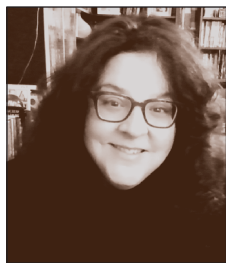




Newsletter

Director's Message



After almost two years, the academic year 2022-2023 saw many of us returning to campus. Some students are still struggling. Faculty discuss how fragile students still are: after years of pandemic education, in-class skills like notetaking and participating in class discussions have atrophied. Students can't keep up with pre-pandemic

workloads or stay on track for deadlines. For students who ended their high school careers online and began their first years of university on zoom, being in a class in person is a new and sometimes confusing world.

Still, students and professors alike are delighting in being together again. After several semesters online, I'm finally meeting students I've only known through a zoom screen. They are suddenly realizing how tall I really am! It is a pleasure to chat with students about what we are studying as we move through the halls and linger after class.

Why and wherefore?

This year, in response to the ongoing increase in antisemitism globally, in Canada, and particularly on Canadian campuses, the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) has redoubled our focus on antisemitism. Our public programming began in November during Holocaust Education Month (HEM) with our partnership with the Holocaust Studies **Lessons and Legacies** conference to present the acclaimed performance of **Yiddish Glory: Lost Songs of WW II**. This was followed by two key zoom programs that each explored questions of remembrance and memory and the Shoah in very different contexts. The first was a guest lecture by Dr. Mehnaz Afridi, Professor of Religious Studies at Manhattan College, and

"If you understand the why and wherefore of what you learn, you do not forget it quickly."

- Talmud Yerushalmi, Berakot 5:1

author of **Shoah Through Muslim Eyes**, who spoke about the Shoah in Muslim and Arab contexts to students in our new Holocaust undergraduate course (taught by University of Ottawa PhD Candidate Megan Hollinger). (See Eniola's article on Dr. Afridi's lecture, p. 8.) The second blended together scholarship with personal narrative through a lecture by Dr. Paul Finkelman which illustrated how different sources contribute to our understanding of the Shoah through a conversation with Mr. Jacques Shore about the work of his mother, Dr. Lena Allen-Shore (see p. 7 article on Jacques Shore).

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Holocaust Education Month (HEM) concluded with our official launch of the *Hear Our Voices* project which centres oral histories in educating about the Holocaust and antisemitism. We are so pleased to be seeing the impact of this project where professors and students from around the world are engaging with this public bilingual educational resource. We are also looking to develop curriculum modules (French and English) that would empower secondary school teachers to confidently use these resources in their classrooms and to connect their discussions to contemporary antisemitism. Our goal is to continue building on this project by taking the footage filmed during our oral history interviews and develop them into short educational documentary films. Work on the first two (Annette Wildgoose and Jan Grabowski) has already begun. The ongoing growth of Holocaust denial and minimization, increase of antisemitic incidents on our campuses, as well as repudiations of the IHRA definition by faculty and student unions across North America together underscore the urgent need for an awareness of the long history of antisemitism but also to recognize how antisemitism is characterized by both continuity and change. We need robust scholarly tools for identifying antisemitism and responding thoughtfully to Jew hatred in all its forms in Canada. The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies was proud to partner with University of Ottawa and the Azrieli Foundation to support the “Combating Antisemitism on Canadian Campuses: A Convening to Engage, Educate, and Empower Faculty.” This three-day meeting brought together leadership from the Academic Engagement Network with Canadian faculty to learn about how faculty can support each other and our students on our campuses. We were excited to offer training about antisemitism to University of Ottawa and Carleton University union representatives as well as campus Equity and, Diversity leadership and staff from both universities. Our keynote address “Confronting Antisemitism in Canada: Relevant Jurisprudence and Best Practices for

Our Campuses and Our Communities” focused on issues of academic freedom with expert speakers on Canadian and international legal dimensions. NECA, the Network of Engaged Canadian Academics, grew out of this first meeting and continues to be co-chaired by myself and Professor Cary Kogan (University of Ottawa). Although NECA is fully a separate and independent organization, the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies is proud to have contributed to the early nurturing of this network of faculty from universities and colleges across Canada.

Continuity and change are a central theme of a new course being offered by Professor Pamela Walker and myself. Cross-listed in Religion and History, our students are wrapping up a semester that began in the ancient world with the origins of anti-Judaism or religious antisemitism, moved through the medieval and early modern periods with their histories of blood libel in Christian Europe, the early Muslim community’s understanding of Jews and Judaism, Martin Luther’s anti-Jewish teachings in Germany, 19th century British antisemitism, the Damascus Blood Libel and antisemitism in the Ku Klux Klan in the US and Canada. The Holocaust is the midpoint of the course and included thinking about the pre-conditions of European support for the Nazis, Nazi propaganda in North Africa and the Middle East, Jewish experiences of and responses to antisemitism through Oral Histories, as well as film and other cultural responses to the Holocaust as rich sites for thinking about antisemitism in the modern world. The second half of the course explored antisemitism in modern contexts including the USSR, the 1972 Munich Olympics, China and Asia, Holocaust denial and the Iranian Holocaust cartoon contests, celebrity culture, and antisemitism on university campuses.

Antisemitism was also the focus of the new course RELI 4850A / RELI 5850L

Religion and Public Life: Community-Engaged Learning being

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our friends and colleagues who supported and continue to support the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies through their generous volunteerism and support. We can’t do what we do without your help. This year for example, community volunteers helped us complete the *Hear Our Voices* project through translation, copy editing and careful verification of subtitles on the project videos. We are deeply moved by the generosity of those who have given to the ZC on Giving Tuesday and throughout the year. In 2022-2023 your gifts allowed us to complete the *Hear Our Voices* project and move forward on developing new educational Shoah documentaries and on developing new programming for students and the community around Jewish culture and Jewish history. You have shown us what you care about through your support on Giving Tuesday: Ensuring that the stories of survivors are not lost but are shared with students and researchers alike to launch a new series of Shoah oral history documentaries; empowering students to learn about the Israel behind the headlines so they can learn in Israel and walk in the places they’ve only ever studied.

offered by the Religion program. Building on my experience with the Developing Future Leaders program, this course was designed to provide students with an opportunity to critically reflect on the theme of religion and public life through experiential community-engaged learning. Through a 30-hour placement, students (1) enrich their knowledge and understanding of religious community/communities, (2) apply religious studies theory, knowledge, and skills in a professional context, (3) reflect on their experience as a case study for religion and public life (4) contribute meaningfully to a community-based program and (5) gain substantive real-world professional experience. Although this was not originally the focus of the course, the students chose to work together on an antisemitism project. I reached out to David Sachs, Community Relations Specialist, at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa to ask if there was any research task that would be helpful to the community. His warm and positive response has resulted in a fascinating project where students have identified three international cities that are like Ottawa in terms of general population and size of the Jewish community (Nashville, Tennessee; Strasbourg, France; and Cape Town, South Africa). My students are learning to do interviews and are engaging local community leaders and scholars as they learn about the history of Jews in these communities, their experience of antisemitism, and community responses. The end result will be a report to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa that will provide case studies and best practices from these three cities.

As the winter term ended, the annual Graduate Student colloquium took place on April 14, 2023 (over zoom). The theme was Advancing and Adapting: Religion and/as Digital Culture. The event was co-chaired this year by Noë Bourdeau (PhD history) and Alena Wilson (MA Religion and Public Life).

Our Advisory Board

The work of the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies depends on the counsel and support of our Advisory Board. The Director of the ZC reports to the Board on the activities of the Centre and seeks advice on critical issues. Comprised of volunteer faculty, retired faculty, and community members, the Advisory Board works with the Director to guide the ZC in developing new programming, following best practices, and ensuring the highest academic standards. We thank Board members Betina Kuzmarov, Oliver Javanpour, Jonathan Malino, Maureen Molot, Allan Moscovich, Irwin Reichstein (Chair), Karen Schwartz, Daniel Stolarski and Pamela Walker. We also welcome two new board members Cary Kogan and Stanley Winer (see p....)

The Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies Team

Yasher Koach and gratitude to Dr. Susan Landau Chark for her tireless work on behalf of the ZC. Thank you to Mirka Snopkowska, our diligent Financial Coordinator; Eniolaoluwa Oladimeji, our hard-working work-study student; Talya Stein, our talented Social Media Coordinator; and Hannah Javanpour, our indispensable Senior Administrative Assistant (see p.). Thanks also to our amazing students Michaela Bax-Leaney, Noë Bourdeau, Darlene McLeod and Daily Luke who each joined us throughout the year to assist us in delivering our programs and research.

I am also looking forward to traveling with 18 students to Israel in May for three weeks. Joined by Professor Pamela Walker (History) and Professor Katherine Harbord (Humanities and Social Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University, UK), I am excited at how we will come together to explore religion and culture in this place that means so much to so many people around the world. Students from Math, Public Policy, International and Global studies, Religion, Psychology, History, Social Work, and Greek and Roman Studies bring their own diverse disciplinary interests to the course. We will be meeting with students from the region at Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University and Ben Gurion University, learning from international scholars and activists on topics as diverse as Constitutional Law, Muslim Minorities, Bedouin Women, LGBTQ issues, Environmentalism, Archeology, Migration Studies, Religious Communities and Peace, Early Christianity, Bahai history and Faith, and Women of the Wall. Finally, this will be my last newsletter for a while –July 2023 will see the beginning of my sabbatical, long delayed due to the pandemic. I'm extremely grateful to Professor Pamela Walker who will be stepping in as Interim Director of the ZC in my absence. She will be ably supported by Dr. Susan Landau-Chark who will be continuing as Associate Director. We already have a rich series of programs planned for next year, I know the Centre is in excellent hands!

Malino, Maureen Molot, Allan Moscovich, Irwin Reichstein (Chair), Karen Schwartz, Daniel Stolarski and Pamela Walker. We also welcome two new board members Cary Kogan and Stanley Winer (see p. 5).

Zelikovitz Centre Team



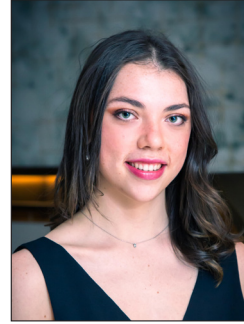
Hannah Javanpour



Amina Loum



Eniolaoluwa Oladimeji



Talya Stein

The ZC welcomed back Hannah Javanpour, who will be graduating in June from the Public Affairs and Policy Management program at Carleton. Her career focus is still International Policy. This past year, Hannah has been assisting Dr. Butler with the administrative component of the Study Israel Travel Course. She is also looking forward to participating in the course which takes place in May.

Amina Loum is a 3rd-year student in the Honours Global and International Studies programme at Carleton. Through The Students as Partners Program (SaPP), Amina has the great opportunity to work with Dr. Butler on updating and revising the RELI 3850 course on Religion & Culture in Place: Jerusalem Connections that will be taking place during the summer semester of 2023. This programme offers great experiential learning that can enhance a student's academic experience and help prepare them for future career paths. As part of her role, Amina will be responsible for identifying appropriate introductory materials for the course's recommended and required readings. This will involve identifying new scholarship, relevant films, and online resources for each archaeological, historic, and religious site covered in the course. Amina will have the chance to learn from an experienced instructor and collaborate on the development of course materials. This project offers Amina a unique opportunity to contribute to the design of a course, build her research skills, and work collaboratively with a faculty member.

The ZC had one work-study student, Eniolaoluwa Oladimeji. Eniola shared that she was drawn to the ZC for work-study as she had enrolled in the course Introduction to Judaism

taught by Dr. Butler. When Dr. Butler announced in her class that the ZC was looking for an administrative assistant, she immediately applied, "because [she] wanted to be involved in learning about how Judaism is a diverse and always developing living tradition, outside of the classroom." Eniola handled registration for the fall programming as well as assisting with Zoom. See her article (p.) on the lecture by Dr. Mehnaz Afridi on 'Muslim and Arab Responses to the Holocaust'.

The ZC also welcomed back Talya Stein, to continue in her role as the social media coordinator. She is finishing the last two semesters of her degree in Public Affairs and Policy Management, with a specialization in International Relations and Conflict Studies. Since her time working with Rabbis for Human Rights (RHR) as an Activist/Community Organizer in Jerusalem, Talya has returned her focus to her studies and budding career. Last spring, Talya had the opportunity to present her independent research project, "Knowledge Gaps Between Canadian Public Policy and Religious Actors; Another Hurdle for Women in Agunah" at the Inquiry @ Queen's Undergraduate Research Conference. Talya is looking forward to continuing her research ventures in her upcoming speaking engagement at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research Convention 2023 at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. While Talya has found immense fulfillment in her research experience, she is looking forward to applying her degree in international affairs. Upon graduation, Talya plans on travelling, gaining more work experience, and pursuing a Master's diploma in International Relations.

The ZC Welcomes Professors Cary Kogan and Stan Winer

The ZC is pleased to welcome Professor Cary Kogan and Professor Emeritus Stan Winer to the ZC Advisory Board.

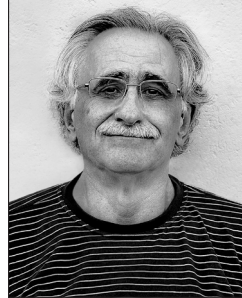


Cary Kogan

Cary Kogan is a full professor of clinical psychology at the University of Ottawa and a clinical psychologist. Professor Kogan is a consultant to the World Health Organization for training and implementation of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) – 11th revision for the mental,

behavioural, and neurodevelopmental disorders chapter. He has published extensively on the development and field testing of the ICD-11. Prof. Kogan has also worked as part of a collaborative research team examining the impact of racism on the mental health of Black people in Canada. He co-developed a training program for mental health professionals entitled, “Providing Antiracism Mental Health Care,” which is currently being evaluated as part of an SSHRC-funded project. In response to rising antisemitism on Canadian campuses and drawing on his experience confronting anti-Black racism in mental health care, Professor Kogan focused his efforts on creating an organization that would aid academics in confronting antisemitism on Canadian university campuses. He is the co-chair for the Network of Engaged Canadian Academics (NECA). NECA was inspired by the US-based not-for-profit Academic Engagement Network and shares with it a similar mission to promote academic freedom and freedom of expression, combat antisemitism, support research, education, and robust dialogue about Judaism and Israel in the academy and oppose the denigration of Jewish identity on post-secondary campuses.

Outside of teaching, research and committee work Cary enjoys the outdoors and is an avid hiker.



Stan Winer

Stan Winer is Canada Research Chair Professor Emeritus and Distinguished Research Professor in the School of Public Policy and the Department of Economics. He is a research associate at the Center for Economic Studies and Institute for Economic Research (CESifo), Munich. He retired from full-

time teaching in December 2020 after 43 years at Carleton. Over the years he has enjoyed being a visiting professor or visiting research professor at several universities including Carnegie-Mellon, Haifa, Western, Renmin, ANU, Montreal, the Hebrew University, University of California at Irvine and Hitotsubashi. At Carleton he continues to supervise PhD students and to serve on the Editorial Board of the Carleton Library Series where has been a member since 1999 and the Chair of the Board from 2010-2020.

His research combines economics and politics in the pursuit of an understanding of the structure and evolution of fiscal systems. This ongoing work includes the recently published Political Competition and the Study of Public Economics in the Cambridge University Press Elements Series with Steve Ferris (2022). His book Interregional Migration and Public Policy in Canada with Kathleen Day (McGill-Queen's 2012) received the Purvis Memorial Prize from the Canadian Economics Association.

Aside from academic life, Stan and his wife Amalia have been avid collectors of fine art photography for many years as part of the Photography Collectors Group. For several years he has been studying (part-time) how to make photographs at the School of Photographic Arts. Most recently he is learning to sculpt in clay at the Ottawa School of Art.

Preparing for RELI 3850: Religion & Culture in Place: Jerusalem Connections

RELI 5850: Religion and Public Life in Place: Jerusalem Connections

In preparation for travel, students in the Jerusalem Connections course have met several times to get to know each other and begin to learn more about religions and cultures in Israel. We met early in the year for an Israeli culture night to sample Israeli food and view and discuss the Israeli film, *The Women's Balcony*. At the beginning of March, we were warmly welcomed by the Israeli Ambassador to his residence, where we were joined by Embassy staff who shared their own personal histories and understandings of

Israel. This was followed by a lively discussion where students were encouraged to ask questions about Israeli history, policy, and culture. In late March we learned about the Baha'i religion from a local community member. We will be visiting the Baha'i gardens and Shrine in Haifa. With the Baha'i community's origins in Iran, students were treated to a Persian meal thanks to the generosity of a kind donor who wanted to share the hospitality of Persian Jews with our students.



First Person: Professor Allan Moscovich



ZC Advisory Board Member Allan Moscovitch, has been involved for the past five years with the Hearts of Freedom project heartsoffreedom.org. He shared that he has been working with a team of researchers, interviewers, videographers, digital specialists, and

documentarists to record the experiences of a selection of refugees who came to Canada from Southeast Asia from 1975 to 1985. The project has the support and active involvement of organizations representing the 200,000 Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians who came to Canada during this period. On their website, it is possible

to access these interviews as well as some interviews with sponsors, Immigration Department employees, and some members of the government including former Prime Minister Joe Clark, and former Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy. Using the interview materials, members of the team have completed a documentary film, a draft book, and are working on the preparation of education materials for schools. A six panel Exhibition in French and English is now on display at the Canadian Museum of History www.historymuseum.ca/event/hearts-freedom-stories-southeast-asian-refugees. Later in 2023 and in 2024 the exhibition will appear in museums in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Halifax as well as other venues across the country.

Congratulating Jacques J. M. Shore, C.M.



Carleton University's Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) takes pride in congratulating Jacques Shore, C.M. on becoming a Member of the Order of Canada in 2022. Jacques is very well known for his leadership and volunteerism during thirteen years of service to Carleton University. He served in many capacities, including as chair of the Board of Governors and chair of the Executive

Committee. He also served as chair of the Council of Advisors of the Canadian Centre for Intelligence and Security Studies of Carleton University and chair of the Distinguished Council of Advisors of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Among other high profile volunteer work, Jacques was the founding chair and currently serves as the past-chair of the Library Archives Canada (LAC) Foundation. Jacques is a former member of the Board of Ashbury College and has been actively engaged in the National Arts Centre's Youth and Education Trust.

Jacques started his illustrious career in Ottawa in the federal public service advising on criminal justice issues at the Secretariat of the Ministry of the Solicitor General (now the Department of Public Safety) <https://gowlingwlg.com/en/people/jacques-shore/#panel-button1>. Early in his career Jacques was the first director of research and investigations of the Security Intelligence Review Committee (now NSIRA), Parliament's watchdog body reviewing the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. He was a senior staff member of the Macdonald Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada, where his responsibilities included legal and constitutional work and co-ordinating the research effort on the Northern Territories. As well, Jacques assisted in research and writing initiatives for portions of the Royal Commission's final report.

Following his work in the public service, Jacques moved into the fields of regulatory and administrative law in the private sector. He joined his firm, Gowling WLG in 1991 as a partner in the Ottawa office. He is a member of the firm's Advocacy Group and is past leader of the firm's National Government Affairs Group. Jacques has extensive experience in both the private and public sectors, and practises in the fields of administrative law, federal regulatory affairs, corporate governance, and negotiations focusing on trade, procurement, nuclear energy and national security matters, and cultural policy, as well as public law and government advisory work.

Jacques is an adviser to numerous Canadian and international companies and business interests on legal, government and public law issues. He has also acted as lead negotiator on many business and government-related initiatives. He has extensive experience dealing with and advising not-for-profit corporations and non-governmental organizations. Jacques has worked actively on behalf of the federal government of Canada and provincial governments on a broad range of legal and public policy matters.

Jacques has served as Canada's chief negotiator on the Algonquins of Golden Lake land claim and led a team of legal experts in providing legal counsel to the Office of the Interim Commissioner for Nunavut during the final phase leading up to the division of the Northwest Territories. While he has worked on several government commissions of inquiry, most notable is his mandate as co-lead counsel to the Air India Victims' Families Association before the Federal Commission of Inquiry into the Bombing of Air India Flight 182.

Aside from his role as President of the Ottawa Titans Field of Dreams Foundation and being a co-owner of the Ottawa Titans baseball team, he has authored legal articles on law and public policies. Jacques is the author of three children's books, one of which received an "Our Choice" Award from the Canadian Children's Book Centre in 2004 and another was recognized as one of the best children's books in 2022. An artist who enjoys painting and drawing, Jacques also illustrated a published book of short stories. He is a member of the Writers' Union of Canada.

Jacques collaborates with the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies advisory board and its membership on antisemitism issues. As a child of Holocaust survivors, Jacques has an intimate understanding of the impact of systematic antisemitism. We are grateful for his continued support for the Centre for Jewish Studies and his counsel on such matters.

The Order of Canada was established by her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1967 to recognize outstanding achievements, dedication to community and service to the nation performed by individuals in all sectors of Canadian society. The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies is delighted and proud to congratulate Jacques Shore, C.M. and his family for an honour so well deserved.

Oliver Javanpour

Carleton University, Board of Governors, 2012-2020

Member of the Advisory Board, Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies

Learning from Dr. Afridi

Professor Megan Hollinger is the instructor for the new Carleton course, “The Holocaust: Historical and Religious Dimensions (Holocaust Encounters)”. As part of her curriculum, one of her lectures focuses on Muslim and Arab Experiences/responses. In partnership with the ZC, Professor Hollinger invited Professor Mehnaz Afridi to speak to this topic.

The public was also invited to attend (over zoom).

Below is a response to Dr. Afridi’s talk by ZC work-study student Eniolaoluwa Oladimeji.

On Nov. 18th, 2022, Dr. Megan Hollinger hosted well-known speaker Mehnaz Afridi. Professor Afridi’s talk “Muslim and Arab Responses to the Holocaust” was opened up to the community at large.

Mehnaz Afridi, a Pakistani-born Muslim teaches at Manhattan College, a private, Catholic, liberal arts university in the Bronx, New York City. She is an assistant professor of Religious Studies and the Director of The Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center at Manhattan College. She teaches contemporary Islam and the Holocaust and from her lecture tries to find ways to intersect the two topics. In most of her classes on Islam, she focuses on the contemporary issues of religious identity like gender, race and class while also paying close attention to diverse interpretations of the Qu’ran in various Muslim communities. She advocates for keeping the memory of Holocaust survivors alive, social justice, human dignity and taking care of the poor.

Despite the indifference of most Europeans and the collaboration of others in the murder of Jews during the Holocaust, some Muslims risked their lives to help Jews. She talked about many Rescuers, but these especially caught my attention:

Khaled Abdul-Wahab, a Tunisian-Muslim Arab man who saved several Jewish families from Nazi persecution,

Sultan Mohammed who was the Moroccan king at the time, protected the Jews of Casablanca,

Ismaïl Necdet Kent was a Turkish diplomat who risked his life to save Jews during World War II. To prevent their deportation to the Nazi death camps, he was able to grant Turkish

citizenship to several Turkish Jews living in France who lacked valid identification documents, and Abdol Hossein Sardari who invented a racial category called Mosaic to show Jews came from the Prophet Moses. He helped 14 families escape by changing their names.

The story I found most interesting was of Noor Inayat Khan whom Professor Afridi identified as one of her heroes. Inayat Khan was an Indian Muslim woman who was spying for the British in Paris; unfortunately, she was caught by two women. She was hesitant when she was apprehended and stubbornly refused to divulge any details regarding her work or her fellow agents. She was executed at Dachau Concentration camp. There is a statue of her in Gordon Square, London, UK.

Professor Afridi also talked about the Holocaust in Albania and the crimes committed against Jews in Albania during World War II. After the war in Albania, some of the Albanian Muslims that had rescued the Jews were killed.

We should celebrate these underappreciated but outstanding Rescuers of enlightened leadership at a time when anti-Semitism and Islamophobia are on the rise globally.

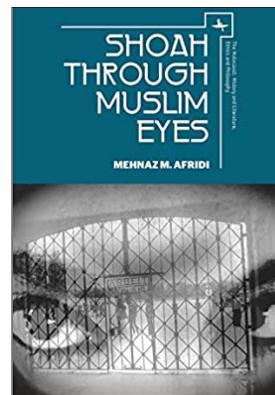
Attendees were given an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the event. During the Q & A, the most interesting question asked was “what are the challenges you face while teaching about the Holocaust and Islam?”

Professor Afridi’s response: “it is not black and white” because most people do not know a lot about Islam to begin with. Her main challenge is lack of knowledge because this is such a complex topic, one cannot assume anything about what

people know and what they don’t know when teaching this topic.

Overall, I found the event extremely informative and educational. It was an opportunity to look at the Holocaust through a Muslim lens, [and to hear about] her personal experiences with Judaism and with, encountering antisemitism and Islamophobia.

Dr Afridi’s talk can be found **here**.



Spotlight on the ZC'S EXTERNAL Research Affiliates

The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) recognizes the need to develop opportunities for scholarly collaboration. We regularly invite emerging scholars, graduate students, and faculty at other universities, as well as independent scholars to partner with the ZC and our researchers. Although Research Affiliate positions are unpaid, the ZC offers scholars a place to share their work-in-progress, and their completed research and publications, to encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches. Where possible, the ZC invites scholars from off campus to present to the public and participate in Carleton courses.

The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies Welcomes New External Affiliate



Professor Alex Tepperman

Professor Tepperman notes that while he owes an incalculable debt to his academic mentors, his specific interest in Jewish crime and criminality is, oddly enough, the result of his experiences living in the Deep South. Throughout his young adulthood in Toronto, he thought nothing of being surrounded by Jews in both private and public life. His high school, once populated mostly by North Toronto WASPs, was rezoned a year before his arrival to include students from the Lawrence and Bathurst area, the city's most-Jewish corridor. Professor Tepperman then spent seven years at the University of Toronto, where again he was surrounded by Jewish students at University College, an institution colloquially known as "Jew-C" since antiquity! He even maintained this continuity upon his enrollment at the University of Florida, which Hillel named as the top public university in the United States by Jewish population in 2022 [author's note: Go Gators]. To be clear, he did not intend to shape his life in this way; a Jewish presence just seemed to be the natural state of things throughout his life.

Then in 2018, "armed" with a PhD in History from the University of Florida, Professor Tepperman landed his first academic job as an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at the Spartanburg branch of the University of South Carolina. It was a fine job that allowed him to work with many incredible young people. However, the school was also in an area of the United States dominated by Evangelical Republicans with whom he shared little in the way of interests or ideals. He comments

that he felt apart for the first time in his life and, following the horrific events at the Tree of Life Synagogue in 2018, he began developing a personal interest in the contemporary Jewish experience. Outside of the poignant expressions of pain and anger from the local Jewish community, his colleagues and neighbours in Spartanburg met the mass murder in Pittsburgh with a pronounced silence. Those around him explained away the silence by arguing that there were so many mass murders in the United States that one couldn't lose sleep over each one, which Professor Tepperman considered both simplistic and of questionable logic. Whatever the reason for the silence, however, it led him to wonder whether the widespread societal expectation of peace within Jewish life is an illusion. He speculated that his interest in studying contemporary Jewish street crime emerged in part out of a desire to actively push beyond the cliché of Jewish affluence and contentment, and to suggest that North American Jews' comfort is more contingent than one might like to imagine.

Currently, Professor Tepperman is working on a book that sketches out the history of Jewish crime in North America since 1890, which he believes to be the first macro-level study of its kind. Outside of the book project, he has mostly published on issues relating to historiographical methods and perspectives and their potential value to the field of criminology. In the classroom, he has attempted to share his interests with students, having taught numerous courses on historical and contemporary witchcraft, qualitative methodology, and historical criminology.

In his downtime, he enjoys CrossFit, being with his dogs, and meeting new dogs. He also tries to maintain a connection to his Jewish identity on an extracurricular basis by enjoying the music of John Zorn, Jeff Rosenstock, and the Beastie Boys.

About External Affiliate Dr. Nancy Isserman



External Affiliate Nancy Isserman, M.S.W., Ph.D, is an adjunct professor at Gratz College in its PhD program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. She is also the Director of Operation Home and Healing: Services for American Veterans and their Families which provides counseling, psychoeducational programs for veterans, and training councilforrelationships.org

Dr. Isserman is also Co-Director of Transcending Trauma Project (TTP) councilforrelationships.org/ttp, a position she has held since 1993. This is the only qualitative research project of its kind to look at pre-war and post-war factors, family dynamics, coping and adaptation strategies after the war, and the impact of severe trauma based on in-depth life history interviews with three generations of survivor families. The Transcending Trauma project has conducted 307 in-depth life histories with 98 Holocaust survivors and

their children and grandchildren to better understand coping and adaptation after extreme trauma. She is a co-author of *Transcending Trauma: Survival, Resilience, and Clinical Implications in Survivor Families* (Routledge, 2012) and has published articles and books, and lectured on topics relating to trauma and Holocaust survivors, military culture, the transmission of trauma in military families, and on tolerance in survivors.

Dr. Isserman's PhD from the Graduate Center, City University of New York, "I Harbor No Hate: Political Tolerance and Intolerance in Holocaust Survivors" received the 2004-2005 Randolph Braham Dissertation Award.

Her current research is focused on family relationships in three generations of Holocaust survivors, particularly from 2nd generation to 3rd generation, and the impact of the Holocaust on these family relationships based on TTP data.

For International Holocaust Memorial Day (January 27), Dr. Isserman **shared the blog** she had written for the day which is tied into her research on tolerance in Holocaust survivors.

The ZC is seeking volunteers

Occasional volunteers are needed:

1. Translation of texts: to and from Hebrew, French for ZC projects
2. Editing / checking for typos in texts: English and French for ZC projects
3. Drivers to bring community members to events on campus

Immediate assistance needed:

Experienced high school educators willing to look over existing Hear Our Voices online materials (Holocaust educational materials for University students), identify which materials are appropriate for secondary school and develop lesson plans / assignments that could be provided for high school teachers. The HOV materials are available in stand alone English and French versions. We would love to develop curriculum materials for both English and French language

schools, so we are looking for anyone who can work on curriculum in either language, then we would arrange to translate their work into the other language.

English Here. French Here.

Immediate assistance needed:

Cataloguing ZC library using scanning gun. Training is provided. The Library is partially catalogued but must be completed.

Immediate assistance needed:

Assistance on Holocaust film documentary project: composer to score film researcher: music, images, video to use in film

We also need a General Assistant at the ZC

Great News from External Affiliate

Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie



In September 2022 Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie at the University of Nottingham Ningbo Campus was awarded 80,000RMB (approx. \$16,000CAD) from the Zhejiang Philosophy and Social Sciences Programme 2022 run by the Zhejiang Government as project leader for 'Uncovering the Jewish Communities of Zhejiang: The Ningbo and Hangzhou

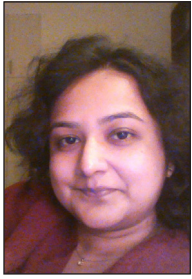
Historical Jewish Presence.' Dr. Ainslie was the only non-Chinese academic to be awarded this highly competitive funding. The project will focus upon gathering evidence about the Zhejiang historical Jewish communities who had a significant presence in the middle ages in China. Zhejiang is a coastal province in the east of China and became a major center of maritime trade from around the world under the late Ming dynasty. As the capital of Zhejiang, the city of Hangzhou became a diplomatic hub described in numerous early travel accounts, while the port city of Ningbo (where Dr. Ainslie's university is based) operated as an important center of ocean-going trade and was renowned as a global center of commerce. By the 16th century both cities possessed established Jewish communities, comprised of individuals who probably arrived via sea with Arab traders from the Middle East. Evidence suggests that these Jews thrived and became significant to the two cities, establishing homes and synagogues. Hangzhou even possessed a city gate known as the 'Jewish Gate', named due to the Jewish homes built nearby. Likewise, when the well-known Kaifeng Jewish community experienced flooding in the 17th century, it was the Jews of Ningbo who provided new Torah scrolls. Yet while the Zhejiang coastal Jewish communities were evidently substantial, we know virtually nothing about them, with very little evidence remaining today. Likewise, their connections with the more Easterly-situated Kaifeng Jews (who possibly arrived over land via the silk roads) are also unknown,

although these geographically and culturally separate communities evidently had contact and interactions. Together with local historians and museums, Dr. Ainslie is working to uncover more information about these historical communities. If you wish to learn more about the project, you are welcome to contact Dr. Ainslie at Mary.Ainslie@nottingham.edu.cn

In August 2022, Dr. Ainslie was invited to present her research at the ISGAP-Woolf Institute 'Global Antisemitism: A Crisis of Modernity Revisited' international conference. She presented the well-received paper 'Understanding the Construction of Jews, Israel and Antisemitism in Contemporary Malaysia'. Dr. Ainslie was also interviewed for The Times of Israel and the Jerusalem post <https://www.timesofisrael.com/chinese-media-keeps-referencing-the-holocaust-heres-why/> addressing the Chinese media's interest in the Holocaust. Dr. Ainslie also convened the course 'Virtual Studies in Genocide and Trauma', an online course constructed with Yad Vashem, the Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre, the University of Macao, Kyushu University and the Hong Kong Holocaust and Tolerance Centre. The course brought together speakers addressing the Holocaust, the Rwanda genocide and the Sri Lankan genocide and ran from September-December 2022. The course also offered the first opportunity for mainland Chinese students to listen to and question a Holocaust survivor and a survivor of the Rwandan genocide. The Chinese students listened intently, later writing essays on their feelings and reactions to the testimony.

In March, Professor Ainslie spoke to students in Professors Butler and Walker's "Antisemitism Then and Now" course. Students learned about why the traditional models for the root causes of antisemitism in European and North American contexts break down in Asian contexts. This was powerfully illustrated by Professor Ainslie's case study of antisemitism in China.

Publications of External Affiliates



Rohee Dasgupta

2022: **Rohee Dasgupta** and Yulia Egorova, "Introduction: anthropology of Jewishness in the twenty-first century." *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*. Special Section: Anthropology of Jewishness in the Twenty-First Century. November 29, 2022. Available at: <<https://doi.org/10.1080/14725886.2022.2142775>>



Allan Kagedan

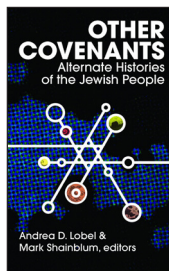
2023: **Allan Kagedan**, "Private Sponsorship of Refugees: The Role of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada." In *Canadian Readings of Jewish History: From Knowledge to Interpretive Trans-mission*, edited by Daniel Maoz, and Esti Mayer. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. 199-212. Available at: <<https://www.cambridgescholars.com/product/978-1-5275-9003-8>>

Dani Kranz

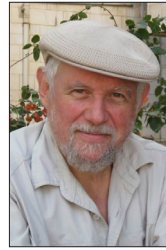


2022: **Dani Kranz**, "The quest for Jewish anthropology in Germany post-1945." *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*. Special Section: Anthropology of Jewishness in the Twenty-First Century. December 1, 2022. Available at: <<https://doi.org/10.1080/14725886.2022.2142771>>

Andrea D. Lobel



2022: **Andrea D. Lobel** and Mark Shainblum. *Other Covenants: Alternate Histories of the Jewish People*. Teaneck, NJ: Ben Yehuda Press. Available at: <<https://www.benyehudapress.com/books/other-covenants/>>



Seymour Mayne

Photo credit
Sharon Katz

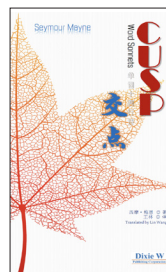
2023: *Shirim: A Jewish Poetry Journal*, edited by Marc Steven Dworkin and published in Long Beach, CA, just released a 40th anniversary year anthology issue offering *A Retrospective of Yiddish Poetry* that appeared in its pages since the early 1980s. One third of this issue is comprised of award-winning translations of Yiddish Canadian and Holocaust poetry rendered by U. of Ottawa Prof. Seymour Mayne, Department of English and the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program and also affiliated with the Zelikovitz Centre at Carleton U. In addition, Mayne edited two issues of the journal devoted to Jewish Canadian poetry in 1983 and 2012, and offered, at the editor's behest, a full issue in 2017 focusing on his poetry and memoirs of growing up in the Yiddish-speaking Mile End immigrant area of Montreal in the 1940s and 1950s.



2022:

Three midrashic poems, "Another Son," "Covenant," and "One" from Seymour Mayne's bilingual collection of biblical poems, *Le chant de Moïse* (Mémoire d'encrier), were selected and reprinted in the anthology *Other Covenants: Alternate Histories of the Jewish People*, eds. A.D. Lobel and M. Shainblum, published by Ben Yehuda Press (Teaneck, New Jersey). As the editors offer in the "Foreword," "this book is an exploration of paths we might have taken, a warning about paths we shouldn't take, and a celebration of the here and now, which may not be quite so bad after all, given the alternatives." For more information, please check out: <<https://www.benyehudapress.com/books/other-covenants/>>

Seymour Mayne's collection, *Cusp: Word Sonnets*, first published in the original English in 2014, has now appeared in a Mandarin translation in China rendered by Prof. Lin Wang (Dixie W Publishing Corporation). The publication of the book was made possible by the generosity of the Hubei University of Arts and Science in central China, the Bright Nova Media Corporation of Beijing, and Dr. Yosef Wosk, one of the leading benefactors of the literary arts in Canada. *Cusp* has also been published in French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish editions which have received worldwide notice, with special attention given to the innovations of the word sonnet sub-genre Mayne has developed. Available at: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1683724976?tag=bookfinder-test-b2-20&linkCode=osi&th=1&psc=1&language=en_US&selectObb=new>





Barry Stiefel

2023: **Barry Stiefel**, "Sacred Water Architecture for Every Jew: Rabbi David Miller and DIY Mikvah in Charleston, South Carolina," in ***Water & Sacred Architecture***, Anat Geva, ed. New York: Routledge (forthcoming). Available at: <<https://www.routledge.com/Water-and-Sacred-Architecture/Geva/p/book/9781032415895>>

2022: Stiefel, B. and J. Streit. (2022) "Remnants of Israel: Jewish Spaces and Landscapes in Medieval and Early Modern Europe" in ***The Oxford Handbook of Religious Space and Place***, Jeanne Kilde, ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 359-75. Available at: <<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxford-hb/9780190874988.001.0001>>

Crossing that Magical Divide



Shortly after the signing of the MOU between Carleton University and Gratz College took place, a number of Gratz's graduate students affiliated with the ZC.

One of these students Elie Fagan, graduated this past summer with his PhD in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. I asked Dr. Fagan if he could share with our readers his journey to Gratz and his experience

of crossing that magical divide between being a doctoral candidate and becoming a PhD.

Dr. Fagan did not consider himself a conventional PhD student. He has lived in Israel most of his life, with a career in law enforcement as a detective and a hostage negotiator. After serving for close to 30 years in law enforcement (which included three years in the Israeli military) he felt it time to embark upon a different career ("so as not to 'burn out' like so many of my other colleagues already had). As he had loved teaching during his police career, a job opportunity arose in the United States, and he moved with his family.

Dr. Fagan pursued a master's degree in Jewish education which included modern Jewish history and the Holocaust.

Upon completing his master's degree, he decided to continue his studies and pursue a doctoral degree in the specialized field of Holocaust and Genocide studies. I asked Dr. Fagan why Holocaust Studies?

He recalled that his initial exposure to Holocaust studies was during his undergraduate studies when he took a course taught by Dr. Otto Dov Kulka at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Through him, Dr. Fagan became fascinated with the topic. Furthermore, during his time with the Israel police,

he encountered Holocaust survivors, sometimes in the context of abuse, or as victims of crime, other times on the verge of committing suicide. As negotiators, he noted they engaged in difficult conversations to deter these individuals who had already experienced loss and trauma, from committing suicide. These negotiations usually lasted hours as the negotiators attempted to convince them why life was still very much worth living.

As a collective group, he found Holocaust survivors reserved, rarely displaying any discernible signs of their past traumatic experiences, and he became intrigued by them, their personal stories, and life experiences. Dr. Fagan noted that he would often reflect on how each survivor was a potential treasure chest, containing inaccessible knowledge and sealed emotions, driven deep down by the horrors they experienced and witnessed.

On Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) these reflections would emerge, and he would wonder about the times he communicated with the survivors and wondered whether they were still alive. Once he decided to pursue a PhD, his field of study became obvious. He said there was no doubt that the topic he chose stemmed from his associations with Holocaust survivors in the context of suicide prevention (See below to read the abstract of Dr. Fagan's dissertation).

Being one of the oldest students, he comments that "initially I felt the all-too-common 'imposter syndrome,' and with the age difference, I truly felt 'different.'" However, it didn't take long for him to recognize the fact that he was in a program with others in which age has no relevance.

He noted that a PhD journey is expected to be challenging, and one must prepare accordingly. However, this journey was especially difficult as he encountered many unexpected

Continued on next page

Crossing that Magical Divide Cont'd

obstacles in the process. The loss of his father and other relatives during a global pandemic did not make this journey any easier, and at times, he wondered whether he would ever be able to finish. He doubts he would have succeeded if it were not for his wife and the support he received from his family as well as his dedicated advisor and committee members who continuously supported and encouraged him. Indeed, at times, it seemed they believed in him more than he believed in himself.

Dr. Fagan summarized: "My advice to those contemplating pursuing a PhD: Prepare for the journey-it tends to get rocky at times; have a great support system in place, and most importantly, believe in yourself, you can do it and you will succeed!"

Dr. Fagan's dissertation is titled "Choosing to Die: Elective Death of German-speaking Jews during the Holocaust."

Abstract:

Holocaust discourse tends to generalize the waves of Jewish suicides that occurred in Germany and Austria as acts derived from hopelessness or desperation. Building upon Christian Goeschel's contribution to the study of suicide in Nazi Germany and adopting Wolf Gruner's micro historical approach that explores the actions of individuals, the study examines individual cases in which the actor, through actions or correspondence with others, presents different motivational factors than those commonly held within the

context of resistance. Following the analysis of thirty-one cases, the study refutes the commonly held belief that all Jewish suicides stemmed from a place of hopelessness or desperation. The study presents four alternative motives behind suicide committed by German-speaking Jews: Altruism, Defiance, Protest, and Resistance.

Additionally, the study examines the Nazi response to Jewish suicides and analyzes whether they were perceived as acts of resistance. The study demonstrates that two contradictory Nazi policies were implemented at different times. From 1933, the regime supported and encouraged the act of suicide, however, once Jewish deportation began in October 1941, the regime sought to prevent Jewish suicides or restore to health those who were unsuccessful in their suicide attempt. The study argues that suicides committed during this period constituted resistance in the eyes of the Nazis.

Editor's Note: Some of you might recall the webinar the ZC hosted May 2021, with Emmanuel Rosen, author of **If anyone calls tell them I died**. In 1933, the author's grandfather, Dr. Hugo Mendel, a successful Jewish lawyer, escaped Germany along with his family and moved to Tel Aviv. In 1953, Dr. Mendel and Lucie (his wife) returned to Germany for a couple of months. Shortly after returning to Tel Aviv, Dr. Mendel jumped to his death.

In this memoir Rosen seeks to understand the connection between his grandfather's suicide and his experience of Germany in 1933.

Emerging Academics

The ZC is happy to post and share exemplary undergraduate and graduate student work in Jewish Studies on its web site - especially suitable are links to projects or research. The most recent article is a paper by Jack Sigmund, a ZC graduate affiliate who is a PhD candidate at Gratz College.

[Click for the link to the Emerging Academics' webpage.](#)

Confronting antisemitism on campus

Dear friends,

I write to you today not as the Director of the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies here at Carleton but as a concerned Canadian professor who sees an urgent need for faculty to join together to support each as we face an ever-shifting terrain of antisemitism on our campuses. As faculty we seek to support our students and stand up against antisemitism on our campuses but sometimes, we are the ones who need support, and we need that support to come from our colleagues who understand the particular challenges we face in the academy and within the governance of our universities and colleges.

This is a task that necessarily extends far beyond Jewish studies. We must come together to support the Physics professor who sits on our Senate and faces BDS activism, the English literature PhD student who faces antisemitism on their committee, the pre-tenured professor who is alarmed by the actions of a hiring committee, the union representative from Computer Science who needs the tools to advocate for why antisemitism must be integrated into Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives (EDI). I write to you as a friend of the university who cares about antisemitism to inform you that this critical work is being done. I am also asking for your help to spread the word of this initiative in your own circle, to any academics in Canada (College or University) who would be interested in joining such a network so we can support them, and they can support others.

I hope your friends and colleagues will consider joining the Network of Engaged Canadian Academics (NECA). NECA is an independent organization formed by academics for academics. I am proud to be a member of the Steering Committee and to serve with Professor Cary Kogan (University of Ottawa) as co-chair. The goals of this group are reasoned and reasonable. We as faculty, Jewish and non-Jewish, regardless of political affiliation, must stand against Jew hatred and we must support each other in that effort, with advice, good counsel, armed with the academic resources and tools we need to respond to the realities we face.

In hopes for a more civil campus climate,

Deidre Butler

Associate Professor, Religion program, College of Humanities
Carleton University

Confronting antisemitism on campus Cont'd

Network of Engaged Canadian Academics (NECA)

We are a group of Canadian academics concerned about the increase in anti-Jewish hatred around the world. Campuses have not been immune. On some Canadian campuses, discrimination against the Jewish people has taken the form of motions passed by student and faculty unions, as well as departmental statements, that tendentiously employ charged and misleading language to hold Israel solely responsible for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Bans have been issued against Jewish student organizations such as Hillel, and in one instance an attempt was made to prevent Jewish students from accessing kosher food and services on campus. The result is that Jewish people on our campuses report facing increasing hostility from detractors, exclusion from progressive spaces or causes unrelated to the Middle East (e.g., gender equality, climate change), concern that faculty will not support work associated with Israel, denial of Jewish students' ability to express their opinions on Israel, and increasing pressure to express only negative attitudes with respect to Zionism. Of significant concern is that Jewish identity is not being considered in Human Rights Offices and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives on campuses. The outcome is that Jewish sensitivity training has often not been represented in essential training programs, despite the minority status of Jews and the alarming rise of anti-Jewish racism on our Canadian campuses.

These current trends threaten full and fair inclusion of Jewish faculty, staff and students in campus life, Jewish people's health and safety, and the fundamental values of the academy. Inspired by the success of the Academic Engagement Network (academicengagement.org), an independently run, non-partisan, non-profit organization headquartered in the United States, we seek to establish a Canadian network, the Network of Engaged Canadian Academics (NECA), specifically for faculty affiliated with Canadian universities. NECA is committed to genuine fairness, inclusivity, and respect for the dignity of all people.

Our Mission

- Promote campus free expression and academic freedom
- Counter all forms of antisemitism when it occurs
- Support research, education, and robust dialogue about Judaism and Israel in the academy
- Oppose the denigration of Jewish identity and ensure an inclusive, welcoming campus for Jews and others including those for whom Zionism is part of their identity.

We believe that as faculty we can play a critical role in improving the campus climate by using our knowledge and academic expertise to offer constructive feedback to campus leaders and stakeholders, and by conducting appropriate educational activities beyond and within our campuses, including public speaking, writing, mentoring students in distress, hosting campus programs and expanding our understanding of the complex history of antisemitism. We are therefore reaching out to Jewish and non-Jewish faculty members from across all academic disciplines in Canada who are willing to commit to participating in this network and who support our mission statement above. Please note that this network will seek to be a non-partisan educational organization rather than an advocacy group. We welcome your feedback on our mission statement and do feel free to share this email with colleagues who you think may be interested.

To support this initiative to empower faculty members in their fight against antisemitism please **complete the following form here**.

Signed,

The NECA Steering Committee:

Cary Kogan, Professor, University of Ottawa, Co-Chair

Deidre Butler, Director of the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies and an Associate Professor, Carleton University, Co-Chair

Jan Grabowski, Professor, University of Ottawa
Haskel J. Greenfield, Distinguished Professor, University of Manitoba

Oded Haklai, Professor, Queen's University

Yael Halevi-Wise, Associate Professor, McGill University

Megan Hollinger, Doctoral Candidate, University of Ottawa

Stuart Kamenetsky, Professor, University of Toronto
Mississauga

Hernan Tesler-Mabé, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Jewish Studies program at Huron at Western

Pamela J. Walker, Professor, Carleton University