



Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Newsletter | Fall 2019

Director's Message

*"If you understand the why and wherefore of what you learn, you do not forget it quickly."
~~ Talmud Yerushalmi, Berakot 5:1*



Snow fell early this year, moving us dramatically from the beginning of the Fall term to already thinking about what will come in the Winter. The early term was busy with the start of the new academic year, welcoming new student staff to the team, developing new programs, and preparing for Holocaust Education Month and the Israel Travel / Study Course.

There is a saying that you should begin as you intend to continue, and this year's inaugural lecture certainly set a high standard for the year. In September, Professor Frances Malino shared her research into the lives of Moroccan women who trained as teachers in France, under the auspices of Alliance Israélite Universelle in the 19th and 20th centuries (see p. 14). Focusing on the lives of these women in particular and their experiences, we gained rich insights into the "why

and wherefore" of that time and place.

As I am writing this message, CHES, under the leadership of director Mina Cohn, and her small army of dedicated volunteers is bringing outstanding scholars and educators to be part of this year's HEM (see pp.17-27). Dr. Deborah Lipstadt's insightful and compelling lecture, "Antisemitism: Old Wine in New Bottles." stands out even in such an impressive and dynamic roster of programming. With over 700 in attendance, Dr Deborah Lipstadt's engaging lecture traced the contours of the new anti-Semitism enhancing our understanding of this age-old scourge and empowering a more thoughtful and strategic resistance.

In February, the ZC and its partners will welcome University of North Carolina's Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism Professor Jodi Magness where she will speak about the important excavations at Huqoq. It is particularly a pleasure to welcome Jodi Magness as she spoke at the ZC during our inaugural year of the Israel Travel Course (2014). We know the public will feel fortunate to hear engaging lecture style and are confident she will excite our next cohort of students about the archeology of Israel that they will experience for themselves in a few short months (see p.9).

March 15, the ZC will once again partner with Limmud Ottawa to celebrate Jewish learning, thought, teaching, and culture (see p.14). Limmud reflects ZC's broader mandate

of bringing the University and the community together with diverse and thought-provoking sessions by and to scholars, educators, students, and independent researchers. We are delighted that anthropologist Professor Dani Kranz of Bar Ilan University, who has contributed so ably to the Israel course programming in 2018 and will do so again in 2020, will be visiting Ottawa to speak at Limmud and Carleton University to share her expertise around contemporary Jewish life in Germany.

Dr Kranz is only one of over 40 scholars around the world who are affiliated with the ZC. An important aspect of ZC's mandate as envisioned by its first Director, Aviva Freedman, was also to bring together scholars working in Jewish Studies, through

In This Issue

Director's message	1-2
ZC Library.....	2
Team ZC	3
Faculty Members Corner.....	4-9
External Research Affiliates	10-13
Kudos to Nick Arial.....	13
Professor Frances Malino.....	14
Israel Travel Course 2020	16
CHES News and Events	17-28

Join the ZC mailing list to receive updates invitations to our future events. Please send an email to: jewish_studies@carleton.ca

Director's Message

teaching or research, and to expand the conversation of scholarship beyond Carleton. With their diverse backgrounds and interests these scholars and researchers enrich our teaching and research each year. The goal for the ZC has been to create opportunities for ZC affiliates to share their work. Webpages have been created that reflect an affiliate's research, publications and interests. By turning one's name into an active link <<https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/staff/external-affiliates/>> we hope to encourage all ZC affiliates to seek out and share with colleagues who are engaged in similar fields of research.

As we prepare for our 3rd Travel /Study Course to Israel, I am certain that the memories and learning from the Israel travel courses will stay with our students for years

to come. I am looking forward to this year's experiential course Religion in Historical and Contemporary Contexts in the 'Holy Land' / Religion and Public Life in the "Holy Land where I will again travel with undergraduate and graduate students as we learn and travel together in Israel. I am particularly excited to welcome Professor Betina Appel Kuzmarov (Dept Law and Legal Studies) and Pamela Walker (History) who each bring their own expertise to this amazing educational experience May 5-26, 2020.

This year Michaela Bax-Leaney (webmaster) and Maya Ruckenstein (Junior Assistant Administrator) have joined to our team. Continuing from last year are Belle Riley Thompson (Senior Assistant Administrator) and Shaked Karabelnicoff (Social me-

dia), Mirka Snopkowska (Financial Administrator) and Associate Director Dr. Susan Landau-Chark.

This year Giving Tuesday is Dec 3. Donations sustain and support all our programs.

If you are interested in supporting one of our individual programs, please view the ZC programs listed on the Futurefunders website <futurefunder.carleton.ca>.

Finally, may I warmly welcome you to the ZC's Annual Research Open House which takes place Dec 10 from 11:30-2:30 pm, in Paterson Hall, Room 220A. It is always a pleasure to meet and chat with faculty, staff, students and members of the community. Please join us to network and enjoy *sufganiot!*

This year Giving Tuesday is Dec 3. Donations sustain and support all our programs. <<https://futurefunder.carleton.ca/campaigns/max-tessie-zelikovitz-centre-for-jewish-studies/>>

The ZC Library Collection: Creating an Online Catalogue

The ZC is fortunate that Maya Ruckenstein is part of the ZC Team this year. Maya will be working with MacOdrum Library's George Duimovich to continue the task of cataloguing the various works contributed to the Zelikovitz Centre's library over the years.

The ZC collection is small comparatively speaking but contains many unique books covering aspects of Jewish life, culture, and history.

The online catalogue will give additional public exposure to the donated works and will inform us about which books are widely available in libraries and those that are unique to our collection (it's a

small space we work with!). It will also enable the collection to be used by local researchers beyond the ZC's research affiliates.

The ZC also houses copies of Holocaust memoirs courtesy of the Azrieli Foundation. The ZC would like to enhance its collection with memoirs written by Ottawans. If you have written or know of a survivor who has written their memoir, the ZC would love to be the depository for your published (or unpublished) work.

The link to the ZC collection is www.librarycat.org/lib/zclibrary

Also please note that If you are a research affiliate of the Zelikovitz Centre, if you'd like to explore how



George Duimovich and May Ruckenstein
Photo by Michaela Bax-Leaney

the library can promote wider access to any digital initiatives, collections, or individual works related to your research, you may reach out to George Duimovich at the MacOdrum Library GeorgeDuimovich@cunet.carleton.ca.

Welcome to the ZC Team 2019-2020

The ZC is pleased to welcome back Belle Riley Thompson and Shaked Karabelnicoff. Both Belle and Shaked interned with the ZC last year through the Developing Future Leaders Program.

Belle is in her third year at Carleton in the Bachelor of Journalism and Humanities program. She is the ZC's Senior Administrative Assistant and will be working closely with Dr. Butler on the Israel Travel Course, as well as undertaking various office and/or event tasks as needed.

Shaked Karabelnicoff is also a third-year student majoring in Journalism,

with two minors, one in Religious Studies, and the second in Canadian and Indigenous Studies. Shaked is the ZC's Social Media Coordinator, promoting and posting ZC and CHES events on ZC's facebook page.

Follow us on Facebook.

The ZC is also pleased to welcome two new members: Maya Ruckenstein and Michaela Bax-Leaney. Maya is in her second year at Carleton in the Bachelor of Cognitive Science program. Maya is the ZC's General Administrative Assistant; as noted above, she is working with Librarian George Duimovich to catalog the ZC's

library collection. She also undertakes administrative and event-related tasks as needed.

Michaela is in her third year of a Combined Honours in Journalism and History at Carleton.

Michaela is the ZC's Communications Coordinator, responsible for maintaining the ZC website. She will also be continuing the work begun last year by Lx Silver-Mahr and Mirka Snopkowska on the online Virtual Museum which will "hold" the artefacts and the stories shared by their owners at the Pop-Up Museum, in November 2018 as part of HEM.



From Left to Right: Belle Riley Thompson, Maya Ruckenstein, Shaked Karabelnicoff and Michaela Bax-Leaney *Photo by John MacGillis*



Photo by Fangliang Xu

Kimberly Stratton is an Associate Professor in Humanities and Religion. Her research covers the fields of early Christianity, Rabbinic Judaism, as well as Greco-Roman culture and religion and within those areas looks at religion, violence, and social identity in Antiquity, ancient magic and gender.

This past September (5-7) Professor Stratton presented a paper at a conference in Mainz, Germany, which focused on Religious (de-) legitimization of Violence in Antiquity.

Her presentation, "Religious Legitimation of Roman Violence and the Making of Judaism and Christianity," proposes that the "parting of the ways" between gentile followers of Jesus and other Jews, including Torah-abiding followers of Jesus, was exacerbated by the need to justify and explain the two failed revolts against Rome (66-70CE and 132-35CE). This paper is part of a book Professor Stratton is writing, *From Babylon to Exodus: Violence, Story, and the Origins of Judaism and Christianity*, that draws on insights from trauma studies and anthropology

to explain the rupture between Jewish sects in response to the failed revolts against Rome.

While other scholars have largely focused on identity formation or Christology as primary reasons for the separation of Christianity and Judaism, Professor Stratton takes a different approach that considers the need to restore coherence and hope in the face of failed expectations for divine redemption. She draws on a diverse array of early Jewish texts (including those traditionally labeled Christian) to reveal continuity of belief and eschatological expectation among followers of Jesus and other Jews leading up to the Bar Kochba revolt (132-35 CE). Thereafter, she identifies a sharp divide between (at least some) gentile followers of Jesus in Asia Minor and other Jews, which is reflected in opposing exegetical explanations for the failed war. The parting of the ways, Professor Stratton proposes, was thus precipitated, or at least exacerbated, by finger-pointing and laying blame for the catastrophic Roman-Judaeo wars. She hopes to complete the book by the end of 2020.

SAVE THE DATE

The Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (CSJS) will hold its 15th annual meeting in Ottawa on May 26 and 27, 2020 at Carleton University, hosted by the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies.

The Canadian Society for Jewish Studies/ Société canadienne des études juives was founded in Winnipeg in 2004 with the goal of promoting and facilitating the development of Jewish Studies in Canada. CSJS provides a venue for the presentation of Jewish studies research for researchers in Jewish studies living in Canada and elsewhere. Individuals who are interested in this field are encouraged to become more involved with the organization and participate in its growth. All sessions will be open to the public.

For further information, see the CSJS website: www.csjs.ca/

Library and Archives Canada: Canada's Published Heritage Branch

In 2017 arrangements were made between the ZC and Digital & Theses, Published Heritage Branch for Library and Archives Canada for past Zelikovitz Centre Newsletters, as well as future (yet to be created) newsletters to be archived on the LAC server.

As Library and Archives Canada (LAC) migrated to a new library catalogue last year, the former catalogue number (44959949) no longer applies.

The new catalogue number (OCLC number) is 1083707022. The catalogue record is available at the following link: <https://bac-lac.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1083707022>



Zeba Crook is a Professor in the Religion Faculty, and the Greek and Roman Studies faculty, in the College of Humanities at Carleton University.

His stated research interests focus on concerns within Early Christian and New Testament Studies, for example, Christian Origins, Historical Jesus, Social-Scientific interpretation of early Christian Writings, Representations of Jesus in Modern Fiction.

However, for the past eight years he has been working on an introductory textbook on “western” religion. His text *Religions of a Single God* differs from other introductory texts. How? He aligns his introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – as well as Baha’i and Latter-day Saints – with the most contemporary advances in the study of religion.

Professor Crook notes that he used two guiding principles in his approach. The first is methodological atheism. For example, a structural engineer might happen to be deeply religious, but she is not going to rely on divine intervention or favour when constructing a bridge. The engineer goes about her work as if there are no gods in the world who might perform miracles on poorly built bridges.

In the same manner, the deeply believing historian might well believe that God is active in history, but in his academic work he would never use God to explain how one or another historical event occurred as it did. Religious studies is not a unique discipline among all the other disciplines of the academy. It must operate within the same framework. In this mode, a scholar of religion takes claims of divine intervention made in any particular religious text – and there are so many of them – as data to be studied, not as descriptions of objective reality (such as it is). Human reverence for the gods, human conviction that the gods guide and inspire their communities, and so on are data to be analysed.

The second guiding principle is to maintain as sharp a distinction as possible between insider and outsider discourse. The term ‘insider discourse’ has two parts: ‘insider’ refers to a member of the religion being studied, and ‘discourse’ refers to a manner of speech. Insider discourse refers to the way in which members of a religion speak about their texts, their histories, their worldviews, the significance and origins of their practices, and so on. Outsider discourse is a way of speaking about a religion from the outside, and the academic study of religion attempts to do this analytically. We analyse the data, we do not condone, replicate, uphold, reflect, or even merely describe it. This actually has nothing to do with membership in a religion. Non-members might well talk about a religion (or religion in general) with reverence (think of how many non-Jewish people talk about Kabbalah), and members of a religion are entirely capable of rigorous analysis of their own religion. The focus is therefore on the discourse, and not the membership of the author. To this end, Professor Crook made a conscious

decision to reject the common approach in introductions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: to have Jewish people write about Judaism, Christians about Christianity, and Muslims about Islam. Such textbooks imply that insiders are best situated to talk about their religion, and that is not the case.

This position can be seen in a profound way in his book. It is common for insiders to talk about their origins narratives as historical. But origins narratives are almost always more theological than they are historical. Consider the Creation narratives and the Garden of Eden story of Bereshit. Consider the birth narratives of Christianity, and Islamic stories in which Muhammad’s heart is removed from his chest and cleaned by an angel. None of the stories describe events as they actually happened. But they do tell members of the communities that “own” them something important about God, Jesus, or Muhammad. These stories are part of the theology of that religion, not a part of that religion’s history. Most academics of religion know this, of course, and yet time and again, one finds these stories in introductory descriptions of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim history.

This also explains the unique structure of his history chapters. The starting points of the book’s history chapters are not the standard starting points of introductory texts of the ‘western’ religions. The history of Judaism begins with the building of the second temple (and the emergence of monotheism in Israelite religion). The history of Christianity begins with Constantine’s favoring of Christianity (and the emergence of the stand-alone Imperial religion of Christianity). The history of Islam begins with the Constitution of Medina (and the emergence of a politico-religious entity called an Ummah in that city).

Continued on next page

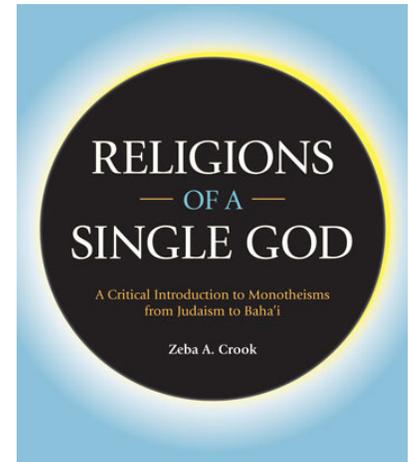
In October of 2018 Professor **Jacob Kovalio** presented a paper on E. W. Said’s *Orientalism*, at the 31st Annual Conference of the Japan Studies Association of Canada. The Conference Proceedings

were recently posted online. Professor Kovalio’s paper, “Four decades since the publication of E.W.Said’s *Orientalism*: brief remarks on its ideological roots and impact on Japan and Japan-related scholarship,”

Japan Studies Association of Canada website, Publications/2018 Proceedings: pp.109-124, can be read at this link: http://buna.yorku.ca/jsac/jsac2018/jsac2018_%20proceedings.pdf

This book is also unique in that it does not contain the ubiquitous “New Religious Movements” as the closing chapter. Often this chapter is a mix of Hare Krishnas, Raelians, Falun Gong, and so on, treated along with Baha’is and Latter-day Saints (Mormons). However, while Hare Krishnas, Raelians, and Falong Gong have only a geographic relationship to “Western” religion (e.g. they can be found here), they have no genealogical relationship to western religion. The Baha’i religion and Latter-day Saints should no longer be labeled new religious movements as both of these religions

boast around 5 million global members and are now mainstream. Professor Crook treats them more extensively than is the case in any other introductory textbook on western religion. These two are examples of the history of religious growth. Baha’is as an outgrowth of Shi’a Islam, and LDS is an outgrowth of Christianity. It is interesting, and something he alludes to in the book, that Judaism does not have a similar modern outgrowth into a new religion. Perhaps it is that Judaism has already had its outgrowth – Christianity.



Robert Barsky arrived at Carleton this past June to take on a new position as a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair: Law, Narrative and Border Crossing in the Department of Law and Legal Studies. He has a longstanding connection to Jewish Studies, having taught in that program at Vanderbilt University for almost 20 years (he is presently on leave from Vanderbilt).

One could almost say that his lifelong interest in “the intersection of language studies, literature and law, with applications to border crossings, language theory, radical American milieus, and literatures of the 19th and 20th centuries in English and French,” is part of his genetic heritage. Professor Barsky shared that his parents (mother a non-practicing Protestant, father an orthodox Jew) were married by his radical family members, Jacob (“Jack”) and Mina Brussel. Jack Brussel was an antiquarian bookseller and publisher in New York City, and was jailed in 1940 as a pornographer, for publishing an uncut version of Henry Miller’s “Tropic of Cancer.” Mina was an accomplished sculptor, and both were much admired in the Barsky household.

Drawn to the so-called New York Intellectuals, and the Partisan Review crowd, Professor Barsky, while still a graduate student, began what has now turned into a 30+ year correspondence with Noam Chomsky. Through a serendipitous friendship, the biographer Jay Parini, recommended Professor Barsky, in light of his many conversations with Noam Chomsky, to undertake writing Dr. Chomsky’s biography. That project grew into a life-long fascination on his part, and a very cherished friendship with Noam Chomsky.

Professor Barsky’s principle work has been around the milieus of Noam Chomsky and Zellig Harris, culminating in a trilogy of books for MIT Press (Noam Chomsky: A Life of Dissent; The Chomsky Effect; and Zellig Harris: From American Linguistics to Socialist Zionism). In the course of all that work, he undertook research on Avukah, the radical Zionist student organization that proposed alternatives to contemporary political and economic models by emphasizing the potential role of worker self-management, Kibbutzim-style co-operatives, and studies of the “frame of reference” that guides decision-making.

Professor Barsky is now working on a book and also a documentary film, which will fill crucial gaps in our understanding of early Zionism in America, and shed new light upon linguistic, scientific and political work that was undertaken by students and mentors who had or would have ties to the New York intellectuals (for example Nathan Glazer, Seymour Melman), Jewish organizations (especially Hashomer Hatzair and the ZOA), and key figures in psychoanalytic communities (especially Erikson, Fromm, Horney, and Rappaport). Assessing Avukah’s work also provides new insight about Albert Einstein and his direct milieu, because members looked to him for guidance in their studies of Zionism, Arab-Jewish relations, and, moreover, scientific approaches to studies of language and politics.

From an historical standpoint, Professor Barsky’s forthcoming work on Avukah is groundbreaking because it will constitute the first and only full-length study of Avukah. The ideas discussed herein will relate to historical and contemporary Zionism in the United States, including approaches to Arab-Jewish relations during the period leading up to the creation of the state of Israel, socialist Zionism through the debates and affiliations that Avukah had with Hashomer Hatzair and other Jewish organizations, the idea of the binational state in Palestine and, in the

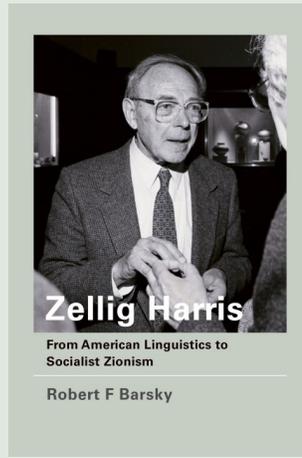
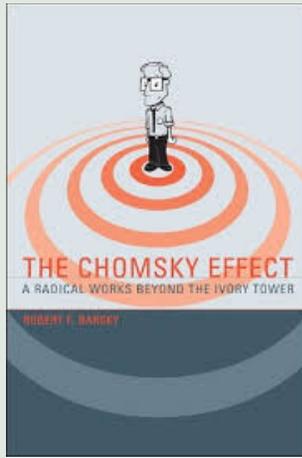
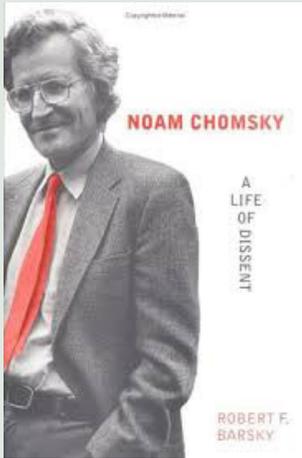
Continued on next page

heat of World War II, the collapse of Avukah on account of internal disagreements about what role the organization

should play as regards anti-fascism, as well as early Zionism and the unfolding Jewish Holocaust. The book will move

from the historical research into assessment of Avukah's continued impact on American political and intellectual life through the remarkable figures who were associated with it, and through the legacy of work that was done under its auspices.

A short list of eminent individuals that Barsky has interviewed for the project includes Noam Chomsky (Arizona), Judith and Robert Wallerstein, Irving London (MIT), Nathan Glazer (Harvard), Millie Katz (Brandeis), Murray Eden (MIT), to name but a few. For those who might recall the work of Avukah and its affiliates please feel free to contact Professor Barsky for further discussion Robert.barsky@carleton.ca.



Faculty News and Publications

Congratulations on receiving two I-Cureus Grants



Congratulations to Jacqueline Morrison, Shaked Karabelnicoff, and Professors Deidre Butler and her co-researcher Betina Appel Kuzmarov (Law and Legal Studies) in obtaining two I-CUREUS grants.

Internship-Carleton University Research Experience for Undergraduate Students (I-CUREUS) offers students the opportunity to be paid while gaining hands-on experience for faculty-supervised research. Students receiving this grant are expected to share their I-CUREUS experience with other undergraduates through social media, Carleton websites and/or the Discovery Centre.

In 2015, Betina Kuzmarov, Associate

Dean and Assistant Professor in the Department of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University, and Deidre Butler, Assistant Professor, Religion at Carleton U and the Director of the ZC, began their collaboration to do the first comprehensive interview-based study of Jewish religious divorce in Canada.

As a result of succeeding with their applications to I-CUREUS, Jacqueline Morrison and Shaked Karabelnicoff will be able to use their energies and skills to support this extensive interdisciplinary project.

Shaked is in her third year, majoring in Journalism and minoring in Religious Studies and in Canadian and Indigenous Studies. Throughout her studies here at Carleton, she has become fascinated with understanding the complexities and nuances surrounding religion and public life. Particularly, her main area of interest is Jewish studies, analyzing the role of gender in Jewish life. Professors Butler and Appel Kuzmarov's research was particularly intriguing to me as it discusses Jewish divorce in the context of feminist theory.

She will be developing a media survey on the ways in which Jewish divorce, gett abuse and agunot are represented in Canadian media. Shaked shared her excitement about this unique opportunity to research an area she is passionate about, while learning more hands-on research skills. Her I-CUREUS grant is supported through the Faculty of Public Affairs.

Jacqueline is in her fourth year as a Humanities major with a minor in Biology. Jacqueline shared that she has always been interested in Jewish Studies. She was drawn to work with this project as it explores a very important intersection of religious and civil life. Jacqueline plans to pursue a career in healthcare: the fact that this research addresses contemporary situations and real family life, was also an important aspect of the research. She will be developing a web site with resources (halakhic, scholarship, community based) about Jewish divorce in Canada. Her I-CUREUS grant is funded through the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

ZC Faculty Affiliates Presenting at 51st AJS

In December the AJS (Association for Jewish Studies) will be holding its 51st Annual Conference in San Diego, CA.

ZC Faculty Affiliates attending are Professor Betina Appel-Kuzmarov, Professor Deidre Butler, Professor Sarah Casteel, and Professor Mira Sucharov.

As part of the Gender, Law and Community panel, **Professors Betina Appel-Kuzmarov and Deidre Butler**, will present Klal Yisrael: Voicing Jewish Divorce in Canada Across Denominations. Their presentation examines the phrase klal yisrael (used variously to call for Jewish unity, worry over Jewish continuity, and give voice to the ethical imperative for Jews to care for each other) which often clashes with the conflicting imperatives for inclusion and halakhic unity. Their interdisciplinary ethnographic project (get abuse) draws on the understanding that Jewish divorce extends across all denominational boundaries and operates at the intersection of civil and religious law. Through interviews with women, men, adult children, activists and rabbis who have experienced Jewish divorce, their research highlights the tensions inherent in the notion of klal yisrael and orthopraxy, the preference for what one rabbi called “the frummost common denominator.”

Professor Sarah Phillips Casteel will present a paper entitled Blyden and Pissarro on St. Thomas: Pan-Africanism, Zionism and the Sephardic Caribbean in the panel “Jewishness and Caribbean Literary Culture”. The nineteenth-century Afro-Caribbean intellectual Edward Wilmot Blyden (1832-1912), generally considered the father of pan-Africanism, was deeply influenced by Zionist thought. Blyden admired Herzl and believed that Zionism could serve as a model for the African diaspora. As he recounts in his

1898 essay “The Jewish Question,” his sense of affinity with Zionism and of a shared history with Jews stemmed in part from his childhood contact with the Sephardic Caribbean community of his native island of St. Thomas. A member of this community and contemporary of Blyden’s was the painter Camille Pissarro, whose Caribbean Jewish origins are often forgotten in art historical accounts of French Impressionism. Casteel’s paper considers the Danish colonial island of St. Thomas as a site of cross-cultural contact, influence, and inter-diasporic exchange in order to explore how the figure of Zion travels between Jewish and black intellectual and artistic traditions.

Professor Mira Sucharov is founding co-chair of the Jewish Politics Division at the Association for Jewish Studies, a member of the AJS Board, and co-editor of AJS Perspectives, the Magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies. Professor Sucharov will be leading a workshop and moderating two roundtable discussions. The workshop, the Op-Ed Writing and Social Media Workshop, is designed to introduce and guide participants through the ins and outs of op-ed writing and social media engagement.

Professor Sucharov is moderating a roundtable discussion on Teaching Palestine in the Context of Jewish Studies. This roundtable will address the question of Palestine within the context of Jewish Studies. These are just a few of the questions to be raised: how can Jewish Studies faculty more fully contend with the subject of Palestine in our classrooms? Does the identity and ethnic and political subjectivity of the professor matter? What conversations does it open up or foreclose within the space of Jewish Studies?

She is also moderating and participat-

ing in a roundtable discussion on scholars and activism.

Using case studies that include European and North American anti-semitism, the role of Diaspora Jewry in structuring debates on Israel/Palestine, anti-Mizrahi oppression, and abortion law, the discussion will address whether or not scholars should take on an activist role? Why or why not?

Questions to be addressed for example, include whether and how to incorporate one’s activist subjectivity into one’s scholarship, how to study, teach and advocate for anti-oppression dynamics, whether social media is a useful forum for scholarly engagement or whether it is part of the problem



As part of the Ottawa International Writer’s Festival, **Mira Sucharov** organized a panel to discuss and debate the

issues raised in her newest publication *Social Justice and Israel/Palestine: Foundational and Contemporary Debates* co-edited with Aaron J. Hahn Tapper. The collection of essays from 24 scholars and activists advance different perspectives; in some cases, they are complementary and in others they are oppositional. The editors brought these essays together to help readers to make sense of the politics surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian relationship.

Kudos to Professor Pamela Walker

Kudos and congratulations to **Professor Pamela Walker**, ZC Carleton Faculty affiliate and ZC Advisory Board member for winning (with Martha Attridge Bufton, Interdisciplinary Studies Librarian) the inaugural Brilliancy Prize from the Reacting to the Past Consortium at Barnard College (Columbia University). newsroom.carleton.ca/story/playing-games-pays-off-carleton-ups-the-ante/

Pioneered in the late 1990s by Mark C. Carnes, Professor of History at Barnard College,

Reacting to the Past (RTTP) consists of elaborate games, set in the past, in which students are assigned roles informed by classic texts in the history of ideas. The RTTP curriculum seeks to draw students into the past, promote engagement with big ideas, and improve intellectual and academic skills. Reacting roles do not have a fixed script and outcome: students must devise their own means of expressing their character's ideas persuasively, in papers, speeches, or other public presentations as well as pursue a course of action they think will help them win the game.



Each year The Reacting Consortium and Barnard College hosts a Summer Institute which introduces new ways (games) of approaching well-known topics, and through which several hundred instructors and administrators are trained in the Reacting pedagogy.

Martha Attridge Bufton and Professor Pamela Walker collaborated to create the character Maud Malone, a librarian in Greenwich Village in 1913. Described for the game as a New York City librarian, union organizer, and suffragette, the character Maud is both a creative idea and a pedagogical practice. By embedding Maud in the game—rather than relegating her to the traditional “one shot” library research session—Martha Attridge Bufton and Professor Pamela Walker created a new role for librarians in the Reacting pedagogy to support the acquisition of core scholarly information seeking competencies. The character Maud appeared during game sessions to offer research support, help students formulate research questions and navigate the library resources.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, February 23, 2020, 7pm.

Jodi Magness holds a senior endowed chair in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism (since 2002).

Dr. Magness specializes in the archaeology of ancient Palestine (modern Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian territories) in the Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic periods. Her research interests include Jerusalem, Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient synagogues, Masada, the Roman army in the East, and ancient pottery.

She will be giving a public lecture at the SJCC Sunday Feb 23rd, 7 pm, on the excavations she has been directing, since 2011, in Huqoq in Israel's Galilee.

These excavations have brought to light the remains of a monumental Late Roman (fifth century) synagogue building paved with stunning and unique mosaics, including biblical scenes and the first non-biblical story ever discovered decorating an ancient synagogue.

Spotlight on our External Research Affiliates



ZC Affiliate **Dana Murray** is Museum Registrar for the RCMP Historical Collections Unit. In 2014, she took the Study Israel course with Professor Butler. She shared that the museums and historical sites visited during those three weeks really opened her eyes to the messages museums share, and the power they hold. Dana noted that while she was always interested in and drawn to the heritage sector, this experience decided her trajectory. After completing her MA from Carleton University's Religion and Public Life program in 2014, she applied to the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto to the Master of Museum Studies program.

The Museum Studies program is a professional degree integrating museological theory with experience. Dana said that unlike her previous studies, much of her time was spent in group work, presentations, placements and workshops. However, she still made the time to continue volunteering, serving as student mentor to incoming students, acting on student association committees, and assisting at the Bata Shoe Museum. Even though collections are her passion, her program AND her volunteering pro-

vided opportunities to delve into project management, curating, development, and programming. The program was truly a well-rounded experience.

Since graduating, Dana first worked underground for the Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum. Beginning as Collections Assistant, she stayed on to coordinate a collections re-organization project thanks to a Museum Assistance Grant she helped acquire. As the Diefenbunker is a not-for-profit (receives no government funding and relies on donations), she was constantly amazed and impressed by the innovative and inspiring projects the team was able to develop without resources that are available to larger, for-profit and/or national museums. Dana began working at the Diefenbunker immediately following her graduation from the Museum Studies program in the spring of 2017 until departing for Regina to work with the RCMP's Historical Collections Unit in March 2019.

Dana now calls Regina and the Prairies home. As Registrar for the Unit, Dana makes sure that its collections are safely stored and accounted for. From

documenting acquisitions and processing loans, to assisting with exhibit installations and putting up decorations for special events, RCMP Historical Collections unit is responsible for the care of the RCMP's historical collection, including its artifacts, archives and library. The unit also shares a partnership with the RCMP Heritage Centre. A registered non-profit, the RCMP Heritage Centre exists to tell the RCMP story, including the critical role the Force plays in addressing contemporary issues. Together, they strive to be a unique mix of educational institution, museum and tourist attraction. The Collection unit rents space within the Centre's facility, and as part of their relationship, the unit's collection is displayed in the Centre for the public to enjoy.

In addition, in the role of Registrar, Dana also fulfils research requests, some of which are from the family of retired RCMP members, and others are for publication purposes. Her knowledge and expertise is also required when the collection is lent to museological institutions throughout the country for exhibit.



Adara Goldberg, PhD, is a social historian and director of the Holocaust Resource Center at Kean University. After completing her doctorate in Holocaust History at Clark University (May 2012), Goldberg held a prestigious Azrieli Foundation fellowship at Hebrew University (2016-2017), a postdoctoral post at Stockton University (2017-2018), and served as the education director for the Vancouver Holocaust Education Center (2012-2015). Recipient of the Marsid Foundation Prize at the 2016 Western Canada Jewish Book Awards, Dr. Goldberg's book *Holocaust Survivors in Canada: Exclusion, Inclusion,*

Transformation, 1947–1955 (2015) [based on her PhD thesis] represents the first comprehensive analysis of the resettlement and integration experiences of 35,000 Holocaust survivors and their families in postwar Canada. She has also contributed to the publications *Never Far Apart* (2015) and *Too Many Goodbyes: The Diaries of Susan Garfield* (2019), and edited the memoir, *Always Remember Who You Are* (2017).

Dr. Goldberg served as a consultant for the Azrieli Foundation and *Facing History and Ourselves*, and is a featured historian for the Montreal Holocaust Museum virtual exhibition, *Building New Lives*. Her current research projects explore the phenomenon of post-genocidal familial reconstruction, and the role of national apologies in collective memory.

The project exploring post-genocide family reconstruction emerged from her involvement in the Yad Vashem working group on children after the Holocaust. Her forthcoming article (Yad Vashem Publications, December 2019) "He'll make a good companion for my son: War Orphan Adoption in Postwar Canada" provides a nuanced consideration of the declared aim of the War Orphans Project (WOP): the adoption of European Jewish orphans into receiving Canadian Jewish homes. Research questions driving this analysis include the following: How did being enveloped (or not) into a new family impact the child survivors' sense of

belonging? How did they understand and experience the adoption process? And, what, if anything, did it mean to be a child survivor and adoptee in a non-survivor home? Through the consideration of a selection of case studies, this unique child-centric approach sheds light on WOP participants' experiences with adoption – promised, desired, or realized – in post-World War II Canada.

The second project is entitled "Making Present the Past: Canada's St. Louis Apology and Canadian Jewry's Pursuit of Refugee Justice," was written against the backdrop of Prime Minister Trudeau's November 2018 apology for denying the Jewish refugee passengers of the M.S. St. Louis entry to Canada in 1939. This research examines how Holocaust memory, and the memory of the M.S. St. Louis incident specifically, shaped Canada's subsequent immigration policy and popular responses to non-Jewish refugee crises in the decades following the Second World War. It also considers how, through reference to the St. Louis, Canadian Jewish advocacy groups influenced formal Holocaust remembrance, redress, and restitution on a national scale as part of a broader attempt to memorialize Holocaust victims through changes to anti-refugee attitudes and legislation.

The ZC Welcomes Research Affiliates 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. 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 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.



ZC Affiliate **Chaim Moykopf** works with Yad Vashem. He began working there as a researcher in 2011 after completing his PhD and a Post Doc in Comparative Literature and European Studies at the Universities of Tübingen, Montreal (UdM) and at the Canadian Centre for German and European Studies.

Yad Vashem has several projects in various stages of research at any given time. Currently Professor Moykopf is working on The Deportations of Jews Project <https://www.yadvashem.org/>

[research/research-projects/deportations.html](https://www.yadvashem.org/en/research/research-projects/deportations.html).

This project was established in 2007 by David Bankier (ז"ל), Head of the International Institute for Holocaust Research from 2000 to 2010. Seven multilingual researchers (most of whom master at least three languages), comprise the project's team. The aim of the project is to reconstruct the transports of Jews, by the Nazi regime, from every Jewish community during the period of the Shoah. This includes transports to assembly camps, forced labor camps, ghettos and extermination camps. The intention is to collect reliable and detailed information about each transport such as its route, the bureaucratic system, the socio-economic background of the victims, the assembly points, the police forces in charge, the collaboration of the different European railways and more.

Once this information has been collected and analyzed, articles detailing this information will be published on the Yad Vashem website with links to deportation lists along with additional demographic data derived from different archives. All available sources are being used, from official Nazi documentation such as Gestapo and RSHA files, Reichsbahn documents, to documentation from post-war trials and from the various commissions for the Investigation of German crimes. Testimonies, personal accounts of survivors and various studies on deportations carried out since 1945 are included in this research.

To-date, transports from the Reich (including Austria and the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia), transports from France and the Benelux countries, and transports from Greece have been completed. The project has successfully identified 1,400 transports with a current average of 100 transports per year. Presently, the transports in the former Wartheland, the second largest province that the Nazis established from mainly annexed Polish territory are being researched. This includes transports from Poznań and Kalisz, and from the Łódź ghetto to the Chelmno extermination camp as well as the deportations to the forced labor camps along the planned Autobahn from Berlin to Warsaw, and the euthanasia transports in mobile gas vans to several mass burial sites.

The research is meaningful but extremely challenging. There are limitations in terms of time, scope and funds. Especially time as survivors and other witnesses are aging. In terms of finding physical evidence, research in this part of what is now Poland, is much more difficult as in the Wartheland, the Nazis were successful in erasing most of the traces of their crimes.

Moreover, there is limited collaboration with foreign archives. However, with every additional transport the project comes closer to its main task: returning as much identity to the victims as possible.

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 at any time and it will be included immediately on our web site and in the next issue.

External Affiliate Publications

Dani Kranz, director of Two Foxes Consulting and senior research fellow at Bergische University Wuppertal, Germany is trained in anthropology, social psychology and history. Her areas of expertise cover migration, ethnicity, law, politics and processes of statehood. She is particularly interested in various intersecting issues ranging from interfamilies, and interchildren, to citizenship to intergenerational transmission in Israel and Germany. Her most recent publications reflect her broad range of interests.

“Thinking Big: Classical Jewish Studies, Jewish Studies Past, Present, Presence and Israel Studies Thought Together,” in *Intersections of Jewish Studies and Israel Studies in the 21st Century* (eds.) Carsten Schapow and Klaus Hördl, 217-246. Lanham: Lexington Books

“Working Hands or Humans? Temporary Migrants in Israel and Germany: Between Acceptance and Rejection in the Social and Legal Spheres,” co-author Hani Zubida, in *Citizenship between Inclusion and*

Exclusion (eds.) Andreas Kewes et. al., 221-242. Heidelberg: Springer, 2019.

“It took me a few years until I understood that I am, as a matter of fact, Jewish”: The third generation (writ small) going large as a generation,” in *Trauma, Resilience and Empowerment: Descendants of Survivors of Nazi Persecution* (eds.) Adina Dymczyk, Jost Rebentisch & Thorsten Fehlberg, 105-125. Frankfurt: Mabuse Verlag, 2019.

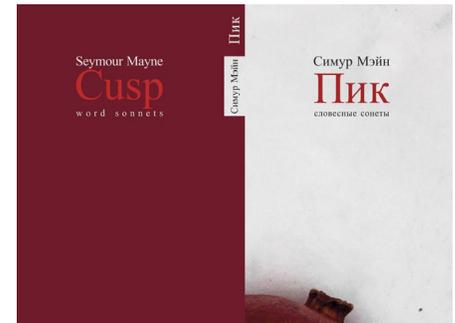
“Big baggage on small shoulders? Children of Israeli/German Interparentage in Germany,” in *Les mariages mixtes dans les sociétés européennes, XVIIIe-XXIe siècles Pour une histoire sociale de la mixité matrimoniale* (eds.) Michael Gasperoni, Cyrille Grand and Vincent Gourdon, 286-312. Rome: Violla, 2019.

Seymour Mayne’s most recent book, *Cusp: Word Sonnets*, translated by Mikhail Rykov with an introduction by Natalia Vesselova, was recently published in Saint Petersburg, in a bilingual Russian edition, and is for sale at bookstores in the Russian Federation. This volume was originally released

in English in 2014 by Ronald P. Frye & Company to mark fifty years since Mayne’s first collection was published in Montreal. *Cusp:Word Sonnets* has also been published in French, Portuguese, and Spanish editions.

Librarians and interested readers may order copies of the book direct from the publisher, Silver Age, either via regular or e-mail communication:

Silver Age (Серебряный Век)
Fontanka River Embankment, 34
Saint Petersburg
Russia
191014
E-mail: silveragegalina@mail.ru
Price: \$10.00 U.S.



Congratulations to **Nick Arial**, recipient of the 2019-2020 Bergstein Memorial Bursary. Nick is in his fourth year of the Religion program at Carleton and plans to begin the Religion and Public Life one-year Master’s program at Carleton next fall.

While this degree focuses on religion, its inherent interdisciplinary approach provides numerous engaging avenues of exploration. The course work focuses on case studies related to how aspects of religion interact with the “public sphere,” and then these case studies are then utilized to address how religious ideology and discourse interact with institutions such as the law, the state, the economy, the media, and many others.

Nick shared how he was drawn to

Jewish Studies. His main interest is Christianity, and he felt it was important to study its Hebrew roots and the influences of Judaism on Christianity. He also has long had a fascination with the Hebrew Bible. His program at Carleton provided him with the opportunity to study the Bible in greater depth it along with the traditions/beliefs that it (the Bible) has inspired. Nick commented that his study “has certainly given him a better understanding and appreciation of Judaism as a whole”.

Nick extended his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Dr. Butler and the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies for awarding him the Bergstein Memorial Bursary.

SAVE THE DATE

**Limmud Ottawa,
Sunday, March 15, 2020**

Each year LIMMUD surprises with its broad range of ideas, presentations and the diversity of its participants

LIMMUD Ottawa 2020 will provoke, astound and delight. Following is just a hint of what will be an amazing day of learning.

“The most famous rabbi in America (according to the Washington Post and Newsweek) Rabbi Shmuley Boteach

will be presenting; Dr Tanhum Yoreh queries the impact of religious values on environmental behaviors; Rabbi Mike Moskowitz, trained at the Mir Yeshiva, in Jerusalem, and Beth Medrash Govoha (BMG) in Lakewood, New Jersey and who is a staunch advocate for trans rights; Professor Dani Kantz director of Two Foxes Consulting and senior research fellow at Bergische University Wuppertal, Germany explores various intersecting issues ranging from interfamilies, and

interchildren, to citizenship to inter-generational transmission in Israel and Germany, and Avi Benlolo, prominent human rights activist, president, and chief executive officer of Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies (FSWC), the Canadian branch of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

JOIN US to meet and learn from the remarkable presenters LIMMUD is bringing to Ottawa.

Warm turn-out to hear Professor Frances Malino

by Michaela Bax-Leaney

The Zelikovitz Centre would like to thank **Dr. Frances Malino** and all who came out on Sunday Sept. 22 for Dr. Malino's lecture, “Jewish Voices: Muslim Lands,” at Carleton University.

Dr. Malino joined us to discuss her research, which explores the lives of the women who trained as teachers in France, and then returned to Morocco to teach under the auspices of Alliance Israélite Universelle in the 19th and 20th centuries.

In the 1860's a small group (6) of highly acculturated French Jews were motivated to assist Jews “living elsewhere in the world” (beyond the borders of Europe) “vocationally, linguistically, morally, and spiritually.” There were particular concerns regarding the “precariousness” of Jewish life in Muslim lands. So, while there was motivation to help their brethren who were less well-off, there was also interest in self-preservation, particularly of the middle and upper middle Jewish class and their

standing in French society at the time.

Dr. Malino was given access to an incredible trove of primary source letters which informed her research. She received a large amount of AIU archives from the archives of Moscow; in pristine condition, they have never been opened to researchers while residing in Moscow.

These archives were able to provide a detailed and personal look at the lives these women led, from their training in France, to the day to day work they performed. Given the abundance of material, Professor Malino chose five women whom she followed through the association, from studying to become teachers, to becoming teachers and heads of the AIU schools in Morocco. Instead of taking a global look at the women, Professor Malino opted for a multi-generational look at one such teacher, Claire, and her family. The article Professor Malino published on these findings is entitled “Prophets in Their Own Land? Mothers and Daughters of the Alliance Israélite Universelle.”

Her research illustrates that there are parts of Jewish history and experience that often go understudied. The hard work and careful research by Dr. Malino and others working in the area of Jewish women's history and Sephardic history enrich and expand our understanding of Jewish history.

Professor Malino's research highlights some particular issues illustrated through the experiences of these women. For example, the issue surrounding child marriages. Should married children be allowed to attend school? If the schools accepted young students who are married, would this be viewed by the community as “support” for girls being married young? However, if the married student is not accepted, then does it condemn that young child unnecessarily to a lifetime of illiteracy?

Professor Malino's research also explores how the women brought with them a stabilizing force to North Africa

Continued on next page

in the early 20th century. The skills training and education they had received, coupled with having respected positions, encouraged a certain stability to French families living in North Africa. This in turn had implications for the roles of women in France.

Her research explored important themes in the realms of gender and colonialism experiences in Jewish history. To what extent do sources direct how our research will unfold? The researcher must recognize that sources are gendered; when looking at the letters written by the male students and teachers, they show a very different experience from those written about by the women.

A lively discussion period, touching on these themes and more followed her lecture. We'd again like to thank Dr. Malino for inspiring and engaging in these discussions with us over the course of the evening.

We would also like to thank The Plenipotentiary Minister Mr. Lahoucine Rahmouni from the Embassy of Morocco in Ottawa for joining us!



Dr. Frances Malino and The Plenipotentiary Minister (Embassy of Morocco) Mr. Lahoucine Rahmouni

The ZC actively reaches out to emerging scholars, graduate students, and faculty at other universities, as well as independent scholars to partner with the ZC and our researchers.

Presently over 40 scholars and researchers with very diverse backgrounds and interests are affiliated with the ZC. A primary mandate of the ZC is to provide opportunities for these scholars to share their work with each other and the larger community in order to

support and encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches.

For interested affiliates, the ZC has undertaken to create webpages that reflect an affiliate's research, publications and interests. A number of affiliates now have their ZC page linked to their faculty page and/or their personal website <https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/staff/external-affiliates/>

We would like to encourage all ZC affiliates to turn your name into an ac-

tive link. As a number of affiliates have overlapping interests, please browse the webpages already active to seek out and share with colleagues who are engaged in similar fields of research.

If you would like to "activate" your name, all that is required is your permission to create these links as well as the (urls, etc) to make this happen. If you do not have a website, provide the information you would like to share, and a page will be created for you.

“Only the lesson which is enjoyed can be learned well.” ~~ Judah HaNasi, Talmud

Anyone who has heard me talk about the Israel course knows that it is a labour of love for me. It is a “peak professorial experience” where I get to connect with students in an unprecedented way, sharing the subject matter that I love, delighted by growing excitement as they immerse themselves in a place they have only ever read about.

Some students are seized by the historical richness of this place. One student from our last trip in 2018, summed it up: “History surrounds us”. Whether it is an archeological dig for a day, or clambering through a medieval crusader fort in Akko, history is a large part of the attraction. But Israel is not a solemn museum or a library, it is a living place where history and modernity come together in strange and delightful ways. Every activity, from eating falafel in an open-air market to touring the tunnels under the Western Wall, to hearing from LGBTQ activists, to visiting the inter-faith peace community Neve Shalom, juxtapose historical experience with contemporary debates and concerns. As a professor interested in modern experiences of religion generally, and Judaism particularly, I always ask: “How did we get here?” That question takes on new urgency walking in this place known as the “Holy Land.”

I began by saying it is a labour of love to offer this course. It takes a tremendous amount of planning and coordi-

nation. The hardest part of this job is knowing students would love to participate, would get so much out of this transformative experience, but there is one barrier to participation - they simply can't afford it.

I hope that the University's commitment to match your donations on Giving Tuesday (Dec 3rd) motivate you to support our students' dreams.

Following is a breakdown of some of the costs of those extras that enhance the learning experience.

\$1.80 pays for a city bus ticket to travel across Jerusalem;

\$18 for a student to experience sifting Temple Mount rubble looking for archaeological treasures;

\$36 for one entrance fee to Hezekiah's tunnel (wet feet from tramping through the ancient aqueduct is free) or for 5 students to explore Masada;

\$54 gains entrance for 18 students to visit the Pools of Bethesda where Jesus walked;

\$72 for the entrance fee for 7 students at the Israel Museum where students can walk through synagogues from all over the world -including one transported complete from

Suriname with sand on the floor. Why sand? One explanation is that it muffled the sound of footsteps so as not to attract anti-Jewish violence;

\$144 for 9 students to enjoy sulfur springs and slather themselves with mud at the Dead Sea (because learning should be mixed with fun too!);

\$180 allows 3 students to share the sabbath dinner with an Israeli family in their home;

\$216 for 18 students to visit the Islam Museum;

\$504 contributes to the bus and driver for one very long day of touring in the north.

Experience tells us the students may be too excited to sleep, but since the next morning

will take them to the biblical site of Tel Dan, they'd better try!

\$3600 lowers the cost of the trip for 18 students by \$200 each;

\$6012 gives one student their most beloved memory of learning at Carleton University;

Remembering on GIVING TUESDAY your donation is matched by the university.

Join us on our virtual venture:



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

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 at any time and it will be included immediately on our web site and in the next issue.

Words from the Director



Mina Cohn

It was a hot and busy summer. Holocaust Education Month (HEM) was fast approaching and CHES was excited to offer our community a full slate of programming that promised to be moving and enriching. We chose “Antisemitism” as the theme of the 2019 HEM, which featured renowned Holocaust historian Professor Deborah Lipstadt.

Sadly, 80 years after the outbreak of World War II, the world around us seems to be in constant upheaval. The rise of far-right extremist groups, “fake” news, and misleading information is of great concern to all of us. The increase in antisemitism and racism, largely online, is particularly worrisome.

Workshops Relevant and Timely

These troubling developments and the understanding of the need to share information prompted me to approach the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) and offer a workshop on racism and antisemitism. The response was positive and so, along with the annual Teachers’ Workshop, CHES held an inaugural Law Enforcement Workshop to help the

OPS and its partners understand antisemitism through the ages. Specific case studies deepened their understanding of antisemitism and World War II and society as it is evolving today. It touched on developing an understanding of current issues of discrimination and helped to promote equality and diversity in our city (see “HEM Workshops Reach Teachers and Police” below).

Given the disturbing developments we witness around us, our work is ever more relevant and urgent. We know that building a society free from racism and discrimination requires an ongoing, deeply rooted commitment to education. CHES will continue to support area educators through our outreach to schools with more frequent local Teachers’ Workshops.

Partners Wanted

CHES recognizes that visitors to the National Holocaust Monument need more details about the Holocaust to enrich their experience and their understanding of the legacy and lessons of the Holocaust. Therefore, CHES is looking for local and national partners to develop a smartphone-based app to provide appropriate information.

Building for the Future

I recall 25 years ago when survivors, who made up the majority of members of the Shoah Committee, were seriously concerned with the question: “Who will continue our work when we are not be able to?” This year we are privileged and proud to present HEM events that highlight the work done by 2nd Gens. They reflect the talent and power that children of survivors can now bring to Holocaust Education.

It is important to note that for the first time three local descendants of Holocaust survivors, who are not members of the CHES committee, stepped up to help us organize a symposium featuring four expert panelists. Thank you to Esther Rosenberg, Benita Siemiatycki, and Marlene Wolinsky for joining our symposium subcommittee and for their wonderful ideas and their dedication (see “Family Reunion Inspires

Commitment” below.)

CHES Corner Launched in OJB

Despite four years of CHES programming and outreach, the Ottawa Jewish community remains confused about who we are and what we do. To improve awareness of our work and improve our standing, we believe that a dedicated space in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin (OJB) will be helpful. The idea was to create a column in the OJB for CHES’ voice to be heard; this proposal was declined by the OJB. CHES then decided to pay for space and thus was born the ½ page column, CHES’ Corner: News and Views from the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship, with three columns published to date.

Powerful Symposium for 2nd and 3rd Gens

An audience of 80 listened intently as Artur Wilczynski, former Canadian Ambassador to Norway and a 2nd Gen survivor, moderated a distinguished panel of Holocaust experts on issues of great relevance to children and grandchildren of survivors. Break-out sessions allowed participants to discuss their personal experiences and to learn about strategies on dealing with the myriad of issues that can arise as a result of their family circumstances. There was much enthusiasm and a feeling of urgency for further action.

“Thank you for the great event; it was a really powerful, educational day,” said Lorne Geller, a 3rd Gen participant.

The strong message from the panelists stressed that the strength to confront antisemitism and hate emerges from a sound grounding in Jewish identity, a commitment that is lacking among many Jews. It is my hope that a grassroots organization will emerge as a result of the symposium, which CHES will gladly support.

Looking Ahead

We were very pleased with the excellent turnout at our events during HEM. We hope to see more people engage with our events and topics and are looking forward with much excitement to 2020.

Bottner Event Attracts Large Audience

Sheila Osterer

More than 80 people braved the rainy weather to listen to Dr. Bottner. Mina Cohn welcomed her and Ambassador Johan Verkammen. Mina spoke about the importance of 2nd and 3rd Gen survivors keeping the memories of the Holocaust alive.

Ambassador Verkammen stressed the importance of CHES' work. He described what Belgium has done to honour the victims of the Holocaust and explained that of 70,000 Belgian Jews, about 25,000 were deported during the war, and not more than 1200 survived. Most who did survive, he said, were hidden by Catholic priests and nuns. He explained that Belgium adopted the first laws that banned Holocaust denial, and that

the country established a Jewish alliance and museum in Brussels to honour the memory of Holocaust victims.

Dr. Bottner shared an experience she had after the birth of her son. She experienced terrifying, intrusive thoughts, imagining she was living under Nazi occupation and wondering how to evade the horrors. While she knew her parents were Holocaust survivors, she had avoided thinking about that. Years later, she began learning about epigenetics and believes that what happened to her grandparents and her father contributed to what she experienced when her son was born.

Dr. Bottner discussed the lives of her great grandparents before the war and shared the survival story of her grandmother and her father.

She explained that Andrée Guelen, a Brussels teacher who was horrified when Jewish children started wearing stars and then stopped coming to school, joined the Belgium resistance helping to transport children to the homes in which they were to be hidden. In the summer of 1942, she brought Tammy's father to a convent.

Her aunt Irene, born in 1943, was adopted by the parents of a priest in the resistance, and also survived the war. The family was reunited after the war, but it was excruciating as the daughter rejected her parents whereas her father was delighted to be reunited with them.

Dr. Bottner concluded by saying that "man never made any material as resilient as the human spirit."



Sharon Rosenberg (I) with Dr. Tammy Bottner (seated)

2019 Holocaust Education Month Features Outstanding Programs

Award-Winning Book's Canadian Launch

Dr. Tammy Bottner, the child and grandchild of Holocaust survivors, is the author of *Among the Reeds: The True Story of How a Family Survived the Holocaust*, which is a best seller on Amazon. A bagel breakfast marked the Canadian launch of her book and she took part in conversation, discussion, and a book signing. Johan Verkamen, the Ambassador of Belgium to Canada, offered words of welcome.

Dr. Bottner was born in Ottawa and as a child lived for several years in Israel. However, most of her life has been spent in the United States although she earned her undergraduate degree from McGill University. She lives in Newburyport, Massachusetts, is married to Dr. Daniel

Carlat, and has two children, both now university students.

Her father was a hidden child in Belgium, spending half of the first five years of his life separated from his family. In her book, Dr. Bottner ponders the question of whether the trauma of this separation ended with the conclusion of World War II. She is fascinated by the science of epigenetics and the evidence for inter-generational transmission of trauma.

Among the Reeds is the author's debut book and earned her "best female author/nonfiction" and the Reader's Choice award 2018. She has given talks all over America, and in South Africa, and has pending engagements in Australia and New Zealand.

Postscript

Dear Mrs. Cohn,

It is for me to commend you for organizing this very meaningful and pleasant gathering with a very captivating speaker. It was really enriching to hear her family's story. Indeed, I would like to inform my colleagues in the United States (Embassy of Belgium in Washington and Consulate in New York) about her book and ability to make a such an interesting presentation. Perhaps there might be a mutual interest to set up an event, given the Belgian connection. It was very nice to meet you and to get acquainted with CHES.

Thanks again!

Best regards,

Johan Verkamen

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium

Several weeks ago, Noa Ogilvy contacted the ZC and expressed her interest in being a volunteer for the ZC. Noa is doing her Master of Arts in International Affairs, specialization in Security and Defense Policy, at Carleton's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Her BA is from Concordia where she did a double minor in Chinese Language and Culture and Israel Studies. While at Concordia, she became an active volunteer for the Azrieli

Institute of Israel Studies at Concordia, assisting with their events on campus. As part of a three-day conference dedicated to the interdisciplinary exploration of Israel 70 years after the creation of the State, Noa prepared and curated a multi-media collage on the theme of "Israel at 70 Years" <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/research/azrieli-institute/events/israel-at-70/art-installation.html> As part of her program in Israel Studies, she participated in the Azrieli

Institute's Summer in Jerusalem in July 2017, and in it's Summer in Israel in July and August of 2018. The ZC is delighted with Noa's offer to be a ZC volunteer.

The article below is her perspective on Yuri Dojc's 'Last Folio.' For more information on this excellent event see p.21 below.

Yuri Dojc's 'Last Folio': Cultural Memories of Jewish Life in Slovakia



Noa Ogilvy

On Sunday, November 3rd, acclaimed Slovakian-Canadian art photographer Yuri Dojc came to the Kehillat Beth Israel Synagogue and gave a presentation of his project Last Folio,

showing images and a short documentary that detailed the making of the work. Last Folio is a series of photographs which aim to capture, preserve, and memorialize the remaining pieces and fragments of what Dojc calls “cultural memories of Jewish life in Slovakia”. The images are divided into five categories: books, buildings, cemeteries, fragments, and survivors.

The project began as a straightforward documentation of Slovakian Holocaust survivors, but slowly transformed into an exploration of Jewish cultural objects and spaces; namely, books and synagogues. In his presentation, Dojc described his 2006 discovery of what he called a “little heder”, a small room inside what had been a Jewish school in Eastern Slovakia. This little ‘heder’ was filled with Jewish books and Torah scrolls, all petrified in time. Simply flipping the pages of the books or unraveling the scrolls would have shattered many of them, and they would have turned to dust if not for the ink holding the parchment together. Dojc and his team began to document as many of these Jewish ‘fragments’ as they could, and he spoke of how the books themselves soon took on identities of their own; a few lines of simple handwriting scrawled in a book’s front cover were able to build identities for so many people for whom history has left us no names. Dojc described

the books “as tombstones”. By photographing and then later burying the books, Dojc and his team were able to give the books and the people who had owned them a beautifully heart-wrenching memorial service through art.

As an artist myself, I was especially moved by the still life images of cultural objects and spaces in Last Folio. Dojc’s documentation of books, synagogues, and cemeteries, spoke to Slovakian Jewish history and, by extension, Eastern European Jewish history, in a way that is uniquely their own. By showing us these photographs of objects and places that have by now returned to dust, have crumbled away, or have been buried beneath the earth, Dojc is able to paint a portrait of Slovakia’s Jewry by manner of omission; it is precisely in our search for people and faces in these photographs of Slovakian Jewish life that we are made acutely aware of what has been lost.



(fig. 1) Yuri Dojc, “Book Fragments, ‘Hanishar’”, Bardejov, 2006

One image that strikingly captures the spirit of Last Folio is the image titled “Book Fragments, ‘Hanishar’, Bardejov, 2006” (fig. 1).

The image shows decaying and torn book pages, with Hebrew letters appearing in bits and pieces. Near the bottom centre of the image, one word reads complete, *hanishar*, meaning ‘what remains’. Perhaps there is no

better image to sum up the message of Dojc’s work and the mission it serves: to preserve and protect what remains, to acknowledge and pay homage to what has been lost.

Although there is no question that Dojc’s images are quite sobering, they also offer viewers an incredibly poignant message of the power of art in the face of the overwhelming tragedy of the Holocaust. At first glance, the images of Slovakia’s crumbling synagogues, aging Holocaust survivors, and decaying Jewish books and cultural objects are extremely difficult to look at. It is hard to fully comprehend the extent of what was lost, a loss that is made even more difficult in the context of knowing that three fourths of Slovakian Jewry were killed during the War. Last Folio, through its photo preservation of many crumbling and endangered Slovakian synagogues, has been able to raise awareness and lead the Slovakian government and private donors to save some of the buildings. Unfortunately, for the books and cultural fragments, Last Folio can only offer them a final resting place, a memorial of what was. Dojc named the project Last Folio because he knew that for many of the objects, places, and people he photographed, his work would act as the final closing chapter for them, and, by extension, for Jewish life in Slovakia.

Yuri Dojc’s work, not only as an artist, but also as an activist dedicated to Holocaust remembrance, is needed today more than ever, given the many different political and nationalist groups attempting to re-write and bury the true history of the Holocaust. Last Folio, using the power of image and the power of art as activism, is able to visually remind us of the importance of understanding history and the consequences of antisemitism. Each image speaks softly to viewers, quietly urging them to never forget.

Yuri Dojc: An Outstanding HEM Event

Mina welcomed the audience and introduced Vit Koziak, the Slovakian Ambassador to Canada, who expressed appreciation to all who made the event possible. He explained that the story Yuri Dojc tells is overwhelming and said that Yuri is not only a photographer but is also a part of the story.

Speaking calmly, Yuri Dojc explained the serendipitous manner by which he came upon the survivors, the abandoned and decaying synagogues, and the school whose

books and religious items had remained intact, all of which he photographed for the Last Folio. Each photograph was haunting but one of the most moving was of a piece of a religious book that had belonged to his grandfather.

Most of the questions from the audience came from survivors and 2nd and 3rd Gen survivors involving Jews from Czechoslovakia. The appreciative audience learned that the books have since been buried in the Jewish tradition and

that many of the synagogues Yuri photographed in various stages of decay have since been beautifully renovated and are used as cultural centres by the Slovak people. He said the focus of his project was not the Jewish community of Slovakia today, but the survivors who were alive at the time of his numerous visits to Slovakia. For more info visit: carleton.ca/ches/wp-content/uploads/2019Yuri-Dojc-article-OJB-191007_pg-18-002-PDF.pdf



From left to right: Richard Zuker, Yuri Dojc, Mina Cohn and Ambassador of the Slovak Republic, Vit Koziak.

Inspirational Journey Captured for Posterity

Yuri Dojc, renowned art photographer, artist, and witness presented his project, Last Folio, Memories of Jewish Life in Slovakia. The program included the screening of a documentary by Katya Krausova and a talk by the artist, illustrat-

ed with slides, about his personal journey through Eastern Slovakia where he discovered an abandoned Jewish schoolhouse, untouched since 1942 when Jews from the area were deported to the camps. His journey was the inspiration for this multi-

disciplinary project of photographs, interviews with survivors, a book, and a video – all of which have been widely exhibited to great acclaim (<https://www.amazon.ca/Last-Folio-Textures-Jewish-Slovakia/dp/0253223776>)..

Acclaimed Holocaust Expert Comes to Ottawa

Sheila Hurtig Robertson, CHES
Committee Member

Professor Deborah E. Lipstadt, Doro Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies, Emory University, was the keynote speaker at the HEM launch event. Her topic was *Antisemitism: Old Wine in New Bottles*. A world-renowned Holocaust historian and author, Professor Lipstadt is perhaps best known for *History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier* which was turned into the feature film *Denial* in 2016 and tells the story of how she won the libel suit brought against her by Holocaust denier David Irving. Professor Lipstadt has been a consultant to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and served two terms on the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. Her most recent book is *Antisemitism Here and Now*, “a penetrating and provocative analysis of the hate that will not die.

“CHES was honoured to welcome

Professor Lipstadt as the keynote speaker at the launch,” said Mina Cohn. “Given the current global upheaval, it was important to bring to Ottawa one of the world’s foremost Holocaust scholars and to learn from her how to confront and fight antisemitism.”

(<http://religion.emory.edu/home/people/faculty/lipstadt-deborah.html>)

For an excellent account of the launch event visit <https://newsroom.carleton.ca/story/deborah-lipstadt-tackles-holocaust-deniers/>

Arie van Mansum Award Presented to Professor Jan Grabowski

As part of the launch event, CHES acknowledged Professor Jan Grabowski for demonstrating consistent excellence in Holocaust Education with the Arie van Mansum Award, initiated as a tribute to Mr. van Mansum, a Righteous Gentile from the Netherlands who lived in Ottawa.

During World War II, Mr. van Mansum came to the aid of many Jews in the

Netherlands, providing them with hiding places and creating counterfeit food stamps and false identity cards. Because of his involvement with the Dutch underground, he was arrested by the Gestapo in 1943, brutally interrogated, and then imprisoned in a concentration camp for two years until liberated by the Canadian Armed Forces. He assisted the local police with their investigations into war criminals and in 1946 appeared as a witness at a war crimes trial. In 1958, he and his wife emigrated to Ottawa where he lived quietly until his death in 2014.

Dr. Jan Grabowski, a deserving and exceptional professor of history at the University of Ottawa, has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to teaching the history and legacy of the Holocaust and ensuring that those terrible events are never forgotten. He continues to courageously withstand attempts to whitewash the history of the Holocaust in Poland, teaching all of us to speak up and protect history.

He is a founding member of the Polish Center for Holocaust Research in the Polish Academy of Sciences. He has been an invited professor at universities in France, Israel, Poland, and the United States. In 2011, he was appointed the Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim Chair for the Study of Racism, Antisemitism, and the Holocaust at Yad Vashem. In 2016-17, he was the Ina Levine Senior Invitational Scholar in the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. In 2020, he will be the Distinguished Fellow at the Institut für Zeitgeschichte in Munich, Germany. Dr. Grabowski has written and edited 16 books and published more than 70 articles in English, French, Polish, German, and Hebrew. His book, *Hunt for the Jews. Betrayal and Murder in German-Occupied Poland* was awarded the Yad Vashem International Book Prize for 2014.



Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, on her right, Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon, President and Vice-Chancellor, Carleton University, and on her left, Irwin Cotler, Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights and former Minister of Justice, and on his left, Professor Jan Grabowski.



Amazing turn-out to hear Professor Lipstadt

His most recent work, *Night Without End: Fate of Jews in Selected Counties of Occupied Poland*, was published in April 2018, in Warsaw in Polish. His forthcoming book, *The Role of the Polish “Blue” Police in the Extermination of Polish Jewry*, is scheduled for publication shortly.

A meticulous scholar, Professor Grabowski has written and spoken forcefully about the violence perpetrated by Poles against their Jewish neighbours during the Holocaust. A 2016 paper criticized what he called “the history policy of the Polish state”, arguing that “the state-sponsored version of history seeks to undo the findings of the last few decades and to forcibly introduce a sanitized, feel-good narrative.” He has deplored plans for a monument to rescuers of Jews, to be located in a square that was part of the Warsaw Ghetto which he sees as an attempt to inflate the role of the rescuers whom he describes as a “desperate, hunted, tiny minority”, the exception to the rule. The ghetto site should be dedicated, he argues, to Jewish suffering, not to Polish courage.

Professor Grabowski continues to be resolute in his condemnation of the policy

of the Polish Government and Poland’s Institute of National Remembrance and their efforts to silence him by criticizing his academic credibility and his personal integrity and accusing him of defaming Poland.

In contrast, some 180 Holocaust historians and other historians of modern European history signed an open letter in his defence, addressed to the Chancellor of the University of Ottawa, stating that “[h]is scholarship holds to the highest standards of academic research and publication.”

Carly Jevcak took a course on the Holocaust with Professor Grabowski in 2017 during her undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa. Her comments capture the strengths of his teaching and the reasons CHES chose him to receive the award. She wrote:

“Dr. Grabowski’s style of teaching is what every history teacher should strive to achieve. He punctuates his lectures with primary sources and often translates them on the spot - no matter which language the document may be in. They could be Einsatzgruppen records or Nazi propagan-

da posters. He encouraged us to evaluate primary sources for ourselves as well. He is a truly insightful educator who focuses on the evidence - even if the results are controversial.



“Professor Grabowski has inspired me as an educator because I’ve seen firsthand how engaged students can be when they are able to interact with actual pieces of history instead of being given chronological overviews. Using primary sources to illustrate the journey Holocaust victims took is more impactful than a statistic. It’s also why survivor testimonies resonate with so many individuals. Reflecting on one of these testimonies was our final project in his class.

“I cannot think of a better individual to educate the future generations about the Holocaust. I will never forget his class.”

Dr. Deborah Lipstadt Visits Ottawa's National Holocaust Monument

Renowned Holocaust historian Dr. Deborah Lipstadt visited Ottawa's Holocaust monument for the first time, prior to delivering the keynote event at the CHES launch of the 2019 Holocaust Education Month - and she said it impressed her.

"Usually I'm very skeptical of Holocaust memorials because some of them really

don't convey anything specific about the Holocaust...This I think does an excellent job," Lipstadt said after her tour.

"I think this has a very strong educational element built into the monument itself." Lipstadt said the educational component is not always present at monuments, although the key to having an enriching educational experience lies with the prepara-

tion done by teachers before a student visit.

Lipstadt thought the historical text summaries found close to the entrance were particularly effective at presenting a complex topic in a way that's easy to understand, and she said they were "very honest" about Canada's role in history.



HEM Workshops Reach Local Teachers and Police

Sheila Hurtig Robertson

Ottawa-area teachers and members of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) and their partners, which include the RMCP, and Canadian Security Services, explored anti-semitism in workshops led by Bernie Farber and Len Rudner, long-time colleagues who are recognized as experts on issues of hate and antisemitism.

“The last few years has seen an unprecedented rise in antisemitism and many other forms of hatred emanating from the far-right white supremacist movement,” said Farber. “At the same time, we have also seen a more frequent transition from hateful words to acts of racist violence. These workshops provide tools for those on the frontline to understand the roots of hatred, discuss means of recruitment, and identify young and vulner-

able people before they are drawn into the dark world of violent extremist movements.”

Farber is the CEO of the Canadian Anti-Hate Network. His lengthy career has focused on human rights, anti-racism, pluralism and inter-ethnic/faith/race relations. A former chief executive officer of the Canadian Jewish Congress, his expertise has been sought by a broad range of organizations. An Ottawa native, Farber “cut his teeth” working as a social worker with the Ottawa Jewish Community Centre in the 1970s.

Rudner, a member of the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, is a Principal at Len Rudner & Associates, a consultancy focusing on community advocacy, diversity, and human rights. He is the former Director of Community Relations and Outreach for the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA).



Bernie Farber, Mina Cohn, Chief Sloly and Len Rudner

Farber on Facebook Post-Workshops

Mazal tov to Mina Cohn of #CHES and all her volunteers who worked so diligently to provide Ottawa with one of the finest Holocaust Education Month programs on the continent. Much thanks to all the sponsors who have embraced and understood the vital necessity for Holocaust Education. All those who attend these programs should take note of the sponsors and thank them for their support of this endeavour.

Holocaust Education as a tool for learning about diversity, anti-racism, and the evil of bigotry cannot be overstated. As the world turns more populist and demagoguery becomes more prevalent, the Jewish community has a special obligation born out of the Shoah.

We must continue to drive forward the need for “Never Again.” Ottawa’s Holocaust Education Month is doing that and more”.

Teachers’ Workshop Reflections

Annette Wildgoose,
CHES Committee Member

An annual feature of HEM, the Teacher’s Workshop was a dive into antisemitism, providing a wealth of information from an historical context to the present-day rise of right wing antisemitic groups.

It was wonderful to see so many new and returning teachers from both the Ottawa Catholic District School Board and the Ottawa School Board. Their willingness to learn and participate in the roundtable discussions and to offer potential solutions to case studies not only encouraged a healthy discourse and sharing of ideas, but also offered insight into the professional responsibilities, teachers shoulder on a daily basis. Continued interest in the importance of including Holocaust Education in their curriculum is to be commended, as we all strive to reinforce the lessons learned and prepare future generations to understand the importance of Never Again!

OPS Workshop Reflections



At the Teacher’s Workshop

A participant in the OPS session said: “I have many more questions and will be contacting Mina to get more information about gaps in my understanding of how antisemitism differs from other forms of prejudice.” Added another: “I would like to know more about what I can look for to determine a person’s antisemitic beliefs.”

Family Reunion Inspires Commitment

Marlene Wolinsky

The seed for my participation on the committee to organize a symposium for 2nd and 3rd Gen survivors during HEM was planted in 2018 when I attended a reunion of my father's family who were from Cologne, Germany. Prior to the reunion, we were asked to record our family history, supported by photos and letters, to document the plight of seven surviving siblings. Our historical narratives were compiled and published in a family memorial book, which was distributed during our reunion.

This personal experience sparked my interest in becoming involved with CHES as I gained new understanding of how differently each of us cope with the past and the tragic loss of family members, and how profound and long-lasting is the impact of our parents' and grandparents' Holocaust experiences, which affect family dynamics in both positive and negative ways. Sharing our diverse stories brought our family closer together and gave us a sense of belonging.

When I reached out to Mina Cohn, initially looking for a place to display and share our family memorial book, I gladly accepted her invitation to meet with other 2nd Gen community members. At this meeting I developed a more comprehensive understanding of what CHES is all about and how I could connect with 2nd Gen survivors in Ottawa and get involved in HEM. Planning a project to bring 2nd and 3rd Gen survivors together in 2019 would, I felt, be a great opportunity to share my experience with others and help community members develop a similar feeling of unity and support.

The consensus was to organize a symposium that would not only look back at how families survived and coped with profound loss but would also examine how to better understand the impact of these experiences on our own lives. With an aging population, we also wanted to look forward, to address how 3rd Gen survivors can be pro-active in their efforts to continue to educate future generations to counter antisemitism. The

opportunity to create a new network of support and action involving 3rd Gen survivors is an exciting prospect.

Experienced members of the CHES committee offered suggestions, sharing their vision of how the symposium could bring together different points of view through presentations by experts in Holocaust education and how this forum could support 2nd and 3rd Gen survivors in Ottawa. It could also be an opportunity to create a new network of support and action for those attending the symposium. Each committee member shared the responsibility of reaching out to speakers who could help our community more clearly understand the impact of the Holocaust on our family dynamics.

For Benita Siemiatycki, a 2nd Gen member of our planning committee, the experience has been personally rewarding. *"As a child of Holocaust survivors, that horrific period of history has played a major role in my life. Even 70 plus years after the end of the war, the effects of limited family members, and the trauma experienced by my parents, keep popping up in expected and unexpected ways. So, it was with this background that I felt I should contribute as a volunteer in Holocaust remembrance. When Mina Cohn asked me to sit on a committee specifically to plan an event geared to the 2nd and 3rd Gens, I felt it was my duty and would*

be a valuable experience.

"Through this committee, I have met other 2nd Gen individuals living in Ottawa and played a role in organizing an excellent symposium to gather other children of survivors to hear speakers with expertise in Holocaust and related areas. Children of survivors, while having much in common with the Jewish community, have an additional identity that can feel isolating."

Being a member of this committee and creating an event to bring other children of survivors together has been a very rewarding experience. It has given a voice to the 2nd Gen committee members as we shared our stories and helped to plan a meaningful Holocaust event that we hope educated and will support community members. Equally important, it could provide the impetus for 3rd Gen descendants to network, share their families' legacy, and educate others as we continue the fight against antisemitism.

Committee member Esther Rosenberg agrees. *"I too am a child of Holocaust survivors and so it was very meaningful to work on developing a symposium that deals with issues that are relevant to 2nd and 3rd Gen descendants. Also gratifying was spending time with the committee members who share a similar background and were keen to make the event a worthwhile experience."*



Marlene Wolinsky

Symposium for Descendants of Holocaust Survivors: “Learning from the Past for the Future”

Sheila Hurtig Robertson

This unique, full-day symposium featured a panel discussion and break-out sessions relevant to those whose family members survived the Holocaust. The symposium arose from a need expressed by descendants of Holocaust survivors in Ottawa to understand how family trauma affects them.

The panellists included Dr. Natalia Aleksium who specializes in the social, political, and cultural history of modern East European Jewry. Dr. Eva Fogelman is known for her pioneering work in healing Second Generation and Holocaust child and adult survivors and their families. Dr. Zelda Abramson has written about the displacement, migration, and resettlement experiences of Holocaust survivors who came to Montreal just after WW II. Daniel Brooks is vice president and founder of 3GNY, an educational non-profit organization whose mission is to educate diverse communities about the perils of intolerance and to provide a supportive forum for the descendants

of survivors. Moderator Artur Wilczynski is the Director General of the Communications Security Establishment and former Head of Canada’s Delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance when he was Canada’s Ambassador to Norway.

Symposium “Powerful, Educational”

Dr. Natalia Aleksium’s topic was “Families in the Holocaust: Prewar Life Shaping Wartime Experiences”. She shared case studies of families before World War II and what they have taught us.

“Developing Resilience to Historical Trauma” was Dr. Eva Fogelman’s theme. She blames media for generalizing the negative effects of trauma but says the resilience that exists is rarely discussed. For example, she said, people had no hope for a group of orphan children survivors liberated from Buchenwald, but they were able to thrive and evolve from victim to being a Jewish child. A prime example is Eli Wiesel and his emotional account of reciting Kaddish with other Buchenwald orphans. She noted

that there are very few abusers amongst survivors, which she attributes to the love survivors experienced as children before the Holocaust.

Dr. Zelda Abramson, author of *The Montreal Shtetl: Making Home after the Holocaust*, explained that in 1952 her parents immigrated to a neighbourhood in Montreal where almost everyone was a Holocaust survivor. Even the Chinese dry cleaners spoke Yiddish. Her world view was shaped by being surrounded by survivors. She was determined to keep her private and public lives separate but that changed in 2005, a few months before her mother’s death, when she realized she wanted to learn more about her parents’ lives.

As her research progressed, she was left with the question of why Canadian Jews dissociated from Holocaust survivors, who were often poor and marginalized and seemed to pose a threat to Canadian Jews who felt successfully assimilated. She noted that the immigrant experience of survivors can be helpful in how we see our current policies on accepting refugees in Canada. On the one hand, we have increasing local pressure to accept people from war-torn countries; on the other is American President Trump’s push-back on security grounds.

Daniel Brooks’ topic was “The Urgency of Holocaust Education in the 21st Century”. When preparing for his bar mitzvah, he became aware that he had few relatives and so he started to learn as much as he could about the past. He discovered there was no programming or groups for grandchildren of survivors. Eventually he developed a mission to provide a forum to tell stories to the next generation. It grew from five people and now his organization, 3GNY, has 2,000 members. In sharing a personal story of his grandmother’s life in the ghetto, he said such stories are important for students, and can’t simply be learned in a textbook. There’s an extra relevance in this link to a survivor. It’s about preserving and passing on the truth.



Standing in the back from left Artur Wilczynski, Daniel Brooks, Mina Cohn, Dr. Zelda Abramson, Dr. Natalia Aleksium-Madrzak and Dr. Eva Fogelman.



Memorial candles dedicated to children who perished in the Holocaust were provided to each participant at the end of the program. The candles, a special project of the Symposium subcommittee, are a tangible way of remembering and of teaching about the Holocaust. Lighting such a candle makes the children come alive for 24 hours as we acknowledge their names in our homes in freedom.

Welcoming Kenra Mroz to the CHES Committee

"I am an English, Writer's Craft, and Special Education teacher at Sir Robert Borden High School in Ottawa. I am also the school's Equity and Diversity co-representative and the co-ordinator of its Social Justice Club. Holocaust history and legacy have always been integral components of my teaching practice. I firmly believe that Holocaust education is a serious responsibility that requires ongoing personal and professional development.

"This past summer I participated in

the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem's Summer Scholarship program (at the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem). The seminars, workshops, and field trips not only helped to expand and enrich my focus, but also inspired and encouraged me to develop and strengthen my commitment to Holocaust education. I am pleased to be actively working with CHES and am looking forward to continuing to work with students, colleagues, and communities in order to promote awareness, empowerment, and positive change."

Mosovic Speaks, Students Listen



Kenra Mroz

David (Dave) Moskovic recently spoke with my two grade nine classes. We have finished an intensive Holocaust study unit and the students have been applying what they have learned and developed through this unit towards a greater understanding of the profound and lasting impact of discrimination, as well as towards

an understanding of how the events of the Holocaust must be recognized and used as a means of promoting positive change in our world. We have made it a point to examine and discuss how the legacy of the Holocaust serves as an important reminder of the need to work towards a culture of inclusion and kindness.

Both of Dave's presentations went extremely well and the experience was deeply meaningful to all of us. I followed-up with class discussions and the students commented how impressed they are with Dave's courage, understanding, energy, kindness, and open-hearted messages.

Commentary: Who Will Remember?

Dr. Art Leader,
CHES Committee Member

"There are events of such overbearing magnitude that one ought to not remember them all the time, but one must not forget them either. Such an event is the Holocaust." The Rabbi of Bluzhov, Rabbi Israel Spira, *Hasidic Tales of the Holocaust*

For Holocaust survivors, there is no forgetting. For everyone else, we need to capture survivor testimonies so we can remember. However, with each day, another survivor and another eyewitness to the evils of the Holocaust disappears. Today, the children of survivors and their children must continue to remind society what the Holocaust meant to Jewish families and mankind, and to combat the antisemitic merchants of hate who deny the Holocaust.

To read more: <https://carleton.ca/ches/wp-content/uploads/Art-Leader-PDF.pdf>

Join us on our virtual venture:



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

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 at any time and it will be included immediately on our web site and in the next issue.