



# Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Newsletter | Fall 2017

## Director's Message



*The Hebrew Bible describes how when Joseph tasked his brothers to return to Canaan and bring their father Jacob back with them to the land of Egypt, he instructed them: Al tirgezu baderech, "Do not 'tirgezu' while traveling." This is perhaps best literally translated as "do not become agitated on the path [while traveling] and Rashi straightforwardly interprets this as a warning against fighting while traveling. The Talmud*

*(Ta'anit 10b) specifies that Joseph was warning against the study of Halacha (Jewish law) while traveling. Yet the Midrash argues that in fact one must study Halacha while traveling (as the best spiritual and ethical protection for the traveler). The Gemara specifies that such study should be general and not intensive -where intensive study might be so consuming as to make you inattentive and vulnerable on the road.*

The connection between study and travel is on my mind. Over the past year I enjoyed a six month sabbatical that allowed me to study broadly while traveling, and intensively here at home in Ottawa. One of my general goals for this past sabbatical was to deepen my understanding of Sephardic Judaism. Traveling through Gibraltar I learned about the vibrant Sephardic Orthodox community that boasts three kosher restaurants and a thriving Jewish day school. In Spain and Portugal I was troubled by how little there was to see of the Jewish past and sadly unsurprised at how Jews and their history serve as an object of the tourist gaze. One of the great pleasures of a sabbatical is the marathon of conferences that follow one after another and the rich conversations that proceed when scholars share their research together. My conference marathon began in New York, with stops in Israel, Toronto and Montreal, where my research partner, Professor Betina Appel Kuzmarov, and I shared our research on Jewish divorce in Canada.

Rabbi Morais of Temple Israel reminds me that the point of this story is that Joseph is warning his brothers to focus

on the task at hand and not be distracted by other things. My ability to focus on my sabbatical task was only possible because of the efforts of Dr. Susan Landau Chark who stepped into the role of acting Director and so ably guided the Zelikovitz Centre during my absence. Thank you Susan! Focusing on the task at hand became much more urgent this summer as we worked furiously to complete an article before Professor Appel Kuzmarov would give birth to her first child. We hit "send" on the submission of our article days before she gave birth to her little boy. Please join all of us at the Zelikovitz Centre in wishing her Mazel tov.

There is a joyful energy as the new academic year begins.

This year's "shidduch" or "matches" between partner agencies and students are promising and exciting as we welcome new students and partners. It is a sign of the success of this program (and Director Cindi Resnick's hard work) that even though we expanded the program to the absolute limits our budget would allow, we had the difficult task of turning away too many talented students and key placements once our cohort was full. As

I write this I am listening to this year's new cohort meet for the first time with Seminar Leader Carolyn Bickerton across the hall from my office. I'm impressed (and smiling) as I overhear Carolyn channelling their high spirits while they brainstorm during their first workshop. CHES continues to be Ottawa's leader in Holocaust education under the directorship of Mina Cohn and the tireless service of the volunteers that have made CHES such an important voice for remembrance and education in the community. This

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year's Holocaust Education Month program is rich, varied and substantive and we look forward to sharing with you the thoughtful conversations that they will elicit. September is the time when we welcome our new interns for the Developing Future Leaders program. This year's "shidduch" or "matches" between partner agencies and students are promising and exciting as we welcome new students and partners. It is a sign of the success of this program (and Director Cindi Resnick's hard work) that even though we expanded the program to the absolute limits our budget would allow, we had the difficult task of turning away too many talented students and key placements once our

cohort was full. As I write this I am listening to this year's new cohort meet for the first time with Seminar Leader Carolyn Bickerton across the hall from my office. I'm impressed (and smiling) as I overhear Carolyn channelling their high spirits while they brainstorm during their first workshop. Although it is only September, plans for the Israel travel course (May 2018) are coming together with new partners and programming. We are delighted to again partner with Hebrew University and now Tel Aviv University for key guest lectures by world-class researchers and opportunities for our students to come together and learn from each other. This year's program is even more focused on

highlighting the religious and cultural diversity of Israel both in historical and contemporary contexts. There is much excitement about the itinerary – particularly a new dig for a day program at Tel Maresha, the opportunity to hear from Women of the Wall, and of course camel rides.

Finally, I am so pleased to publicly share the news that Madame Justice Rosalie Abella will be speaking at Carleton University on December 7, 2017 at 7 pm. We will be sending more information in the next few weeks but please do save the date to hear from this extraordinary Canadian.

Wishing you a sweet new year of learning at home and abroad

## Welcome to the ZC team

The new academic year has begun, the leaves are changing colour, and the ZC team also starts a new year with new staff.

But first warm thank-yous for the good work achieved on behalf of the ZC, and hearty congratulations to several of the staff.

Esther Guillen, the ZC's Senior Administrative Assistant (2016-2017), is attending the University of Regina for her Masters in Religious Studies, working under Dr. William Arnal. Esther was awarded the Andras award in recognition of her research with professors Deidre Butler (Religion) and Betina Kuzmarov (Law) on a new interview based project focusing on Jewish divorce in the Canadian context. The Agunah project is a new (2016) interdisciplinary ethnographic project undertaken by Professors Deidre Butler (Religion, College of Humanities) and Betina Kuzmarov (Law). Esther's project focused on theoretical issues: specifically, on the application of Religious Studies theory to Jewish law (halakha) and ethnography, as well as the intersections of feminist theories of religion and Jewish feminist thought. She also developed a Hebrew language glossary for the project that will be used by future researchers.

Esther Vininsky-Oakes, the ZC's Junior Administrative Assistant and a DFL intern

(2016-2017), is a 3rd year exchange student at the University of Edinburgh, where she is continuing her undergraduate studies in English and History. Esther shared, "I hope to spend my 3rd year exploring the city of Edinburgh in order to experience local culture and visit important landmarks like castles, museums and tea shops."

Phil Angel, a Senior DFL intern, will continue as ZC's Communications Coordinator and Webmaster. His primary responsibilities are updating and maintaining the website, and communicating via social media important information concerning the ZC and its operations. The website in particular has undergone some extensive changes, and feedback is much appreciated. Phil recently completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa, and is now attending the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, in the Master's program in Zoology. He looks forward to staying on

with the ZC, continuing to improve its website and social media presence.

ZC's new General Administrative Assistant is Arden Hody, who is in her last year of the Bachelor of Humanities program. Arden is pursuing a Minor in English and a Minor in Religion. She comments that she is highly organized and logistics driven, skills that will be much appreciated by the ZC. These will also be very useful in continuing the work (making the ZC collection accessible to ZC researchers and others) that Esther Vininsky-Oakes began with George Duimovich, Head of Systems, and Assistant Head of Cataloguing and Collection at Carleton University's MacOdrum Library. Her academic and research interest is looking at religious and spiritual experience in public spaces, considering the process of secularization and disenchantment and the role of physical space in re-enchanting individuals in the modern world.



Please share your Jewish Studies news about publications (articles and books), events (on campus and in the community), courses, etc. The newsletter is published every early fall with a supplement in early winter when warranted. Send your information to [jewish.studies@carleton.ca](mailto:jewish.studies@carleton.ca) at any time and it will be included immediately on our web site and in the next issue.

# Upcoming Events — Fall 2017

Unless otherwise indicated events take place on the Carleton University Campus

Event	Date/Location	Description
<b>Professor Marc Saurette</b> Medieval and early modern cultures, politics, and religions	<b>November 2</b> 11:35-12:35 Canal Bldg, Room 2202	His topic will be "Jews in medieval Christendom". Suggested reading: <b>Blog post:</b> Race, Racism and the Middle Ages, by Matthew Chalmers. < <a href="http://www.publicmedievalist.com/anti-semitism-before-semities/">http://www.publicmedievalist.com/anti-semitism-before-semities/</a> >
<b>Prof. Rebecca Margolis and David Moskovic</b> , a Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES 2016 Testimonial Project	<b>November 7</b> 3:30 – 5:00 pm University of Ottawa; Simard Hall, Room 125, 60 University Private <b>RSVP required: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	<b>In Conversation with a Survivor</b> Watch David's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#10">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#10</a> >
<b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> , Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT	<b>November 9</b> 4:00- 5:15 p.m. University of Ottawa, Desmarais Hall, Room 1130 (DMS 1130), 55 Laurier Avenue East <b>RSVP required: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	<b>Lecture:</b> "The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw: The Afterlife of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising"
<b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> <b>Keynote Speaker</b> Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT	<b>November 9 –7pm</b> Kehillat Beth Israel 1400 Coldrey Avenue, Ottawa <b>All welcome to attend</b>	<b>Keynote address:</b> Launch of Holocaust Education Month: A Program in Memory of Kristallnacht: 'From Destruction to Rebirth: The Return of Life in the Jewish DP Camps'
<b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> , Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT	<b>November 10th</b> 10:00 a.m. Saint Paul University, Location TBD <b>Must RSVP: chesatcarleton@gmail.ca</b>	'After Auschwitz: Jewish Theological and Religious Responses to the Holocaust.' Doctoral Seminar. Graduate students and professors from institutions other than SPU are welcome.
<b>Rabbi S. Robert Morais</b> Spiritual Leader Temple Israel (Reform)	<b>November 14</b> 11:35-12:55 Canal Bldg, Room 2202	Rabbi Morais will be speaking on Egalitarianism in the Reform movement and the denominational debates.
<b>Descendants of Holocaust Survivors Speak Out</b> Nimrod Barkan, Elin Beaumont, Lawrence Greenspon, Prof Jan Grabowski, Artur Wilczynski	<b>November 14th</b> 7:00 p.m. Kehillat Beth Israel 1400 Coldrey Avenue, Ottawa <b>Registration required.</b> <b>To RSVP: <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/events/2nd-generation-forum/">https://carleton.ca/ches/events/2nd-generation-forum/</a></b>	Memory, Identity and Emerging Narratives: A panel discussion An event for descendants of survivors.
<b>Rabbi Idan Sher</b> Spiritual Leader Machzikai Hadas (Orthodox)	<b>November 16</b> 11:35-12:55 Canal Bldg, Room 2202	Rabbis and Women in Orthodoxy and the denominational debates.
Actor <b>Alon Nashman</b> will perform excerpts from the one-man play Hirsch, created and written by Alon Nashman and Paul Thompson. The program will include reminiscences by <b>Peter Herndorf</b> , CEO of the National Arts Centre, actor <b>Marilyn Lightstone</b> , and others	<b>November 16, 7:00 PM</b> National Arts Centre, O'Born Room <b>RSVP required: <a href="mailto:eton@nac-cna.ca">eton@nac-cna.ca</a></b>	<b>Remembering John Hirsch</b> John Hirsch was born in Hungary and survived the Holocaust in Budapest. He arrived in Canada at the age of 17 in 1947, through the War Orphans Project of the Canadian Jewish Congress. He was adopted by Alex and Pauline Shack of Winnipeg. It was in Winnipeg that Hirsch started his theater career which included years as Head of Drama at the CBC and Director of the Stratford Festival. His love for the arts and creativity as a director quickly won him recognition in Canada and beyond.
<b>Prof. Pamela Walker and Judy Young Drache</b> A Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES Testimony Project	<b>November 20th</b> 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. University Centre, Room 182	<b>In Conversation with a Survivor</b> Watch Judy's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/</a> >
<b>Teachers' Workshop 2017</b> Keynote address: Robbie Waisman	<b>November 23rd</b> 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. Temple Israel 1301 Prince of Wales Dr, Ottawa <b>Registration required by Nov 9th, 2017. To register visit: <a href="http://bit.ly/cheSTEACHERS">http://bit.ly/cheSTEACHERS</a></b>	70 years since the arrival of 1,123 Holocaust orphans to Canada. Immigration and Refugees: Then and Now. What Can We Learn? Special presentation by <b>Judy Trinh</b> of CBC Ottawa, a Vietnamese Boat refugee, and <b>Elin Beaumont</b> of the Azrieli Foundation, with a new interactive educational program.
<b>Prof. Deidre Butler and Kati Morrison</b> A Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES Testimony Project	<b>November 28</b> 11:35-12:55 Canal Bldg, Room 2202 The public is welcome. <b>RSVP <a href="mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com">chesatcarleton@gmail.com</a></b>	<b>In Conversation with a Survivor</b> Watch Kati's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#9">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#9</a> >
<b>Rabbi Eytan Kentor</b> Spiritual Leader Kehillat Beth Israel (Conservative)	<b>December 5</b> 11:35-12:55 Canal Bldg, Room 2202	Same Sex Marriage and Divorce and the denominational debates.

Continued on next page.

# Upcoming Events — Fall 2017

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Event	Date/Location	Description
<b>Shimon Fogel</b> Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)	<b>December 6</b> 11:35-12:35 Canal Bldg, Room 2202	Israel and Jewish Canadians
<b>An Evening with Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella</b>	<b>December 7</b> 7:00 PM Richcraft Building, 2nd Floor Conference Rooms <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/cu-events/supreme-court-justice-evening/">carleton.ca/jewishstudies/cu-events/supreme-court-justice-evening/</a>	<b>Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella</b> will speak on: DEFINING EQUALITY: WHY IDENTITY MATTERS
<b>ZC Open House</b>	December 12 2-4pm River Building, 1st floor 1401R -C	
<b>SAVE THIS DATE</b>	March 18, 2018	LIMMUD

## Welcome Back! Cindi Resnick — Director, Developing Future Leader's Program

The ZC is thrilled that Cindi is continuing in her role with the DFL program.

As mentioned in our introductory notes last fall when Cindi first joined the ZC, she brings her extensive experience in advocacy to DFL, as well as a background in social services and administration.

ZC is very proud of the students who

participate in the DFL program and takes great pleasure in announcing their successes.

Senior intern for 2016-2017, Eyal Podalsky was a 2017 Jewish Community Service Award Recipient, receiving the Student Award from the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. This award recognizes a student currently pursuing a post-secondary degree who demonstrates leadership and outstanding commitment to the Ottawa Jewish community. Eyal was vice president and president of Sir Robert Borden's Jewish Culture Club, volunteered with Hillel Lodge and participated as a Junior and Senior intern in the DFL program.

Also, congratulations are due to DFL alum, Junior intern, Elise Bigley, who did her internship

with CHES in 2016-2017, and who is now the Director of Culture Affairs with the Embassy of Israel in Canada. Elise will be assisting the ZC with the Israel Travel Course (to take place May 2018).

This year, DFL's eighth cohort has four returning interns (seniors): Phil Angel, Nehara Mor, Zach Morris, and Tamara Spitzer. There are seven juniors: Dayna Goldfarb, Jared Hillel, Josh Layani, Hannah Luden, Hannah Novack, Austin Pellizer, and Mushka Teitelbaum.

The core of the DFL program is to create opportunities for the student to hone their net-working and problem-solving skills while becoming adept at presenting themselves and their ideas in a variety of settings.

Agencies participating in the 2017-2018 placements are the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA), Embassy of Israel, Hillel Ottawa/Save a Child's Heart, JCC After School program, Limmud, Ottawa's Jewish Home for the Aged (Hillel Lodge), Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, Ottawa Modern Jewish School, Tamir, and the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies.



**DFL Cohort 2016-2017: From left to right:** Ariel Shapiro, Cindi Resnick (Director DFL), Nehara Mor, Elise Bigley, Sascha Chuchin, Esther Vininsky Oakes, Zachary Morris, Tamara Spitzer, Carolyn Bickerton (DFL Seminar Facilitator). Missing: Phil Angel, Alexandra Brenner, Megan Hollinger, Brenna MacKay, Eyal Podolsky, Cassandra Powell.

## Welcome back! Carolyn Bickerton DFL Seminar Facilitator

Building on the success of last year's Developing Future Leaders seminars, facilitator Carolyn Bickerton is looking forward to working with a new group of interns for 2017-2018. "It was an amaz-

ing experience working with such a great group of motivated students, I look forward to seeing what this group will accomplish" she comments. As part of last year's program the group raised over

\$2600 for Shalom Bayit, (Ottawa's support agency for abused Jewish women) through a peer to peer campaign and a comedy night fundraiser.

Carolyn is the owner of Purewater.

Together with her husband, they have grown a small seasonal business into Ottawa's leading home leisure and recreation business. Carolyn directly manages their Service department, Warehousing and Human Resources. With a staff of 30, she hires (and fires) staff at Purewater, and as such is acutely aware of what makes or breaks a good employee.

In her volunteer life, she is active within the Jewish community, and in her professional association, in both follower and leadership roles. She notes that, "a good leader must also know how to follow." Carolyn is excited to be facilitating the students upon their entry into a formal working relationship with the Jewish community of Ottawa. In sharing her thoughts about volunteerism, she notes.

"As a volunteer, I strongly believe that you have to do whatever it takes to get the job done. Not all jobs are exciting and challenging, sometimes a job can be very mundane. Either way, my volunteer life has been very rewarding, not only in networking and business contacts, but in also reminds me how much difference an in-

dividual can really make."

The first seminar is scheduled on September 10th, 2017 and Carolyn will prepare the interns for their placements by drawing on her 25 years of business experience. Her "Ten Tips for Every Employee" will allow interns to excel at their placements.

The day will be rounded out with several group exercises and roundtables that will help the interns understand each other and the Ottawa Jewish Community at large.

Similar to last year, seminars will follow in the Fall and Winter terms with an event tentatively planned for February. Guest speakers from inside and outside the Ottawa Jewish community, including fundraising professionals, will participate,



**2017-2018 DFL cohort: Front Row (left-right): Bridget Wittla (withdrew), Dayna Goldfarb, Mushka Teitlebaum, Hannah Luden, Josh Layani, Austin Pellizzer, Carolyn Bickerton (DFL Seminar Facilitator). Back Row (left-right): Zach Morris, Tamar Spitzer, Dr. Deidre Butler (ZC Director), Jared Hillel, Hannah Novack.**

enriching the experience of the interns. We will engage in another fundraising project to support an Ottawa Jewish organization. This will provide the interns with "hands-on" experience as they learn about and participate in various aspects of fundraising. Our goal is to give our interns the tools to succeed at their placement, and equip them for an engaged life in the Jewish Community.

## Faculty Members' Corner

### PAMELA WALKER



Pamela Walker joined Carleton's Department of history in 1991. From 2007 to 2012, she was the Director of the Centre for Initiatives in Education (CIE) at Carleton University, which provides a variety of programs to support non-traditional students entering BA studies.

In 2011, until 2014, Pamela was Joint Chair in Women's Studies/Chaire Conjointe en Etudes des Femmes, a joint research and teaching position under

Carleton University and the University of Ottawa.

Her research interests have focused on several specific areas: the history of Christianity, particularly as it relates to the development of the Salvation Army; the history of race and what "whiteness" means, Women's and gender history, especially how these co-exist within the Protestant and missionizing milieu, and lastly Modern Britain, as the back drop of much of her research on missionizing.

When considering the role of women and their place in the overall structure of the Salvation Army, Jewish history in general seems far removed from this research path.

Yet it is not. British missionaries were very enamoured with the new Jewish immigrants in their midst and most Protestant groups dedicated people and funds to work within the Jewish communities. Pamela notes that in researching for her project Missions to the Metropolis,

British missionaries were heavily influenced by the idea of British Israelism which asserted that British people were the lost tribes of Israel. Thus they felt they had a special connection to the Jewish immigrants then arriving in Britain. She notes that more money was spent on converting the Jews than all the missions to Africa, China, and India. Her research explores the connections between nation, religion and gender, within a specific milieu, 19th century Protestant Britain, and thus provides another perspective on how religious British Protestant society dealt with the changes taking place. In terms of the Jewish experience, it will also provide another layer of how the Jewish community confronted these challenges, and why even today, unlike the Jews who moved to America, in the late 19th and early 20th century, the Jews who settled in Britain always viewed themselves as outsiders.

The ZC looks forward to leaning more about this very fascinating topic.

# Spotlight on our External Research Affiliates

The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) recognizes the need to develop opportunities for scholarly collaboration. We regularly invite emerging scholars, graduate students, and faculty at other universities, as well as independent scholars to partner with the ZC and our researchers. Although Research Affiliate positions are unpaid, the ZC offers scholars a place to share

their work-in-progress, and their completed research and publications, to encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches. Where possible, the ZC invites scholars from off campus to present to the public, and participate in Carleton courses.

Below we are highlighting 3 of our recent Research affiliates:

## Rohee Dasgupta, PhD



Dr. Rohee Dasgupta is Associate Professor and Executive Director of the Centre for European Studies, and founder of the Israel Studies at the Jindal School (August 2012), which has hosted more than 30 academic events since its inception in . She teaches graduate courses on

Israeli Society and Culture and European Geo-politics, and she has been actively organizing seminars and conferences involving international scholars and delegates for both centres. Her Ph.D on the *Renewal of Polish Jewish Identity and Rights in Poland post 1945*, will be published as a monograph with Lexington Books in 2018. Her research interests are in the areas of Jewish identity and Israeli culture, and Holocaust research and education. This past summer, Rohee was a Visiting Professor at Carleton University's Faculty of Public Affairs and the BGInS program. From Ottawa, she went to Oxford, where the opportunity to be a fellow in Antisemitism Studies at the Oxford Summer Institute for Antisemitism and Global Policy helped her with a gradu-

ate course she designed for the current semester "The Holocaust, Israel, and Antisemitism: Interdisciplinary debates." She is also currently studying the nature of American-Israeli Sister city partnerships. The first case-study where she has been conducting ethnographic fieldwork are the Jewish communities in St. Louis, MO and Yokneam-Megiddo, Israel. Her interest in Jewish identity and multi-sited ethnography motivated her to work on the project. She is presently editing two books on Jewish Anthropology in 21st Century (with Dr. Yulia Egorova, Durham University, UK) and Global Approaches to Holocaust Education (with Dr. Navras Jaat Aafreedi, Presidency University, India). She tweets: @roheedg

## David S. Koffman, PhD



David S. Koffman is social and cultural historian of 19th and 20th century Jewish life in the United States and Canada. He is an assistant professor in the Department of History at York University in Toronto,

and the editor-in-chief of the journal *Canadian Jewish Studies / Études juives canadiennes*. David earned his PhD from the Departments of History and Hebrew & Judaic Studies from NYU in 2011. He held a SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Toronto where he began a new research project on the history of circumcision debates in 20th century America. This project examines Jewish responses to circumcision and the shift from a religious ritual to a routine medical procedure at the intersection of the histories of medicine, religion, and affect. He has published work on Jews' relationships with Native Americans in the U.S. and First Nations in Canada, Canadian Jewish life, and the field of Canadian Jewish Studies. His first book, *The Jews' Indian: Colonialism, Pluralism and Belonging*

*in America*, about encounters between American Jews and Native Americans from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century, is expected in print in early 2018 with Rutgers University Press. He teaches courses at all levels of the undergraduate curriculum at York University including "A Convenient Hatred: Antisemitism before, during, and after the Holocaust," "Worry & Wonder: Jewish Politics, Religion and Culture in Canada," *God / USA: Religion in America Since 1491*," "History of Me: The Genealogy Seminar," "More Money than God: A History of Religion and Capitalism," and a General Education course entitled "Making Money," that weaves together different scholarly disciplines' questions and answers about money.

# Spotlight on our External Research Affiliates

James W. Nelson Novoa, PhD



James W. Nelson Novoa is assistant professor of Spanish and Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the University of Ottawa. He has a doctorate in Hispanic studies from the University of Valencia (Spain) and has had postdoctoral fellowships in Portugal and Israel. The author of two books and numerous articles and book chapters his research centres on Iberian and Italian cultural relations in the early modern period, the role of Sephardic Jews and their

descendants as cultural intermediaries, the Portuguese New Christian diaspora and questions of religious alterity in the late middle ages and early modern period. His current research interests include the reception of humanism among fifteenth-century Iberian Jews and the commercial and social networks of late sixteenth-century and early seventeenth-century Portuguese New Christians between Portugal, Italy, Brazil and Amsterdam.

## The ZC Welcomes Research Affiliates

Our network of research affiliates continues to grow (44 affiliates as of August 2017). If you know of anyone who might be interested in becoming an active member of the Jewish Studies research community at the Zelikovitz Centre please encourage them to contact us.

Interested candidates should email [jewish\\_studies@carleton.ca](mailto:jewish_studies@carleton.ca) with a letter of introduction, CV, photo, and

short research statement, noting areas of interest as they pertain to Jewish Studies, which will be made public on our website. Applications should contain subject line: ZC Research Associate. All Research Affiliates have full online and on-site access to Carleton University libraries. In exchange, incumbents are expected to participate in one conference or event over the course of their 3 year term.

## Ruth Gavison, Guest Lecturer, Annual Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Lecture



Brenna Mackay,  
2016-2017 DFL Intern

The Religion Program of the College of Humanities and the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies hosted Professor Ruth Gavison, guest speaker for the 2017 Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Lecture.

On the evening of March 30, Carleton University welcomed keynote speaker Ruth Gavison to discuss the regulation of marriage and divorce in modern day Israel. A crowd of academics, students

and members of both the Jewish and Carleton community arrived at the Azrieli Theatre to listen to her speak. Gavison is a prominent professor, author and award-winning researcher at Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Some of her research interests include ethics, law, religion and philosophy.

Her lecture began by briefly describing the history behind the present state of family law in Israel. She explained that Israel is the only western democracy that has legal sanctions over marriage and divorce. Despite the fact that the majority of Jews in Israel disagree with the current regulations, the law favours the viewpoint of the Orthodox minority in the country.

Gavison posed a question to the crowd, “why can’t the majority of people in a democratic state change the law?”

She followed by suggesting we first

need to understand the context in which these laws first developed. She brought us back to the development of the Millet system of marriage that originated in the Ottoman Empire. When the State of Israel was established in 1948, all religions had a monopoly over marriage within their own communities. Five years later, Israel enacted its own arrangement for Jews that put restrictions on marriage outside the religious community. The orthodox argument for this being that Israel could not afford to establish a system where Jews are not marrying each other. Allowing mixed marriage can be perceived as admitting an ambivalence or indifference to maintaining your tradition. This is particularly true as Israel is already a minority country within the larger Muslim

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majority, Arab world.

"[Mixed marriage] sends a message that says individuality is more important than the survival of the larger community," she explained.

Due to the cultural mosaic of modern Israel, Gavison says it's important to think of the non-Jews living in the state and how changing the laws would affect them. The current political and cultural climate between Jews, Muslims and Christians living in Israel highlights this point.

Gavison believes that Muslim and Christian Arabs living in Israel would vote against civil marriage, given the current political climate. The issue of marriage goes beyond the current political and social context. It becomes a question how to maintain values of family, tradition, religion and ultimately, the Jewishness of the state of Israel.

The lecture concluded with a series of thought-provoking questions from audience members, followed by a reception with light refreshments and engaging

conversation.

The evening was sponsored by the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, The Bora Laskin Law Society, Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Embassy of Israel in Canada, the Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University, the Religion Program, College of Humanities, Carleton University, and the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, Carleton University.

## Ruth Gavison Seminar: Human Rights and Mass Immigration



Esther Vininsky-Oakes 2016-2017  
DFL intern

It was serendipitous that Professor Christiane Wilkes happened to be teaching a seminar on Human Rights: Contexts and Controversies this past semester, and willingly offered her class time to host the 2017 Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Lecture speaker Professor Ruth Gavison.

In her seminar, Professor Ruth Gavison discussed the human rights concerns surrounding mass-immigration in the

21st century and the need to improve coordinated immigration policy. Professor Gavison addressed migration as an issue that needs to be dealt with through international and national legislation. She commented that since human rights relies on a political framework to ensure its enforcement, as in order for someone to have rights there needs to be people enforcing those rights. Professor Gavison also argued that human rights rhetoric advocating for immigrant rights does not build policy; therefore, migration should be an issue that is dealt with structurally, not through abstract morality. Human rights can be a motivator for action, but is not an adequate enough tool to deal with a crisis. Unfortunately, humanizing migrants, refugees and asylum seekers does not create structures of policy and legislation. She noted that this failure to

effectively manage refugees and divide them amongst European countries represents a failure of the international community that necessitates action. Professor Christiane Wilke (Department of law and legal studies) actively engaged with these issues as well by responding to Professor Gavison's argument and offering her own perspective on this complex international concern. To conclude, Professor Gavison and Professor Wilke successfully navigated the role of human rights in immigration policy and discussed difficult, highly-contentious political issues in an open manner, leaving room for discussion and further interpretations.

The seminar, was hosted by the Department of Law and Legal Studies, Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies.

## Travel Israel with the Israel Study Course

Masada. The Gardens of Gethsemane. The Bahai Gardens. The Al Aqsa Mosque. The Western Wall.

In May 2018, Carleton students will again be traveling to Israel and walking through these ancient sites, experiencing them not only as travelers but as young scholars.

The Israel Travel Course poster touts 5000 years of religion and culture in 20

days. If that sounds like a marathon, it is!

Open to undergraduate and graduate students, the course explores religion and culture in the land of Israel from the ancient period to the present day. Practically, that means that our traveling classroom will include exploring 14 archeological

sites (including a Dig for a Day), walking each of the stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa, experiencing the beauty of Al Aqsa, moving through the cool stone interiors of a medieval fort in Akko, meeting contemporary activists such the Women of the Wall.



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## Living History

Learning about the Bar Kokhba revolt in class was always interesting – it’s an exciting story about the near-successful overthrow for Roman imperial power by a small underdog community of Jews. ... Learning about Bar Kokhba in the setting of modern-day Israel became interesting for other reasons on this trip. By being in the tunnels and crawling into one of the caves, we were able to participate in this history. Watching the desert landscape pass us by as we drove to the cave on the bus brought the Revolt into my own life in a way that enabled me to understand it as I never had before.

([www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsour/Judaism/revolt1.html](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsour/Judaism/revolt1.html))

**Sophie Crump** - currently MA student in Religion and Public Life

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This year’s course also brings together Carleton students with international scholars and students through a partnership with Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University. Fortified by much falafel and ice cream, students experience the rhythms of life in Israel as a culturally and religiously diverse modern country: from lunch with the Druze, to a traditional home Shabbat in Jerusalem, floating in the Dead Sea, camel riding in the Judean desert, hearing the call to prayer from Mosques against the chiming of church bells and the loud beats of dance music in the streets.

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## Climbing Masada

We arrived at the site after four a.m. and climbed the fortress in order to be able to see the sunrise over the Dead Sea. I had already climbed the fortress before, however this time it seemed to take much longer and be much more difficult (definitely the most physically exhausting thing I had done in a very long time). I was later told that we had actually climbed up the “snake path” and not the ramp that the Romans had built to lay siege on the fortress. Trying to pace myself zig-zagging in the almost total darkness, I kept telling myself not to look up too frequently only to see how much further I had to climb, and tried to remind myself how the invading Romans must have done something very similar in heavy armour. Once I had finally made it up to the top, completely exhausted, I was excited to see the rest of the group there, waiting for the sun to rise. It was a really beautiful experience, and it

was hilarious to take part in cheering on Helios/Apollo with the rest of the group as the sun steadily crept up over the horizon.

**Natalie Pochtaruk** - current Humanities student

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Participants are characteristically diverse in their backgrounds and academic interests. The course has no prerequisites and attracts students from all programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as auditors who are interested in traveling with an academic focus and experts in the area.

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## Thinking about Israeli Independence Day

The one difficult part, which the readings brought up, is the fact that for Arabs, this holiday is in fact a day of mourning, for the country, land, and independence that was lost. Despite the almost Biblical return of the Jews to the land of Israel, the Palestinian displacement is just one example (albeit a very significant one) of the various religious claims within Israel.

**Simon Zeldin** - (4th year student in 2014)

**Sarah Crook** - currently MA student in Religion and Public Life

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I was happy to dance and have fun with Israeli students, but I was completely overcome by the sight of the running Orthodox men. Some had their arms around each others’ shoulders and they skipped and sang even as they ran. I was overjoyed simply at their display of joy and the fact that they had an environment in which they could engage in such a euphoric celebration of the state. I saw all members of Israeli society celebrate that night. Arabic music and dancing in the streets, a secular party environment, and a riotous and orthodox run around the wall. I’d be lying if I said that I knew what to make of it, but I saw a lot of joy from various different factions in Israeli society and the joy gives me great hope. Though what I have read presented the idea of rifts between members of Israeli society, I saw only happiness. The groups may not have been celebrating immediately together but they celebrated the same thing at the same time in the same place. And if you can agree on at least one thing, I would say you have at least a starting point for unity. The shared air of celebration was a sight that gave

me great hope for positive relations between Israelis and Arabs and understanding between Jews in Israel who adhere to different types of Judaism.

**Sarah Cook** - currently MA student in Religion and Public Life

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Religious difference is part of the history of this land, and part of the appeal of the course for many students –they want to understand what they see in the news. While the focus of the course is not the conflict, participants inevitably come away with a richer, more personal and more nuanced understanding of the history this place and how that history drives contemporary debates.

This year’s course is again being offered by Professor Deidre Butler, Religion program, College of Humanities. In the hopes of building a long term sustainable Israel travel course bi-annual program through university partnerships, Professor Mary Hale (Religious Studies, St-Mary’s University, Halifax) will be joining the course with several of her undergraduate and MA students.

Spaces are available for both students and auditors with online applications and a **150\$ refundable deposit due Oct 22**. More info about the course (including fees and deadlines) [carleton.ca/studyisrael/about/](http://carleton.ca/studyisrael/about/)

Questions? Contact Deidre Butler [deidre.butler@carleton.ca](mailto:deidre.butler@carleton.ca)

Course travel itinerary: [carleton.ca/studyisrael/itinerary/](http://carleton.ca/studyisrael/itinerary/)

The Zelikovitz Center for Jewish Studies is fundraising to assist students with their travel costs. Please speak to Professor Butler if you are eager to participate but are concerned about costs.

The main obstacle to participating in travel courses is always financial. With the Canadian dollar’s fluctuations, students need even more support. To help our students participate, please visit: [futurefunder.carleton.ca/project/study-israel-2018/](http://futurefunder.carleton.ca/project/study-israel-2018/)

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All quotes by student from public Israel course student blog from 2014 (permissions given)

Join us on our virtual venture:



“Like” us on Facebook at [facebook.com/ZelikovitzCentre](https://www.facebook.com/ZelikovitzCentre)

## Words from the Director



Mina Cohn

Our spring and summer turned out to be very productive, full of activities in pursuit of new ideas, new contacts, and a vision for the future. There is so much to report it is hard to know where to start. We welcome the opportunity to cooperate with the Azrieli Foundation on future edu-

cational projects. We were also delighted to partner with the National Holocaust Monument Council on a special event to honour the launch of the monument. The National Holocaust Monument's inauguration on September 27 was a momentous occasion for Canada and especially for Ottawa; we congratulate everyone who was involved in making it a reality! To further emphasize this milestone, CHES believed it was fitting to hold a special evening program with speakers from the Monument's Council. You can read more about it in this newsletter.

We are also very excited that our Survivors' Testimonial Project videos, which were completed last fall, were added in August to the online main collection catalog of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM). Increased searches of the museum's collection over the past 10 years and USHMM access to the archives

at Bad Orelson, Germany, will guarantee more exposure for our films, and more educational opportunities. Thus, CHES survivors' testimonials will be available to millions more people.

CHES committee members have also been busy developing stimulating and meaningful programs for Holocaust Education Month (HEM). I invite you all to check out the upcoming events and join us in November.

As we turn our thoughts to HEM, we are reminded of the sad passing this past spring of a dear friend, Holocaust survivor and educator, David Shentow. David devoted a great deal of his time sharing his painful memories with the young generation. His gentle humanity touched us all. His message: "though we might never truly understand the Holocaust, we must teach it to make sure it is never forgotten" inspires us all. We will greatly miss David.

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## Powerful Lineup of Holocaust Education Month Events

By Toby Herscovitch

The upcoming programs of the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) during 2017 Holocaust Education Month (HEM) this November focus on the theme Immigration and Refugees: Then and Now, which is more meaningful than ever in the aftermath of growing anti-Semitism and racism in North America and beyond. Following is an overview of the flagship HEM programs and additional special events.

Holocaust Education Month will be launched Nov 9 with a presentation by Dr. Avinoam Patt (see full article p. 12)

Following the success of last year's **2nd Generation Symposium** for descendants of survivors, where they expressed a strong desire to reconnect and share their experiences, this year's event aims

to bring their level of influence up a notch. Titled "Descendants of Holocaust Survivors Speak Out: Memory, Identity and Emerging Narratives", the focus will be on identifying and strengthening the voice, narrative and role of descendants in carrying on the legacy of the Holocaust. Understanding that the story of the Holocaust did not end with their parents/relatives, many descendants believe they have a moral obligation to share these stories in new ways, to prevent hate crimes and work towards achieving greater human harmony. In the words of Rabbi A. I. Kook: "I don't speak because I have the power to speak; I speak because I cannot remain silent." The event will feature a panel of prominent descendants of survivors. They include Israel's Ambassador to Canada Nimrod Barkan; Education Outreach and Program Facilitator, Holocaust Survivor Memoir Program of

the Azrieli Foundation Elin Beaumont; Defence Attorney Lawrence Greenspon; and University of Ottawa Professor of History Jan Grabowski. Canada's Ambassador to Norway and Canada's representative on the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), Artur Wilczynski will transmit opening remarks by video. Descendants of Survivors Forum, will be on November 14 7:00 pm, Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Avenue.

This event is for descendants of survivors.

Sponsors of this event are KBI, CHES, and the Azrieli Foundation. RSVP required: [chesatcarleton@gmail.com](mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com)

As part of our theme this November we are **Remembering John Hirsch** in recognition of his contributions to Canadian Theatre on the 70th anniversary of his arrival to Canada as one of 1123 Holocaust orphan refugees. This special program with

actor Alon Nashman, who will perform excerpts from *Hirsch*, Peter Herrndorf, CEO of the National Arts Centre, actor Marilyn Lightstone, and others, is a tribute to the life of John Hirsch. John Hirsch was born in Hungary and survived the war in Budapest. Hirsch arrived to Canada at the age of 17 in 1947 through the War Orphans Project of the Canadian Jewish Congress. Hirsch was adopted by Alex and Pauline Shack of Winnipeg. It was in Winnipeg that Hirsch started his theater career. His love for the arts and his creativity as a director quickly won him recognition in Canada and beyond.

This program takes place, November 16 7:00 p.m., National Arts Centre, O’Born Room.

Remembering John Hirsch is co-sponsored by NAC, and CHES.

### Teachers’ Workshop

Temple Israel 1301 Prince of Wales Dr  
November 23, 2017 4:30 – 8:30 pm

The Teachers’ Workshop is one of the linchpins of our Holocaust education platform, given that educators can carry our vital mission and messages farther and faster than one organization can do alone. This year will mark 70 years since the arrival of 1,123 Holocaust orphans to Canada (from 1947 to 1949), after the closed doors policy of the Canadian Government that existed between 1933-1947 was lifted. Our speakers will reflect on: “Immigration and Refugees Then and Now: What Can

We Learn?” Keynote speaker Robbie Waisman, one of those orphans now living in Vancouver, will share his dramatic story and the importance of community involvement in his absorption into Canada.

Similarly, CBC journalist Judy Trinh, who arrived in Canada as a refugee with the Vietnamese “Boat People,” will describe her journey to Canada and how the local community made her family feel welcome in their new country. Elin Beaumont of the Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program at the Azrieli Foundation will reflect on a new online interactive experience that invites users to explore the firsthand accounts of Holocaust survivors published in the Azrieli Series of Holocaust Survivor Memoirs.

This program is co-sponsored by Temple Israel, Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, Azrieli Foundation, and CHES. Registration is required, contact: [chesatcarleton@gmail.com](mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com)

### HEM: In Conversation with a Survivor Series

Two professors from Carleton University and one from the University of Ottawa will be welcoming a survivor to their classroom. With each survivor, the CHES’ survivors’ testimonials will also debut as educational tools for classroom use.

On November 7, 3:30 – 5:00 pm, **Dr. Rebecca Margolis** will host a conversation with survivor **David Moskovic** and screen his testimonial. David Moskovic

was born in Czechoslovakia. He survived Bunalager (Buna) slave labor camp (a sub-camp of Auschwitz) and Buchenwald concentration camp. The public is welcome. This conversation will take place at the University of Ottawa; Simard Hall, room 506, 60 University Private, in cooperation with the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program, University of Ottawa.

On November 20, 10:00 – 11:30 am, **Dr. Pamela Walker** will host a conversation with survivor **Judy Young Drache** in her Women’s History Class. Judy was born in Budapest, Hungary. While her parents were sent to Auschwitz, she survived as a hidden baby. Students will watch the survivor’s testimonial beforehand. This conversation will take place at Carleton University, University Centre Room 182, in cooperation with the Department of History, Carleton University.

On November 28, 11:35-12:55, **Dr. Deidre Butler** will host a conversation with survivor **Kati Morrison** and screen her testimonial in her “Introduction to Judaism” class. Kati was born in Budapest, Hungary. She survived with the help of her grandmother in a safe house and in the Budapest Ghetto. The public is welcome but please RSVP: [chesatcarleton@gmail.com](mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com)

This conversation will take place at Carleton University, Canal Building, room 2202, in cooperation with the Department of Religion, Carleton University.

## Holocaust Education Month Launch Event in Memory of Kristallnacht.

November 9, 7:00 pm.  
Kehillat Beth Israel Synagogue,  
1400 Coldrey Avenue

Under the theme of *Immigration and Refugees, Then and Now*, CHES will launch HEM in memory of Kristallnacht, with a fascinating and timely presentation by the eminent Dr. Avinoam Patt, Phillip D. Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History and Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, Connecticut. Dr Patt is also Director of

the Museum of Jewish Civilization in Hartford.

His topic “From Destruction to Rebirth: The Return of Life in the Jewish DP Camps” will highlight the revival of survivors lives after the Holocaust’s devastation, and reflect on the potential power of refugees, given the right conditions to recreate themselves.

This event is in cooperation with Kehillat Beth Israel Synagogue, the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, the Embassy of



Dr. Avinoam Patt

Continued on next page

the United States of America, Saint Paul University, and the University of Ottawa. Dr. Patt will present two other lectures during his stay in Ottawa. On November 9, 4:00- 5:15 pm, University of Ottawa; location TBA, he will speak about “The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw: The Afterlife of the

Warsaw Ghetto Uprising,” to Professor Jan Grabowski’s class, Department of History, University of Ottawa.

On November 10, 10:00 am, Saint Paul University; location TBA. Dr. Patt will present “After Auschwitz: Jewish Theological and Religious Responses to the Holocaust.”

This lecture is hosted by Professor Yvan Mathieu, the Dean of the Faculty of Theology, St. Paul University. Graduate students and professors from institutions other than SPU are welcome but must RSVP to [chesatcarleton@gmail.com](mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com).

## CHES Education and Remembrance

### Yad Vashem’s Ambassador of Change Program – CHES Contributes for Second Year.

Education starts with the young and one of the best ways to reach this demographic is through the annual multicultural Ambassadors of Change Program, held this year on May 8 at the National Arts Centre, as part of National Holocaust Remembrance Day, led by Yad Vashem.

“The ambassadors program provides an important opportunity for nearly 200 students of various faiths and cultures from Ottawa, Toronto, and Montreal to meet survivors and to hear firsthand about their experiences during and after World War II,” says Mina Cohn, Director of CHES, which coordinated the attendance of 50 Ottawa students from various local high schools.

Students were divided into groups and a survivor within each group shared his/her own family and survival story. The award-winning Ottawa educator Patrick Mascoc led this inspiring educational program. Following the testimony, students engaged



Caption goes here

in a Q&A with the survivor and a theme-based exploration of the Holocaust.

The program challenges students to share their ideas about the dangers of intolerance in today’s world, propose steps to promote acceptance and understanding in their own communities, and define their roles as responsible Canadian citizens.

“Today was incredible!!” said teacher Crestina Pasco, Notre Dame High School. “It has meant so much to both myself and the students to be part of history in this very special way.”

Afterwards, the students attended the National Holocaust Memorial commemoration at the Canadian War museum.

### Online Memorial Site on CHES Webpage

The Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) will be launching a unique online Holocaust Memorial Site [www.carleton.ca/ches/memorial](http://www.carleton.ca/ches/memorial) to honour both survivors and victims of the Holocaust whose descendants are (mostly) Canadian. Listings are by donation, helping CHES continue its mission of promoting knowledge and understanding of the history and legacy of

the Holocaust.

“What makes this a first in Canada, and perhaps the world, is that it will let visitors see at a glance the diversity of survivors, particularly in Canada—by showing the countries they came from, the cities in which they settled, the devastating human losses they suffered, and the families they painstakingly rebuilt,” said Mina Cohn, CHES Director.

“A second section also honours family members who were murdered in the Holocaust, without even a grave or tombstone to mark their passing. We have the responsibility to remember them and keep their names alive.”

The memorial site was conceived mainly for descendants of survivors seeking new ways to ensure their ancestors’ trauma and struggle are not forgotten. This is

especially crucial as new forms of anti-Semitism and racism take root. The site will be preserved on the CHES Carleton University's website as a lasting tribute to the courage and contributions of Holocaust Survivors, and to their family members who were innocent victims of the worst genocide in human history. The

site's online forms are easy to use, asking for some basic information on the survivor or victim, such as name, birthplace, year of death, etc. Relatives can provide as much (or as little) such information as they know—every name is important—and upload a photo too, if available.

While this is mainly an opportunity

for Canadian descendants to list family members who survived and those who perished, submissions by relatives and friends abroad are also welcome.

The CHES Holocaust Memorial Site will be available in November. Once launched, to add a listing, or visit go to [www.carleton.ca/ches/memorial](http://www.carleton.ca/ches/memorial).

## CHES Speakers reach out

**E**ducating students and the community at large about the history and legacy of the Holocaust is a year-round occupation for CHES if it is to have an impact on curbing the growth of antisemitism and racism. As such, CHES offers an ambitious agenda of programs throughout the year.

### Speakers Bureau:

As part of its mandate, CHES will continue to coordinate visits to schools in the Ottawa-Carleton area. To invite a survivor visit: <https://carleton.ca/ches/resources/for-educators/speakers-bureau-submission-form/>

“For us forgetting was never an option, remembering is a novel and necessary act,” Elie Wiesel

We continue to bring survivors' voices to area schools, either in person or through film. Promoting the Survivor Testimony Recording Project in local schools became a natural step for the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) once our project was completed in November 2016. Mr. Singfield, principal of Symmes Junior-D'Arcy McGee High

School, invited Mina Cohn to present the testimonial project during an in-school PD Day in April. Joining him were 25 teachers, the school librarian, and the vice-principal. The presentation included ten excerpts of the film testimony of our local survivors. A discussion on how to use the testimonials in class followed.

Dani Taylor organized a special program for Yom Hashoah at SRB high school. We were especially touched to learn about her resourcefulness. Minutes before the program was about to start, when Dani realized that Vera Gara, the survivor guest speaker, was unable to attend, she decided to use Vera's recorded testimony instead, which is available on the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship website. What a wonderful and original way to use this new educational film testimony. Dani is one of three students who helped us promote the project for the FutureFunder campaign in April 2016.

Elly Bollegraaf and Kati Morrison, both child survivors, were busy during the month of May and June visiting four area high schools sharing their stories of survival with the students.

An interview by Hallie Cotnam on CBC Radio, Ottawa morning, with Mina Cohn, Director of CHES and Tova Clark, one of the 10 survivors featured in the Testimonial Project, was a direct result of an article by Lesley Barry on the Carleton Homepage in June. To read the article visit: <http://carleton.ca/our-stories/story/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimony-project>. To listen to the interview visit: <https://carleton.ca/ches/2017/cbc-radio-holocaust-testimony>.



Kati Morrison Jan 2017 visit to Immaculata Catholic High School



Tova Clark, Mina Cohn and Hallie Catnam at the CBC May 2017

## With CHES, Holocaust Education Stays Strong Year Round

By Toby Herscovitch

### Tribute to the New National Holocaust Monument

A key highlight this fall was the special CHES event, *From Vision to Reality: In Honour of the Inauguration of the National Holocaust Monument*, held on September 27 at Library and Archives Canada. The event, fully booked with over 300 participants present, left a powerful impression on all who attended. The recent completion of the Monument is truly a “monumental” achievement for Canada, which until now was one of the only Western nations without such a symbol or museum honouring the victims and survivors of the Holocaust. The CHES program featured: Rabbi Daniel Friedman, National Monument Council Chair, who spoke about The National Holocaust Monument: A Heritage for All Canadians; and Dr. Robert Krell, Psychiatrist and Founding President of Vancouver’s Holocaust Centre, whose

topic was *Reflections on Child Holocaust Survivors: A Personal Perspective*. As the keynote speaker, Krell touched on his own experiences as a child survivor, and his work delving into the memories and insights of other survivors. CHES also presented the premiere screening of its Ottawa-based Holocaust Testimonials with two short excerpts of local child survivors Raoul Korngold from France (now living in Vancouver) and Kati Morrison, who survived with the help of her grandmother in the Budapest Ghetto. A full half-hour video featuring Tova Clark’s testimonial was screened at the end of the evening. Ms. Clark was born in 1939 in Opeln, Germany. Her family escaped Germany in the nick of time, to reach Shanghai, China, where Tova lived during her formative years. To see the complete half hour testimonial films, please click here [www.carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#1](http://www.carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#1).

The event was held in cooperation with the National Holocaust Monument Council,

the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, Library and Archives Canada, and the Embassy of Israel. CHES has been overwhelmed by the reaction to this event – two weeks prior to the event every seat was taken and CHES had a waiting list. We are touched by the response. To listen to the recording of the evening event go to <https://carleton.ca/ches/from-vision-to-reality/>

### Descendants of Holocaust Survivors Group

Descendants of Holocaust survivors in Ottawa met on June 11 to connect, share experiences and find new ways to pass on the lessons of the worst genocide in human history—especially now that so many of their parents and other eyewitnesses are no longer alive. The informal gathering was held at the home of second-generation descendant and CHES member Batia Winer. Some 30 people attended, mostly children and grandchildren of survivors.

Five key themes emerged as the guests shared their reasons for participating,



Descendants of Holocaust Survivors recently gathered to launch a new group in Ottawa to connect, share experiences and promote Holocaust education.

1. Descendants want to find their own voice within the Holocaust narrative.
2. Descendants feel a sense of obligation to our ancestors, to help create a better world from the ashes of the Holocaust.
3. Descendants wish to carry on the legacy of survivors' families, including helping their own offspring understand their family's history.
4. Descendants want to ensure that they also can eventually speak about the Holocaust in schools, since most survivors are no longer alive or well enough to do so anymore.
5. Participants from families who rarely or never spoke about the Holocaust have a thirst for more information and connections to others with a similar history.

The new Descendants Group reflects the needs expressed in a recent CHES survey of nearly 100 descendants in Ottawa. It revealed three main goals: connecting socially to create a shared community; propagating Holocaust education; and learning about themselves and their shared history.

At CHES, we believe that Holocaust education is just the start; what YOU do matters! Getting involved with CHES and speaking out to help eradicate antisemitism and racism helps us make Never Again truly meaningful. For more information about the Descendants' Group or future events, please contact [chesatcarleton@gmail.com](mailto:chesatcarleton@gmail.com)

## CHES Committee update

The Center for Holocaust Education and Scholarship is pleased to welcome Toby Herscovitch as its new committee member. Toby is the daughter of survivors who grew up in Montreal. She has a deep interest in Holocaust education. Toby is a freelance writer and avid volunteer, for Holocaust education through CHES and for women's and children's services through Na'amat Canada. Toby is married and the mother of two sons. We want to thank Toby for her creative ideas and for initiating and designing the unique online new Memorial Site. The committee represents a broad range of professionals with educational and community experience.

Most of the articles and content for the CHES section were provided by Toby Herscovitch.

## U.S. Holocaust Museum Adds Ottawa Testimonials

We are excited to announce that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, through its National Institute for Holocaust Documentation, recently created a record for the CHES website and Holocaust testimonials, in its library catalog. This is one of the most extensive records of Holocaust documentation in the world, making the CHES material available to millions worldwide. The documents can be accessed directly via this link: Collections Search catalog or by searching the main collections catalog at: [www.catalog.ushmm.org/vwebv/holdingsInfo?searchId=66&recCount=50&recPointer=1&bibId=259235](http://www.catalog.ushmm.org/vwebv/holdingsInfo?searchId=66&recCount=50&recPointer=1&bibId=259235).

The archivist included the names of all the interviewees, Carleton University, Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship, and Ottawa in the catalog description, so researchers will have multiple ways of finding the Ottawa testimonials.

## U of O Holocaust scholar says he's a target of Polish 'hate' campaign: CHES sent a letter of support for Dr. Grabowski

Dear Dean Dr. Jacque Fremont,  
On behalf of the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship based at Carleton University (part of the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies), we extend our strong support for eminent historian and professor Jan Grabowski of the University of Ottawa and for his valuable scholarly work on the Holocaust in Poland. His past research in this field has received international awards and extensive praise by top Holocaust scholars.

We are dismayed by the growing campaign of the Polish League Against Defamation (some of whom are directly affiliated with the Polish Government) to undermine the credibility of Professor

Grabowski's research and his reputation without any basis in fact—as was recently reported in the Ottawa Citizen and Canadian Press.

What's more, the League's slanderous attack on reputable academic research strikes at the very fabric of academic freedom and democracy, affecting every university and professor here in Canada and abroad.

Given the well-documented historical facts about collaboration with the Nazis by many nations of Europe, and the widespread anti-Semitism in those countries, Poland—where over three million Jewish citizens were murdered—was clearly not exempt from this shameful history. In

addition, the attempt to suppress new research on the forms the collaboration took by crying "slander and falsification" distorts the truth and undermines the important lessons the world can learn from the Holocaust as well as the potential for advancing human progress.

Professor Grabowski is to be commended for seeking the facts about Poland's role during the Holocaust and we are confident that the University of Ottawa will continue to stand by him and speak out against those who denigrate the quality and honesty of his research, and threaten his safety.

Sincerely,  
Mina Cohn

# Upcoming CHES EVENTS — Fall 2017

For more detailed information about these events and the speakers, please visit: [carleton.ca/ches/events/2017-holocaust-education-month/](http://carleton.ca/ches/events/2017-holocaust-education-month/)

Event	Date/Location	Speaker
<b>In Conversation with a survivor</b>	<b>November 7</b> 3:30 – 5:00 pm University of Ottawa; Simard Hall, Room 125, 60 University Private <b>RSVP required: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	Prof. Rebecca Margolis and <b>David Moskovic</b> , a Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES 2016 Testimonial Project Watch David's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#10">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#10</a> >
<b>Lecture:</b> <b>"The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw: The Afterlife of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising"</b>	<b>November 9</b> 4:00- 5:15 p.m. University of Ottawa Simard Hall, Room 222, 60 University Private <b>RSVP required: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	<b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> , Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT
<b>Launch of Holocaust Education Month:</b> A Program in Memory of Kristallnacht "From Destruction to Rebirth: The Return of Life in the Jewish DP Camps"	<b>November 9 – 7pm</b> Kehillat Beth Israel 1400 Coldrey Avenue, Ottawa <b>All welcome to attend</b>	Keynote Address: <b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> , Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT
<b>Doctoral Seminar.</b> <b>"After Auschwitz: Jewish Theological and Religious Responses to the Holocaust."</b> Graduate students and professors from institutions other than SPU are welcome.	<b>November 10th</b> 10:00 a.m. Saint Paul University location TBA <b>Must RSVP: chesatcarleton@gmail.ca</b>	<b>Dr. Avinoam Patt</b> , Philip D Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History, Associate Director at the Maurice Greenberg Centre for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford, CT
<b>A Forum: Descendants of Holocaust Survivors Speak Out</b> An event for descendants of survivors	<b>November 14th</b> 7:00 p.m. Kehillat Beth Israel 1400 Coldrey Avenue, Ottawa <b>Registration required</b> <b>To register: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	<b>Memory, Identity and Emerging Narratives: A panel discussion</b> with Nimrod Barkan, Elin Beaumont, Lawrence Greenspon, Prof Jan Grabowski, Artur Wilczynski
<b>Remembering John Hirsch</b> John Hirsch was born in Hungary and survived the Holocaust in Budapest. He arrived in Canada at the age of 17 in 1947, through the War Orphans Project of the Canadian Jewish Congress. He was adopted by Alex and Pauline Shack of Winnipeg. It was in Winnipeg that Hirsch started his theater career which included years as Head of Drama at the CBC and Director of the Stratford Festival. His love for the arts and creativity as a director quickly won him recognition in Canada and beyond.	<b>November 16, 7:00 PM</b> National Arts Centre, O'Born Room <b>RSVP required: eton@nac-cna.ca</b>	Actor <b>Alon Nashman</b> will perform excerpts from the one-man play <i>Hirsch</i> , created and written by Alon Nashman and Paul Thompson. The program will include reminiscences by <b>Peter Herndorf</b> , CEO of the National Arts Centre, actor <b>Marilyn Lightstone</b> , and others
<b>In Conversation with a survivor</b>	<b>November 20th</b> 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Carleton University, University Centre room 182	Prof. Pamela Walker and <b>Judy Young Drache</b> , a Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES 2016 Testimonial Project Watch Judy's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/</a> >
<b>Teachers' Workshop 2017</b> <b>Immigration and Refugees: Then and Now. What Can We Learn?</b> 70 years since the arrival of 1,123 Holocaust orphans to Canada.	<b>November 23rd</b> 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. Temple Israel 1301 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa <b>Registration required by Nov 9th, 2017. To register visit: <a href="http://bit.ly/chesteachers">http://bit.ly/chesteachers</a></b>	Keynote address: <b>Robbie Waisman</b> , a Holocaust orphan Special presentation by <b>Judy Trinh</b> of CBC Ottawa, a Vietnamese Boat refugee, and <b>Elin Beaumont</b> of the Azrieli Foundation, with a new interactive educational program.
<b>In Conversation with a survivor</b>	<b>November 28</b> 11:35-12:55 Carleton University, Canal Building, Room 2202 <b>RSVP required: chesatcarleton@gmail.com</b>	Prof. Deidre Butler and <b>Kati Morrison</b> , a Holocaust survivor and participant in the CHES 2016 Testimonial Project Watch Kati's Testimonial < <a href="https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#9">https://carleton.ca/ches/ottawa-holocaust-survivors-testimonials/full-length/#9</a> >

Membership on the CHES committee is open to new members. To support CHES please visit [www.carleton.ca/ches/donate-to-ches](http://www.carleton.ca/ches/donate-to-ches)

## Carleton University supports a program called The Futurefunder as an alternate funding source for many of its programs.

The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) is fortunate to have four of its program listed on The Futurefunders website [futurefunder.carleton.ca](http://futurefunder.carleton.ca)

These are Study Israel 2018 course, Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship, the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, and Developing Future Leaders Internship program

Please note that **Giving Tuesday** is November 28, 2017

The university has made \$250,000 in university matching funds available between 12:00AM-11:59 EST, while funds last.

Each gift made through FutureFunder.ca will be matched, dollar-for-dollar (up to a maximum of \$1,000, or until our goal is met). please support the ZC and extend the power of your donations by going online November 28 to make your donations.