, he taught *The American Jewish Experience* in the Department of History. Dr. Kelman received his Ph.D. from New York University's American Studies Program, where he wrote his dissertation about Yiddish Radio. The University of California Press will be publishing his dissertation in the near future.



Dr. Ari Kelman

The collaboration with the National Museum of American Jewish History is one of several that the Jewish Studies Program and the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies have been making over the past several years with other Philadelphia Jewish institutions and organizations, including the city's Jewish Federation and Akiba Hebrew High School and Stern Hebrew High School.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Two new members have joined the Jewish Studies Program this year.

Dr. **Natalie Dohrmann** became the Managing Editor of the *Jewish Quarterly Review* and Assistant Director for Publications at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies as well as an adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Religious Studies. Dr. Dohrmann, who holds a doctorate in Rabbinic Judaism from the University of Chicago, was formerly an Assistant Professor in Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism at North Carolina State University. Dr. Dohrmann's specialization is Rabbinic Judaism, with a special interest in Ancient Jewish Law and its Greco-Roman context.

Dr. **Elsie Stern** became Assistant Director for Public Programs at CAJS, and is also teaching in the Department of Religious Studies. Dr. Stern, who received her B.A. from Yale University



Dr. Elsie Stern

and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, previously taught at Fordham University, and has recently completed a book entitled *From Rebuke to Consolation: Exegesis and Theology in the Literature of the Tisha b'Av Season* (Brown Judaic Series, forthcoming). In addition to her research and university teaching, Dr. Stern has taught widely in both formal and informal settings in the US and Europe.

At the same time, we wish a fond farewell to two members who have left JSP:

Dr. **David Goldenberg**, Adjunct Professor of Rabbinics in AMES, has left the faculty although he will remain at Penn as a Visiting Scholar.

Dr. **Bruce Routledge**, James B. Pritchard Assistant Professor of Biblical Archaeology in Anthropology, left Penn this fall to assume a professorship in Biblical archaeology in the School of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology at the University of Liverpool in England.

FACULTY HONORS AND AWARDS

Dr. **Benjamin Nathans** (History) was promoted to Associate Professor of History with tenure in the History Department, and received the 2003 Koret Jewish Book Award for the Best Book in History for his book, *Beyond the Pale: The Jewish Encounter with Late Imperial Russia*.

Dr. **Liliane Weissberg** (Germanic Languages and Literatures) won a Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Dr. **Nili Gold** (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies) won a Penn Humanities Faculty Fellow Award.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Judaica collections at Penn—in Van Pelt Library, at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, in the Fisher Fine Arts Library and at the University Museum—continue to grow as an integrated unit within the University library system under the direction of **Arthur Kiron**, Curator of Judaica. The Library staff of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies – **Judith Leifer**, who oversees the Inter-Library Loan program for the Fellows, **Seth Jerchow**, the CAJS Public Services Librarian, and **Josef Gulka**, who supervises circulation – received glowing reviews from this past year's research Fellows. To mark the conclusion of the 2003 CAJS seminar year, Jerchow, in collaboration with CAJS Fellows, designed, edited and mounted a spectacular virtual exhibit based on the year's research theme, "Tradition and Its Discontents: Jewish History and Culture in Eastern Europe." Check it out at <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/cajs/>

Public programs: the Library organized a number of public programs to increase public awareness of its collections. Arthur Kiron delivered a series of lectures on the history of the Jewish book to Penn alumni groups in Texas and Florida in Fall 2003; he gave a multi-media presentation "The People and the Book: 4000 Years of Jewish History through Parchment, Paper and Print" to the Hadassah Southern New Jersey Region Spring (2003) Education Symposium at Rutgers University; and spoke on "Jewish Book Culture in Victorian Philadelphia" at the Hassel Fund Adult Lecture Series at Philadelphia's Mainline Reform Temple." In addition, he led the annual tours of the CAJS Library Rare Collections on Parents' Weekend in Fall 2002 and on Alumni/

Graduation Weekend in Spring 2003. In the April of 2003, the Jewish Studies Program and the Library co-sponsored the annual **Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Music Concert**, featuring the highly acclaimed klezmer troupe, the **Klezmatiks**, at the **Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts**.

Among the most exciting events of the year was the third annual **Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book**, co-sponsored by the Library, JSP, and CAJS. This year's topic, "Early Hebrew Printing," was led by Professor **Mordechai Glatzer**, of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, to a completely full workshop group. A full description of the Workshop can be found in this newsletter under Special Events and Programs on page 10.

Collections Development: the Judaica collections were enhanced by numerous significant grants and gifts received during the 2002-03 academic year:

Sheli Barnett, C '86, and the **Barnett Family**, donated a group of Hebrew and Yiddish periodicals, including several special anniversary issues of the Israeli periodical *ha-Doar*. They also donated several unusual works of Texas Judaica Americana, such as a special Passover Haggadah, marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, with a preface by President John F. Kennedy, printed in Dallas in 1973.

The Baruch and Simon Bricklin Collection, featuring two boxes of hand-set wooden and copper Hebrew typefaces, two composer's frames, and two boxes of Hebrew and Yiddish linotype, all from the Bricklin family printing company in Philadelphia, PA, was donated by **Ruth Bricklin**.

Andrew Cohn, C '66, has provided generous financial support to help fund the **Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book**.

The Gisser-Frank Collection of modern hagadot, including a number of Kibbutz hagadot and a group of unique, hand-made hagadot for family use, was donated by **Libby and Morton Frank**.

The Hillel Foundation at the University of Pennsylvania donated a collection of works of Judaica, including a Hebrew-Braille High Holiday prayer book entitled *Seder tefilot Yi'sra'el le-Shabat ule-shalosh regalim : Mahazor le-Rosh ha-Shanah ule-Yom ha-Kipurim = Sabbath, Festival and High Holiday prayerbook : Complete Hebrew and English text embossed in eleven volumes*.

Bess Katz donated a "Royal" Yiddish-Hebrew typewriter and a beautifully bound collection of the journal *Jewish Currents*, which features many articles by her brother Max Rosenfeld, the famous writer and intellectual. She also donated 149 rare LP phonograph albums to the **Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Music Archive**, most of them in Yiddish, including recordings of readings from Yiddish literature.

Gilbert L. Mathews, W'70, member of the University of Pennsylvania Library Board of Overseers, made a generous donation to the Judaica collections'discretionary fund.

Richard I. Popkin continued to support Penn's Judaica collections through his most recent donation of ten volumes of rare printed works from his personal collection, including original pamphlets dealing with Jewish emancipation in post-Revolutionary France.

Harvey Sheldon donated a group of eighty-fours DVD including both documentaries and musical entertainment to the **Harvey Sheldon Jewish-American Music Video Research Library**. Highlights of the gift include musical selections from performers like Woody Herman, Eddie Cantor, Al Jolson, Yip Harburg, and Benny Goodman as well as the Ziegfeld follies.

The Valmadonna Library in London donated a collection of twenty-four volumes of rare Hebrew books printed in Livorno, some bearing ownership marks indicating their former possession by Jews living in India; especially well-represented are printing examples from the famous 19th century Belforte family of Hebrew printers.



Dr. Arthur Kiron greets Dr. Mordechai Glatzer at the Lehmann Workshop.

Jerry Wasserman Collection of Jewish American Sound Recordings, including over 350 albums, tapes and cds of American Jewish music, was donated by his son, **Mark Wasserman** to the **Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Music Archive**.

The library collection of **Dr. Pinchas Wechter**, a scholar of Judeo-Arabic, was donated by his daughter and son-in-law, **Shulamith and Burton Caine**. This gift includes 40 LP records of Judaica (including Yiddish); a variety of works of modern Hebrew literature dating from the period of the British Mandate over Palestine before 1948; a useful selection of critical editions of rabbinic texts and works in or about Arabic and Judeo-Arabic; and a number of twentieth-century American hagadot.

Gifts and donations also were received from the following individuals:

Beki L. Bahar; Adina Bar-El; Miriam and Ben-Zion Barlev; Hakan Bengtsson; Terri Binder and Joseph Koschitzki; Howard A. Blum; Ann Bonn and Helen Weindling; Alma Orlovitz Cohen, FA'44; Boris Cohen, Martin Cohen; Gloria Cohn; Muhammad A. Dandamayev; Avi Decter; Yvonne Edels; Michael E. Eigen, C'57; Jeremy-Stuart de Fishberg; Sandra Fifer; Pamela Foa; Megan Foley; John L. Frank; Jack and Naomi Friedman; Michal Galas; Gilad J. Gevayahu; Adele and Bertram Greenspan, in honor of Albert J. Wood's 90th birthday; Guido Guastalla and Silvia Guastalla; Bruna Herzfeld; Eric Hoffman, GR'78 L'84; Irving Horn; Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Inc.; Seth Jerchow; the Jewish Publication Society of America; the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; Maxine Kalina; Michael Kaplan; Melvin Kates; Murad El-Kodsi; Norman Kransdorf; Judith Korman Langsfeld CW'67; Eric Laupot; Judith Leifer; Marvin Lessen; Walter A. Levy, G'73; Lenora M. and John E. Link; Eleanor Chana Mlotek; Jane Moskowitz Mack; Mona Magnis; Paul David Mandel; Selly Mizrahi; Tamara Morgenstern; Jeffrey I. Pasek, L'76; Jerry and Ellen Prince, G'74; Rose Rechnic; Frieda Reider; Barry S. Robbins; Lois Satalof; Faye Schper Rosenthal, CW'71; Shalom Club at Lake Ridge, Toms River, New Jersey; Moshe A. Shaltiel-Gracian; Morris Shelanski; Francine and Marvin Silverstein; Flor Siperstein; Eric L. Stern; Harry Stern; Paul A. Tanker; Stephen D. Toback; Iosif I. Vaisman; Marvin Verman; Saul Viener; Naomi Vogelmann-Goldfeld; Temira Volcani; George H. Weiss; Falk Wiesemann; Anita J. Willens; Gerald Wolpe; Leonard Wood; Gilbert Young; Roza Zaks; Joseph Zernik.

Center for Advanced Judaic Studies News

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!



From left to right: Ellie Katz, David Ruderman, Julie Nixon Eisenhower (a CAJS board member), Herb Katz (CAJS board chair, 1996-2003 and dinner honoree).

2002-2003 marked the 10th anniversary of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. Over the past decade, the Center has brought together more than 200 of the most distinguished scholars in Jewish Studies from around the world. Each year, scholars representing different disciplines and methodologies within Jewish Studies come to the center to engage

with one another in lively discussion and debate about the most important issues in their fields. In the past decade, the scholarship that has been produced at the Center, and the conversations that have transpired there among the fellows, have profoundly shaped every area of Jewish Studies, from biblical interpretation and archeology to arts, culture, and modern history.

On May 6, 2003, at the conclusion of the ninth annual Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies, CAJS fellows, staff, supporters, friends and distinguished guests from across academia, Penn and the wider community gathered to celebrate this festive occasion. During the evening, the Center honored two of its most generous supporters, the honorable Walter H. Annenberg (1908-2002) W' 31, founding patron of CAJS, and Herbert D. Katz W' 51, retiring chair of the CAJS board of Overseers. In addition, former CAJS fellows reminisced about their experience at CAJS and Center director, David Ruderman spoke about the Center's past and its future. These remarks reminded all present how important the Center is in nurturing and supporting individual scholars and shaping the field of Judaic Studies as a whole. We look forward to many more decades of success at the Center!

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

In 2002-3, the Penn Lecture Series in Judaic Studies, supported by the **Harry Stern Family Foundation**, continued to provide an opportunity for members of the Philadelphia community to hear internationally renowned scholars speak about issues and topics central to Jewish Studies today.

The Spring 2003 Lecture Series, *Jewish History and Culture in Eastern Europe*, which was co-sponsored by a consortium of ten area synagogues, included the following lectures by CAJS fellows: **Marcus Moseley**, "The Crisis of Faith in European Jewish Literature"; **Gabriella Safran**, "Re-reading Shalom Aleichem"; **John Klier**, "Stalin and the Jews"; **Olga Litvak**, "The Kishniev Pogrom"; **Adam Teller**, "Divine Dialogues: Hasidic Rabbis and their relationship with God"; and **David Engel**, "Jewish Power: A Study in Survival." This successful series was attended by several hundred members of the wider community.

In addition to the Penn lecture series, CAJS sponsored public presentations in New York City and Ft. Lauderdale by fellows **Adam Teller** and **David Engel** who spoke on Hasidism and Jewish Power, respectively. Several fellows also presented lectures on the Penn campus and at local synagogues in the Philadelphia area.

GRUSS COLLOQUIUM

The Center concluded the 2002-3 fellowship year with its 9th annual **Gruss Colloquium** in Judaic Studies which took place on May 5-7 and featured lectures by scholars from the United States, Israel and Europe on topics related to Jewish History and Culture in Eastern Europe. Named for its generous sponsor, **Martin D. Gruss, W'64**, the colloquium provided the opportunity for this year's fellows to engage with other distinguished scholars, graduate students, and interested members of the Penn and wider communities on the most current questions and issues in the field of Eastern European Jewish Studies.

ENTERING OUR SECOND DECADE

2003-4 Fellowship Year

This year the Center is hosting a distinguished group of scholars studying Judaism and Jewish practice from anthropological and historical perspectives. During the year-long seminar, Center fellows will consider the relationship between prescribed traditions and actual practice; the interaction between Jewish practices and other religious traditions; and the role of religious symbols and personal experience in Jewish religious practice.

In addition to hosting the fellowship program, the Center provides opportunities for Penn students and members of the wider community to learn from our scholars and engage with this year's fascinating topic.

AT PENN AND BEYOND

This year, **Drs. Jack Kugelmass, Elchanan Reiner, and Shalom Sabar** will teach regular courses on Jewish Anthropology, Early Modern Jewish History, and Jewish Art in SAS. The Center will also run a modular course which will give graduate students the opportunity to study with several of our fellows over the course of the year.

In addition to the Penn lecture series which will take place in the spring, CAJS will once again sponsor public programs by fellows in NY and Ft. Lauderdale. CAJS, in conjunction with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, will also sponsor a series of presentations in Los Angeles, which will include events at both academic and public venues. The Center is also looking forward to collaborating with Philadelphia area synagogues and educational institutions to provide even more opportunities for the wider community to learn about this year's theme.

PUBLICATIONS

The Center is proud to announce a new publication series, **Jewish Cultures and Contexts**. The series, to be edited by Center director, David Ruderman, and published by the University of Pennsylvania Press, will focus upon innovative, interdisciplinary works which explore topics within Jewish Studies within their larger historical, cultural and methodological contexts. The first two books in the series *Between Worlds: Dybbuks, Exorcists, and Early Modern Judaism* by J.H. Chajes and *Unveiling Eve: Reading Gender in Medieval Hebrew Literature* by Tova Rosen, appeared earlier this year. Three more volumes are forthcoming: *Souls in Dispute: Converso Identity in Iberia and the Jewish Diaspora, 1580-1700*, by David L. Graizbord; *The Jewish Enlightenment*, by Shmuel Feiner, translated by Chaya Naor; and *Renewing the Past, Reconfiguring Jewish Culture: From Al-Andalus to the Haskalah*, edited by Ross Brann and Adam Sutcliffe.

This year also marks the beginning of a new era for the **Jewish Quarterly Review**, the oldest English language scholarly journal of Jewish Studies. In addition to new editors, David N. Myers from UCLA, Elliott Horowitz from Bar-Ilan, and Natalie Dohrmann at Penn/CAJS, the journal also has a new cover, a new publisher (University



The Jewish Quarterly Review cover.

(continued from page 8)

of Pennsylvania Press), and will now be issued as a quarterly.

The new editors are intent on attracting innovative and high quality work that crosses the many disciplinary boundaries and chronological time lines of

2003-2004 PROGRAM			
PRESCRIPTIVE TRADITIONS AND LIVED EXPERIENCE IN THE JEWISH RELIGION: HISTORICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES			
FELLOW	AREA OF RESEARCH		
Ra'anán Abusch University of Minnesota	Anthropological Approaches to the Problem of Heterogeneity in Hekhalot Literature	Ora Limor (S) The Open University, Israel <i>Herbert and Ellie Katz Distinguished Fellowship</i>	Messianic Geography: The Mount of Olives in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Tradition
Dan Ben-Amos University of Pennsylvania <i>Charles W. And Sally Rothfeld Fellowship</i>	Elijah the Prophet: Historic Symbolic Analysis	Riv-Elle Prell University of Minnesota <i>Ella Darivoff Term Fellowship</i>	American Jewish Youth Culture and the Emergence of a New Judaism, 1945-1970
Menahem Ben-Sasson (F) Hebrew University <i>Herbert and Ellie Katz Distinguished Fellowship</i>	Ceremony and Life of Oriental Jewry: 9th – 13th Centuries	Lucia Raspe (S) Goethe University, Germany The Role of Graves of Sainted Individuals in the Religious Lives of Individual and Community <i>Louis and Bessie Stein Term Fellowship</i>	
Yoram Bilu (S) Hebrew University <i>Maurice Amado Foundation Fellowship</i>	Shrine and Pilgrimage in Anthropological and Historical Perspectives: The Cult of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai	Elchanan Reiner (S) Tel Aviv University <i>Rose and Harry Zifkin Teaching Fellowship</i>	Shrine and Pilgrimage in Historical and Anthropological Perspectives: The Cult of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai
Jeffrey Chajes University of Haifa <i>Betty and Morris Shuch Term Fellowship</i>	The Voice of a Woman: A History of Jewish Women's Spirituality	Marina Rustow (F) Columbia University <i>Michael R. Steinhardt Term Fellowship</i>	Jewish Sectarianism in the Medieval Islamic Mediterranean: A Social Historical Approach
Tamar El-Or (F) Hebrew University <i>Louis and Bessie Stein Fellowship</i>	Reserved Seats: Ushering Mizrahi Women to their Sephardi Location; Gender, Religion and Literacy Among the Mizrahi-Sephardi Community	Shalom Sabar Hebrew University <i>Erika A. Strauss Teaching Fellowship</i>	'Transitional Objects': Material Culture and Rituals in Jewish Life and Year Cycles
Talya Fishman University of Pennsylvania <i>Dalck and Rose Feith Family Fellowship</i>	Custom's Emergence as a Competitor to Law: Reconstructing a Culture Revolution of Medieval Ashkenaz	Andrea Schatz University of Duisburg, Germany	Translating the Orient: Cultural Difference and Diaspora in the 18th Century
Harvey Goldberg (F) Hebrew University <i>Ruth Meltzer Distinguished Fellowship</i>	Jewish Studies and the Anthropology of Disciplines: Anthropological Studies of Muslim Societies	Michael Swartz Ohio State University <i>Moses Aaron Dropsie Term Fellowship</i>	Ritual Theory in Judaism: Ancient and Modern
Sylvie Goldberg (F) Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, France <i>Michael R. Steinhardt Term Fellowship</i>	The Sacred and the Profane: Historicity and Temporality in the Jewish Mind	Chava Weissler (F) Lehigh University <i>Charles W. and Sally Rothfeld Fellowship</i>	The 'Jewish Renewal' Movement in the American Spiritual Marketplace
Ephraim Kanarfogel Yeshiva University	Dreams as a Determinant of Jewish Law and Practice in Northern Europe During the High Middle Ages	SHORT TERM FELLOWS	
Tamar Katriel (S) University of Haifa <i>Ruth Meltzer Distinguished Fellowship</i>	The Rhetoric of Rescue: Salvage Immigration Narratives in Israeli Civil Religion	Dmitrii Belkin (November) University of Tubingen	Lucette Valensi (November) L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales
Oren Kosansky Lawrence University	Saint Pilgrimage as Torah Practice in Jewish Morocco	Robert Bonfil (January) Hebrew University	Nathan Wachtel (April) College of France
Jack Kugelmass (F) Arizona State University <i>Nancy S. and Laurence E. Glick Teaching Fellowship</i>	The Rites of the Tribe: Ethnographic Essays on the Public Culture of American Jews	Galit Hasan-Rokem (February) Hebrew University	
		ADJUNCT FELLOWS	
		Albert Baumgarten Sarah Benor Elisheva Carlebach Samuel Heilman Elliott Horowitz Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett	Jodi Magness Tessa Rajak Esther Romeyn Jane Rothstein Jonathan Schorsch Israel Yuval

Jewish studies. The goal is to bring the ancient into conversation with the modern, the historical with the literary, the Jewish with the non-Jewish. JQR hopes to create a vibrant forum for the most promising and accomplished scholars, thinkers, writers, and artists.

2002-2003 Special Events and Programs

MEYERHOFF LECTURE IN JEWISH HISTORY

The Sixth Annual Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Lecture in Jewish History was a roundtable discussion with CAJS fellows **Jonathan Frankel** (Hebrew University) and **Hillel Kieval** (Washington University) on "A Medieval Accusation Made Modern: Reassessing 'Ritual Murder' in Jewish History." **Benjamin Nathans** (University of Pennsylvania) served as moderator. The event was co-sponsored by CAJS and JSP.

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 **Herb Katz, W'51**, as chair of the Board of CAJS. Herb and Ellie Katz have been among the most devoted supporters of Jewish Studies at Penn. Their gifts include the Joseph Meyerhoff Chair in Modern Jewish History, the Katz Family Term Chair in American Jewish History, and the Herbert D. Katz Distinguished Fellowship at the Center.

SILVERS VISITING SCHOLAR IN JEWISH STUDIES



Rabbi Michael Paley

On February 27, 2003, Professor **Rabbi Michael Paley** (Executive Director of Synagogue and Community Affairs and Co-Director of the Jewish Resource Center for UJA-Federation of New York; Adjunct Professor at the Columbia School of Journalism) was the seventh annual Silvers Visiting Scholar in Jewish Studies. The program as a whole was devoted to the topic of "Judaism and the Media," and Rabbi Paley spoke about different aspects of the topic including his own experience in teaching religion to journalists.

Following the lecture, a buffet dinner was served to the approximately fifty participants in the program who then attended break-out sessions discussing different aspects of Judaism and the Media. These sessions were led by Penn professors: **Nili Gold** (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies) and **Beth Wenger** (History).

The **Silvers Visiting Scholar** program, endowed by **Patricia, CW'72**, and **David Silvers, C'71**, was established to bring distinguished scholars to campus to interact with students and other members of the university community. This year's visiting scholar will be Professor Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota/CAJS) who will speak on the topic, "Why Aren't We One? American Judaism in the 21st Century."

JOSEPH ALEXANDER COLLOQUIUM

On November 20, 2002, Professor Steven J. Zipperstein (Stanford University) delivered the 17th annual Joseph Alexander Colloquium on "Odessa and Jewish Urbanism in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries." Professor Zipperstein's talk dealt with the variegated cultural life of Odessa, which encompassed the

realms of high literary culture as well as the lower denizens of Jewish crime, and its influence upon Jewish modernity.

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

MANFRED R. LEHMANN MEMORIAL MASTER WORKSHOP IN THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH BOOK

The third **Manfred R. Lehmann Memorial Master Workshop in the History of the Jewish Book** was held last May, repeating the enormous success of the first and second years' workshops. Co-sponsored by JSP, Van Pelt Library, and CAJS, this workshop was established to further the study of the history of the Jewish book in all its aspects. Named after **Dr. Lehmann**, a distinguished independent scholar and one of the most important collectors of Jewish manuscripts in the last century, the Workshop was supported by generous grants from **The Manfred and Anne Lehmann Foundation**, **Mr. Albert Friedberg**, and the **University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation**.



Dr. Mordecai Glatzer with Dr. Barry Walfish of University of Toronto Libraries, at the Lehmann Workshop

The third Workshop was conducted by Professor **Mordecai Glatzer** of the Hebrew University on the topic of Early Hebrew Printing. Nearly fifty scholars, professional Judaica librarians and curators, and graduate students from all across America participated in the intensive two-day seminar. As the basis for the workshop, Professor Glatzer selected original sources, including genizah fragments and illuminated Hebrew manuscripts, from the rare book collections of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies.

The fourth Lehmann Workshop, to be held on May 2-3, 2004, will again be conducted by Professor Glatzer; the topic, a continuation of last year's, will be "Hebrew Printing: 1470-1570." Persons interested in attending should contact the Jewish Studies Program immediately.



Chrissy Walsh at the Lehmann Workshop

KUTCHIN SEMINARS IN JEWISH STUDIES

These seminars and lectures are supported by the generosity of **Mel C'50** and **Mitzi Kutchin**.

Talk and discussion on Carl Rakosi's poetry, with **Tom Devaney**

(Writers House Program Coordinator), co-sponsored by Kelly Writers House, and the Creative Writing Program, on September 26, 2002.

"The Madaba Map and Early Rabbinic Judaism" with **David Ben-Gad Cohen** (Hebrew University), co-sponsored with the Departments of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies and Religious Studies, on October 14, 2002.

"A Trumpet in the Wadi" (2001), a film directed by Lina & Slava Chaplin, co-sponsored with the Middle East Center, on October 27, 2002.

"Yiddish Sing-Along," with **Alexander Botwinik** (University of Pennsylvania), co-sponsored with the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Penn Hillel, on October 29, 2002.

"The Question of Realism in Representing the Shoah," with **Anne-Marie Baron** (French Holocaust Scholar), co-sponsored by the Film Studies Program, on October 30, 2002.

"Maimonides on Kedushah/Holiness as a Commandment," with **Josef Stern** (University of Chicago), Gruss Lecture in Talmudic Civil Law: Two Concepts of Kedushah/Holiness, co-sponsored with the Law School, on November 7, 2002.

Kristallnacht Commemoration film: "Tangled Roots," with **Liliane Weissberg** (University of Pennsylvania) and **Penny Marcus** (University of Pennsylvania), co-sponsored with the Department of Germanic Languages and Literature, on November 11, 2002.

"Nahmanides on Kedushah/Holiness Despite the Commandments," with **Joseph Stern**, (University of Chicago), Gruss Lecture in Talmudic Civil Law: Two Concepts of Kedushah/Holiness, co-sponsored with the University of Pennsylvania Law School, on November 14, 2002.

"J.O.B.S. Jewish Opportunities for Building Success," with representatives from various Jewish communal professionals, co-sponsored with the Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education, Hillel of Greater Philadelphia, and the Jewish Heritage Programs, on November 18, 2002.

"What Remains in Translation? Examples from Hebrew and Romance," with **Avi Matalon** (Harvard University), co-sponsored with the Department of Romance Languages, on November 25, 2002.

Poetry reading by Israeli poet, **Hamutal Bar Yosef** (Hebrew University), co-sponsored with the Middle East Center, on November 26, 2002.

Chaim Potok and Jewish-American Culture: A Memorial Symposium with **Hugh Nissenson** (Novelist and Essayist) on "Choosing the Chosen: A Re-Appraisal of Chaim Potok's The Chosen"; **Daniel Walden** (Pennsylvania State University) on "Chaim Potok: Zwischenmensch ('A Between-Person) Among the Cultures"; and **Jonathan Rosen**, (Novelist and Essayist) on "Chaim Potok and the Question of Jewish Writing," co-sponsored with the SAS Deans Office, on December 8, 2002.

"Sodom, Gomorrah & Jewish Masculinity on the 19th Century Yiddish Stage," with **Alyssa Quint** (Harvard University/CAJS), co-

sponsored with the Department of Germanic Languages and Literature, on January 16, 2003.

"The Sabbatean Movement: Its Place and Role in Jewish History," with **Jacob Barnai** (University of Haifa/CAJS), co-sponsored with the Middle East Center, the Department of Religious Studies, and the Department of History, on February 4, 2003.

"Border/Line—a Dance Interpretation of Childhood Memories," with **Dagmar Spain** and her modern dance troop Dance Imprints, co-sponsored with the Middle East Center, on February 20, 2003.

Poetry and Translation Reading with **Kathryn Hellerstein** (University of Pennsylvania) and **Lisa Katz** (Hebrew University), co-sponsored with the Kelly Writers House, on March 4, 2003.

"What's Different About Being Jewish in Post-Soviet Russia and Ukraine," with **Zvi Gitelman** (University of Michigan/CAJS), co-sponsored with Penn Hillel, on March 6, 2003.

"Yiddish Sing-Along," with **Alexander Botwinik** (University of Pennsylvania), co-sponsored with the Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures and Penn Hillel, on March 25, 2003.

Robert and Molly Freedman Annual Jewish Music Concert with **"The Klezmatics"**, co-sponsored with the Annenberg Center and the University of Pennsylvania Library, on April 5, 2003.

"Women and Eastern European Jewish Culture" Symposium, with **Chava Weissler** (Lehigh University), **Ada Rapoport-Alpert** (University College, London/CAJS), **Moshe Rosman** (Bar Ilan University/CAJS), and chair **Kathryn Hellerstein** (University of Pennsylvania/CAJS), co-sponsored with the Women's Studies Program, and the Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies, and History, on April 8, 2003.

Holocaust Commemoration lecture on "The Holocaust and Modernity Revisited," with **David Engel** (New York University/CAJS), co-sponsored with the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, on April 29, 2003.

JUDAH GOLDIN GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR

Initiated in January 2000 by Professor **Jeffrey Tigay**, and named after late professor of postbiblical Hebrew literature and long-time faculty member **Judah Goldin**, the Golden Seminar is a graduate student seminar in Biblical studies and related fields. Coordinated by the graduate students, the Seminar was chaired last year by Kevin McGeough.

Kevin McGeough gave a paper entitled, "Late Bronze Age Administration: Keeping Track of People," Matthew Rutz spoke on "The Problem of Fakes and Forgeries in the Study of the Ancient Near East," Jeremie Peterson gave a paper entitled, "Sumerian Animal Terms in their Concrete Contexts," and Spencer Allen spoke on "The Concept of Fate in Megillat Esther."

About our Students

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

7 students graduated in May 2003 with majors in the different Jewish Studies departmental tracks, while 1 graduated early in December 2002, and 1 graduated in Summer 2003.



Penn undergrads digesting their thoughts.

1 senior completed the Jewish Studies Program's Interdisciplinary Minor: **Jason Chinitz**.

4 seniors graduated with a major in the Hebraica and Judaica Concentration in the Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies: **Mark Ginsberg, Yael Katz, Jonathan Kelsen, and Amrom Obstfeld**.

4 seniors completed a major in the Jewish History Concentration in the Department of History: **Debra Berdugo, Jonathan Kelsen, Mordecai Rosenberg, and Jordana Rothschild**.

PRIZES AND HONORS

The **Philip E. Goldfein Scholarship Award in Jewish Studies**, which is supported by a generous gift from **Robert C'63 and Phillip C'34 Goldfein**, is awarded to both undergraduates and graduate students to support research projects and unusual academic experiences. This past year's awards went to undergraduates **Jacob Cytryn, Alison Silber, and David Shyovitz** and to graduate students **Matthew Rutz** (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies), **Ellie Schainker** (History), **Moshe Simon** (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies).

The **B'nai Zion Award** for Excellence in Hebrew and Hebraic Studies was awarded to **Mark Ginsberg**. This award of a \$100 United States Savings Bond is sponsored by the **B'nai Zion Foundation**.

The **Workmen's Circle/Arbeiter Ring Prize in Yiddish Studies** is supported by a gift from the **Philadelphia Branch of the Workmen's Circle** and the **United Worker's Educational Organization** to reward excellence in Yiddish Studies. This year's prize was awarded to **Micah Liben**.

The **Raymond and Ruth Brenner Grants in Jewish Studies**, designated for special opportunities in Judaic Studies, were awarded to graduate students **Tamar Kaplan** (History), **Naftali Cohn** (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies), and **Sean McGrew** (Linguistics). This award was established through the generosity of **Raymond and Ruth Brenner and their family** (parents of **Jason, W'05, Adam, W'01, and Gregory, W'99, Brenner**).

The **Merle Saunders Schaff Memorial Award** is awarded annually by the Department of Religious Studies for the best essays written by undergraduate and graduate students on a topic in the history of Judaism or Ancient Israel. Last year's recipients for the undergraduate award went to **David Goldstein**, for an essay, "Who were David and Solomon? A Discussion of Iron Age Stratigraphy and Chronology," and to **Andrea Miller**, for an essay, "Property Inheritance Laws in the Ancient Near East." The graduate prizes went to **Naftali Cohn** (Asian and Middle Eastern Studies), for a paper entitled "Rhetoric, Boundaries, and the Book of Amos," and **Debra J. Bucher** (Religious Studies), for her paper entitled "Philo's Terms of Assembly."

About our Students

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Anne Oravetz completed her coursework and exams in Penn's History department in Fall 2003. She is now beginning research for her dissertation, which is focused on Rabbi Isaac Aboab da Fonseca and his role as a leader in seventeenth-century Dutch Brazil and Amsterdam. With aid from a Brenner Fellowship through the Jewish Studies Program, she will be traveling to Recife, Brazil, to pursue this topic; and later in the year she will carry out research in Amsterdam.

Rachel Anisfeld, a past William Penn fellow in AMES, is currently completing her dissertation on the homiletical character of the midrashim Pesikta deRav Kahana and Vayikra Rabbah. She has presented papers on the role of the audience in homiletical midrash and on the differences between tannaitic and amoraic midrash at the Association for Jewish Studies national conference these past two years. While completing her dissertation, she regularly teaches at local synagogues in Albany, where she lives with her husband and two-year old son.

Shawn Zelig Aster, a former William Penn Fellow and Dissertation Fellow, taught three courses at Bar Ilan University in the spring term, including a course on the Minor Prophets, one on the history of the Kingdom of Israel, and a course in the historical geography of the Galilee in the Biblical period. During the fall semester, Shawn taught a graduate course on "Inscriptions from the Biblical World" at Penn. He is currently completing his dissertation on "Divine Radiance in the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Literature."

Francesca Bregoli, a Franklin fellow, has completed her coursework in the Department of History. During the academic year 2002-3, she was a teaching assistant in a course on the history of the Third Reich, as well as in a survey course on Early Modern and Modern European history. She spent the summer and fall of 2003 studying for her comprehensive exams. During the past year she has been working on her dissertation proposal which focuses upon Jewish-

Christian cultural relations in the 18th-century port city of Livorno (Italy).

Naftali Cohn, a Falk Jewish Studies fellow, continues with his second year of coursework. This past spring, he received the Merle Saunders Schaff Memorial Award, awarded by the department of Religious Studies, for an essay entitled "Rhetoric, Boundaries, and the Book of Amos." In the summer he studied Greek and taught a Bible course at the Drisha Institute in New York City. In the fall, in addition to serving as a teaching assistant for Professor David Stern, Naftali will teach Mishnah at Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University. Naftali and his wife Zehava were blessed with a daughter this past spring, Tirza Tzahala Dina.

David Hollenberg is currently completing his dissertation on early Isma'ili doctrine. Last spring he organized University of Pennsylvania's Symposium of Islamic Studies on the topic of Religion and Authority in Classical Islam. He spent the summer in Morocco researching an Arabo-Berber manuscript related to his dissertation on a fellowship from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. This past year he published "Disrobing Judges with Veiled Truths: A Torah Ta'wil in Service of the Fatimid Mission" in *Religion*, and a review in the *Bulletin of Oriental and African Studies* of Herbert Berg's *The Development of Exegesis in Islam*.

Shalom Holtz, a William Penn fellow, completed coursework in AMES and examinations towards his doctoral degree and has begun working on his dissertation. Last spring and summer he taught at the Drisha Institute in Manhattan. During the fall, he served as the coordinator of the international conference on Marcus Jastrow and Rabbinic Lexicography. Shalom's biggest news of the past year, however, is that he got married to Leebie Mallin.

Tammy Jacobowitz, a former Wexner Graduate Fellow and Falk Fellow in AMES, is currently completing her comprehensive exams in Classical Rabbinic Literature and Medieval Judaism. Last spring, she was a scholar-in-residence in Columbus, Ohio, where she lectured on Midrash. This year, as in years past, she is also serving as a mentor to seniors at Akiba Hebrew Academy. In the fall, she and her husband became parents to Reyna Sarah.

Debra Kaplan is completing her dissertation, "Economy, Exchange and Exclusion: Jewish-Christian Interactions in Early Modern Strasbourg, 1530-1648." This year, Debra is teaching courses on the History of the Reformation and Popular and Religious Culture in Medieval and Early Modern Europe in the Penn History department, Medieval Jewish History at Queens College and Major Concepts in Jewish Cultural History at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work.

Tamar Kaplan, a former Falk Fellow in the Department of History, is currently at work on her dissertation, which focuses on the communal and religious authority of the traditional rabbinate in Russia during the nineteenth century. This past year she presented a paper on the topic at the Association for Jewish Studies conference and a public lecture on rabbis in Late Imperial Russia at the YIVO Institute. For the current year, she has received a fellowship from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Studies. Tamar is also teaching adult education courses through the Melton program in New Jersey here she now lives with her husband (just married!), Burt Appel.

Stephen Kim, a former University Fellow in AMES, is currently studying for his comprehensive exams in Biblical Studies. In 2002, he presented a paper on Midrash in the Book of Chronicles at the AAJR graduate student seminar, and last spring and summer, he taught courses on the New Testament and on Israelite Religion at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

Julie Lieber is a 4th year graduate student in the History department focusing on the history of Jews in turn of the century Vienna. Having completed her comprehensive exams in the fall she is now beginning research for her dissertation - "Jewish Women in Fin de Siecle Vienna: A Study in Gender Construction." Over the next year she plans to travel to Jerusalem and Vienna to continue her research.

Susan Marks, a former Chimicles Fellow in Religious Studies, completed her dissertation, "Jewish Weddings in the Greco-Roman Period: A Reconsideration Of Received Ritual" and received her PhD in May 2003. In August she began her first job as Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies in the Religion department at New College of Florida in Sarasota, FL.

Kevin McGeough is a sixth year graduate student in AMES concentrating on the archaeology, history, and languages of the ancient Near East. Last year, supported by a University of Pennsylvania Dissertation Fellowship, he continued to work on his dissertation, entitled "Economic Modalities at Ugarit." During the current year, Kevin is teaching archaeology and Biblical Hebrew at the University of Lethbridge. His monograph, "The Romans," in the "ABC-CLIO Handbook to Ancient Civilizations" Series has been formally accepted for publication next fall.

Alexandra Rothstein, a Jacob Javits fellow and honorary Mellon fellow, completed her course work in Rabbinic and Islamic literature. She spent the second semester in Israel studying for her comprehensive examinations, attended several short conferences, and visited ancient synagogues and Second Temple archeological sites.

Matthew Rutz, a former William Penn fellow and current University Dissertation fellow, is a sixth-year doctoral student in AMES. In December 2002, he completed his exams in Assyriology, the history of the ancient Near East, and Hebrew Bible, and in the spring semester served as a writing fellow for David Stern's course on "Catastrophe and Continuity in Jewish Literature." During the summer, Matthew received a Brenner Special Opportunity Award to attend the 49th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale at the British Museum in London. In addition, he served as a research assistant for Jeffrey Tigay, and is now working on his dissertation on the religious institutions and cultic practices of Late Bronze Age Syria.

Ellie Schainker, a Jacob Javits and William Penn Fellow, completed her first year of coursework in the History department, specializing in Russian-Jewish History in the Modern period. Last year, she received a Brenner Award and National Council of Jewish Women scholarship to study Yiddish at the YIVO summer institute in New York. This summer, she received a Brenner Award to study advanced Russian at the Columbia University Russian practicum.

Jonathan Stein, a Wexner Graduate Fellow, completed his second year of coursework in Rabbinic literature in AMES. During the summer he studied German at the CUNY Graduate Center. Jonathan continues to be involved in adult education, and has taught at the Drisha Institute, the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning, and Lishmah.

Andrea Weiss, a former William Penn Fellow in AMES, is currently completing her dissertation on "Figurative Language in Biblical Prose Narrative: Metaphor in the Book of Samuel." She continues to teach as an Instructor of Bible at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York.

Susan Zeelander, a graduate student in AMES, is preparing for comprehensive exams in Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. She has taught Elementary and Intermediate Biblical Hebrew at Penn as well as adult education courses at local synagogues in the area. This past summer she taught a seminar on the Book of Lamentations at Tiferet Bet Israel synagogue in Blue Bell, Pa., and during the fall a course on the religion of ancient Israel.

Faculty News

About our Faculty

Dan Ben-Amos, Professor of Folklore in the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, is spending the current year as a fellow at Penn's Center for Advanced Judaic Studies where he is working on several projects. A Russian translation of his book, *Jewish Folk Literature*, will be published in Moscow by the House of the Jewish Book in 2004.

Alexander Botwinik, lecturer in Yiddish, teaches first-year Yiddish and coordinates Yiddish sing-alongs at Penn each semester. In addition, as choir director of Congregation Beth Am Israel, Botwinik leads adult and youth choirs in concerts including, last year, a very well-received concert of Sephardic music for the Jewish Studies Program at Drexel. Most recently, he has performed with singers Sherm Labovitz, with whom he co-produced a CD of Yiddish art and folk songs in 2002, and with Richard Lenatsky, with whom he is preparing a new CD of Yiddish songs.

Michael Carasik, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biblical Hebrew, has completed the Exodus volume of "The Commentators' Bible," an English-language version of the traditional Miqra'ot Gedolot biblical commentaries, to be published by the Jewish Publication Society. He is now working on Leviticus. Recent publications include "Midrash: The Story Behind the Story," in *The Solomon Goldman Lectures*, vol. 8, ed. Dean Bell (Chicago: Spertus Press, 2003), and a review of Michael Fox, *Character and Ideology in the Book of Esther*, in *Shofar* 21 (2003). Last summer, he taught a summer course on wisdom literature at Gratz College, and continues to serve as darshan of the Gershman Y Congregation in Center City.

Barry Eichler, Associate Professor of Assyriology, currently serves as the undergraduate chair of the Near Eastern Languages and Cultures section of the Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, and also serves as the Hebrew/Judaica advisor in that department. This past year Eichler completed a history of the discipline of Assyriology at the University of Pennsylvania, entitled "Cuneiform Studies at Penn: From Hilprecht to Leichty" to be published this spring in *Happy is the House: Studies in Honor of Erle Verdun Leichty*. He also continues to lecture on biblical and ancient Near Eastern literatures at the Revel Graduate School of Yeshiva University.

Alan Filreis is Kelly Professor of English, Faculty Director of the Kelly Writers House and Director of the Center for Programs in Contemporary Writing. Filreis is currently finishing a book about the anticommunist attack on modernism in the 1950s, called

"The Fifties' Thirties;" among the authors he treats in the book are many relatively obscure radical Jewish-American poets. He also continues to pursue his interest in the literature of the Holocaust, and particularly survivor testimony. Interested readers are invited to visit the extensive archive of materials at

www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/Holocaust/holhome.html. With Penny Marcus, he has taught "Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film" as part of the College of Arts & Sciences "pilot curriculum." Among the many events and seminars at the Kelly Writers House—the Penn literary gathering place he founded in 1995—are always several featuring Jewish Studies-related topics. (See writing.upenn.edu for more.) Last year, he hosted a month-long online discussion group with Penn alumni on Jon Avnet's film "Uprising," about the Warsaw Ghetto revolt.

Talya Fishman, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, is spending this year as a fellow at Penn's Center for Advanced Judaic Studies where she is working on a project entitled "Custom's Emergence as a Competitor to Law; Reconstructing a Culture Revolution of Medieval Ashkenaz."

Nili R. Gold, Assistant Professor in Modern Hebrew Literature in AMES, spent the summer completing research for her book, *Inside the Apples: A Poetic Biographical Comprehensive Study of Amichai's Work*, to be published by The University of Wisconsin Press. Gold's article, "Travel as Semiotic Sign in the Poetry of Yehuda Amichai," was recently published in *Mi-Ka'n* (BGU 2003). She has also completed another article on Amichai entitled, "Notes on War and Love in the Work of Yehuda Amichai" to be published in *Israel Studies Forum* (2004). In May, she delivered the Mosse/Weinstein lecture on the formative experiences in the life of Yehuda Amichai at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Center for Jewish Studies and the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies. Also in 2003, her "Reading the Poet Zvia Ben-Yosef Ginor," appeared in *Hebrew Higher Education* (U of Wisconsin). Last June, together with Professor Eric Davis (Rutgers University), she began organizing the Israeli component of a videotape database of lectures and interviews of prominent Middle Eastern authors, literary critics and literature scholars. This video database will be the basis for a course on Modern Literatures of the Middle East to be taught at various universities. Gold serves as the section coordinator for Modern Hebrew Literature at the Association for Jewish

Studies (AJS). For the current year, she is a Penn Humanities Faculty Fellow.

Kathryn Hellerstein, Ruth Meltzer Senior Lecturer in Yiddish and Jewish Studies, continues to serve as Undergraduate Director of the Jewish Studies Program. During Spring 2003, she was on leave as a Fellow at Penn's CAJS. Recent publications include: "Finding Her Yiddish Voice: Kadya Molodowsky in America" in *Source*; four articles in *Holocaust Literature* and in *Jewish Writers of the Twentieth Century*; translations of Yiddish poems and short stories in *The Massachusetts Review* and *Beautiful as the Moon, Radiant as the Stars: Jewish Women in Yiddish Stories: An Anthology* (Warner Books); and her own poem, "Holy Places," in *Bridges*. Translations into Hebrew of works by Hellerstein—an article and two original poems—appeared in (respectively) *Chulyot* and *Iton 77* in Israel. Among the papers she presented were "Canon, Scripture, and Yiddish Poetry," at the AJS Convention; "The Question of Esther in Yiddish Poems—Poland, 1918-1936," at CAJS's Gruss Colloquium "Ruth Speaks in Poems: Yiddish and English," at Boston University; and "Anzia Yezierska's *Hungry Hearts*: Fiction and Film," at the National Yiddish Book Center, Amherst, MA. Hellerstein continues to serve as poetry editor of *Kerem* and on the Editorial Advisory Board for *Nashim: A Journal of Jewish Women's Studies and Gender Issues*, as well as on the Jewish Publication Society's National Council.

Arthur Kiron, Curator of Judaica and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, continued to give many public lectures and tours for the University Library as well as organizing its annual concert. In addition, he co-curated a Fall 2002 library exhibit on "Writing Surfaces;" a Spring 2003 exhibit entitled "Inventing Liberty," based on the Marvin Weiner collection of pamphlets of the American Revolution; and the Fall 2003 exhibit, "The Meaning of Words," on Rabbinic Lexicography. During the year, he also lectured on "Port Jews in Colonial America" at Penn's McNeil Center for Early American Studies. Publications include: a review of Stefan Reif's *A Jewish Archive from Old Cairo* (Curzon, 2000) in the *Jewish Quarterly Review*; "The Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania," an overview of CAJS and its library in *AJS Perspectives* Newsletter, and "Varieties of Haskalah: Sabato Morais' Program of Sephardic Rabbinic Humanism in Victorian America" in *Reconfiguring Jewish Culture: From Al-Andalus to the Haskalah* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003).

Samuel Z. Klausner, Professor of Sociology Emeritus, has been awarded a grant from the University of Pennsylvania's Diversity Fund to complete the analysis and write a report on "Intergroup Relations at Penn in the Light of Penn's Social and Academic Organization," a research project he conducted in 1993 for the Commission on Strengthening the Community. Last December, he also delivered a paper at the Association of Jewish Studies conference on "The Origin of the Milk/Meat Taboo in the Light of the Sociology of Knowledge;" and translated, from Arabic, a research report produced by *Al-Jazeera* on the organization of Arab volunteers in the Arab/Israel conflict of 1948 as a model for recruiting foreign volunteers to Iraq to oppose the American invasion of 2003. The article was published in the Summer 2003 issue of the Newsletter of the American Veterans of Israel.

Robert Kraft, Professor of Religious Studies Emeritus, has entered into "semi-retirement" and is teaching only one graduate course each term while devoting himself more fully to the Penn papyri project and the completion of the textual variants module of the Computer Assisted Tools for Septuagint/Scriptural Studies project. During the past year, he co-chaired the Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins on "Parabiblical Literature of Early Judaism and Early Christianity" and will continue in 2003-2004. Recent publications include: "The Codex and Canon Consciousness," "The Amherst Papyri Revisited: Fragments of LXX/OG Manuscripts," and "Some Newly Identified LXX/OG Fragments among the Amherst Papyri at the Pierpont Morgan Library in NYC." His web page includes links to these and other projects at <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/rs/rak/kraft.html>

Ian S. Lustick, Bess W. Heyman Professor in the Political Science department, currently serves as Associate Director of the Solomon Asch Center for the Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict. With Professor Ann Lesch of Villanova University, Lustick was awarded a grant from the United States Institute of Peace for a project entitled "Predicaments of Palestinians and Jews: The Meanings of Exile, New Historical Knowledge, and the Return of Exiles." Under Lustick's direction, the Solomon Asch Center hosted two conferences of Israeli, Palestinian, and Israeli scholars during the past year on the project and is currently preparing an edited volume about it. At the Association for Israel Studies annual meeting this year, Professor Lustick delivered two papers—one analyzing Zionism, Post-Zionism, and Jewish fundamentalism in relation to a theory of ideology, the other using agent-based modeling and computer simulation to analyze the effects on regional stability of cycles of Israeli-Palestinian violence. Much of Lustick's time this year has

been spent responding to requests for appearances and commentary by national and international media outlets—among them, a featured appearance on a one hour show on Israeli history on C-Span; a Nightline interview (before the Iraq War) on the role of a neoconservative "cabal" in advocating war; and several appearances on Fox and NPR.

Millicent Marcus, Mariano DiVito Professor of Italian Studies and Director of the Center of Italian Studies and Film Studies, team-taught a course with Al Filreis last year entitled "Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film." Her recent book, entitled *After Fellini* includes two chapters on recent Italian films that take as their subject the Shoah: Francesco Rosi's "The Truce," based on Primo Levi's second Holocaust memoir; and of course, Roberto Benigni's "Life Is Beautiful." Her current research project is entitled "Return of the Repressed: Contemporary Italian film and Holocaust Memory."

Benjamin Nathans, Associate Professor of History, served as acting associate director of Penn's Center for Advanced Jewish Studies during 2002-3, where he helped run a year-long seminar on East European Jewry. As a spring 2003 CAJS fellow himself, Nathans presented a paper entitled "A 'Hebrew Drama': The Individual, the Collective, and the Problem of Crisis in Russian-Jewish History." His article "The Other Modern Jewish Politics: Integration and Modernity in Fin-de-Siècle Russia," appeared in Zvi Gitelman, ed., *The Emergence of Modern Jewish Politics: Bundism and Zionism in Eastern Europe*; and a Russian translation of his essay on Russian-Jewish historiography in the journal of the Jewish University in Moscow. Nathans' book *Beyond the Pale: The Jewish Encounter with Late Imperial Russia* was awarded the 2002 Koret Prize in Jewish history, and is currently being translated into Russian. During the 2002-3 academic year, Nathans spoke at the annual conferences of the Association for Jewish Studies, the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, as well as at Harvard, MIT, Northwestern, Yale, and the University of Delaware.

David B. Ruderman, Joseph Meyerhoff Professor of Modern Jewish History, begins his tenth year as director of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. During the past year, he launched a new book series, "Jewish Culture and Contexts," to be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press together with CAJS. He also produced a 24 part lecture series on "Modern Jewish Intellectual History" for the Teaching Company. Publications include: "Some Jewish Responses to Smallpox Prevention in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries: A New Perspective on the Modernization of European Jewry," in

Aleph, Historical Studies in Science and Judaism (2002); and "De culturele betekenis van het getto in de joodse geschiedenis [Dutch]," in *Leeser Rosenthal/Juda Palache-lezing* (Amsterdam, 2003). During the past year, he served as scholar-in-residence for the Chicago and Pacific coast regions of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and lectured at Brown University, at a conference sponsored by the Zamir Choral Foundation at Lincoln Center, NY; and at the General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities in Philadelphia. During Spring 2003, he was a visiting professor at University College London, and while in England delivered the Louis Littman Memorial Lecture at UCL; the Cecil Roth Memorial Lecture in London; the Selig Brodetsky Memorial Lecture at the University of Leeds; the Lesser Rosenthal/Judah Palache Lecture at the University of Amsterdam, as well as lectures at the Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris, the University of Duesseldorf, the University of Frankfurt, and at the Bar Hillel Colloquium in Tel Aviv, Israel. He continues to serve on the Academic Advisory Committee of the Mandel Center of Judaic Studies at the Hebrew University.

Jonathan Steinberg, Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Modern European History, continued to serve as Chair of the History department. During 2003, he published his translation of Lilian Karina and Marion Kant's *Hitlers Dancers: German Modern Dance and the Third Reich* (Berghahn Books), and in October, the Teaching Company published his "European History and European Lives: 1715 to 1914," an attempt to follow the modernization of Europe in those two centuries through 35 biographies. On November 4, 2003, he gave the Franklin College Switzerland annual alumni lecture in New York on "Why Ticino says No to Europe," and on November 25, 2003, he gave a lecture entitled "Milton Steinberg, American Rabbi: Thoughts on his Centenary," as the 18th Annual Joseph Alexander Colloquium in the Jewish Studies Program at Penn.

David Stern, Ruth Meltzer Professor of Classical Hebrew Literature, continued to serve as Director of Penn's Jewish Studies Program. During 2002-2003, he completed editing *The Anthology in Jewish Literature*, to be published this spring by Oxford; and published several articles including: "Agnon from a Medieval Perspective," in *History and Literature: New Readings of Jewish Texts in Honor of Arnold Band* (Brown Judaic Studies); the "Introduction" to the new edition of Louis Ginzberg's *Legends of the Jews* (Jewish Publication Society); and "On Canonization in Rabbinic Judaism," in *Homer, the Bible, and Beyond: Literary and Religious Canons in the Ancient World* (Brill). During the year, he also delivered papers at conferences at the University of Maryland and

FACULTY NEWS

About our Faculty (continued from page 15)

the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum, Ruprecht-Karls-Universitaet Heidelberg as well as at Princeton University and the Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins. In addition, Stern was appointed a judge on the Jewish Thought and Philosophy Panel of the Koret Jewish Book Prize, and served on the Academic Advisory Committee of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. During the summer, he also served as faculty at the annual Graduate Student Retreat sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research.

Jeffrey Tigay, A.M. Ellis Professor of Hebrew & Semitic Languages & Literatures, published a brief commentary on the book of Exodus in Oxford University Press's *Jewish Study Bible*; an article "Divine Creation of the King in Psalm 2:6," in a Festschrift for Hayim and Miriam Tadmor, and an article "What's in a Name," about ancient Hebrew names and their religious significance, in *Bible Review*. His 1982 book *The Evolution of the Gilgamesh Epic* was republished by Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, and plans are under way for the republishing of his *Empirical Models for Biblical Criticism* (1985). Tigay's commentary on Deuteronomy is being translated into Hebrew for the Israeli commentary series *Mikra le-Yisrael*. He spent the Spring, 2003 semester on leave working on two multi-year projects: writing a full-length Hebrew

commentary on Exodus for the Israeli series and editing the first volume (on the Biblical period) of *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization: Anthology of Primary Sources, Documents, Texts, and Artifacts*, a ten-volume series being published by Yale University Press.

Liliane Weissberg, Joseph B. Glossberg Term Professor in the Humanities, was a visiting professor in cultural studies at the Humboldt Universitaet in Berlin in Summer 2002, where she also presented a series of lectures on German-Jewish literature. She also presented papers at Swarthmore College; at the universities of Tuebingen, Heidelberg, Duesseldorf, Bochum, and Hamburg in Germany; at the Hebrew University and Ben Gurion University in Israel; and gave a keynote lecture at the celebration of the new postdoctoral program in Jewish Studies at the Universitaet Potsdam. Weissberg published articles in German-Jewish studies and completed a book manuscript on the emergence of German-Jewish autobiographical writing in the late eighteenth century. In the summer of 2003, she was a visiting professor in modern Jewish philosophy and history at the Hochschule fuer Juedische Studien in Heidelberg. During the spring semester, Weissberg received the Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Beth S. Wenger, the Katz Family Term Chair and Associate Professor in American Jewish History, is serving her final year as co-chair of the Women's Caucus of the Association for Jewish Studies. Her most recent essay, "Budgets, Boycotts and Babies: Jewish Women in the Great Depression," appeared in *American Jewish Women's History: A Reader*. Wenger delivered several lectures and conference papers, including "Jewish Patriotism on Parade," at the University of Minnesota, and "The History of American Jewish History" at Temple University. She is serving as a historical consultant for National Museum of American Jewish History, which will reopen in 2006, and is involved in planning several communal celebrations of the 350th anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States in 2004. She is also a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Center for Jewish History in New York and the Executive Committee of the American Jewish Historical Society's Academic Council. Wenger has agreed to publish her forthcoming book, tentatively titled, "History Lessons: The Invention of American Jewish Heritage," with Princeton University Press.

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