



Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies

CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Newsletter | Summer 2021

Director's Message

Jewish Studies in a Covid world



Rabbi Hama, son of Rabbi Hanina, said: What is the meaning of that which is written: "Iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend" (Proverbs 27:17)? This verse comes to tell you that just as with these iron implements, one sharpens the other when they are rubbed against each other, so too, when Torah scholars study together, they sharpen one another in halakha. (BT Ta'anit 7a)

Studying in pairs, studying with a chavruta or partner, is a hallmark of Jewish learning. As each partner reads and translates together, reading aloud, they debate and expound upon the text together. In my own research with my chavruta, Professor Betina Appel Kuzmarov, we spend hours parsing interviews about Jewish divorce, debating how to "read" them against history, halakha, contemporary Jewish life, feminist theory, and civil law. We often reflect that this partnership is more than additive, there is a synergy in this type of scholarship that is dynamic and deeply rewarding.

As we wrap up this extraordinary academic year, it is astonishing to realize that the Centre for Jewish Studies has not hosted any in-person events for over a year. What makes this so surprising is how connected and collegial this past year has felt. Despite restrictions that have prevented us from gathering in-person, we have been delighted to offer a wide range of online programs that have brought together researchers, students, and the public from around the world. We have offered more programs, reached more participants, from more international locales, than ever before.

If 2020-2021 was the year of Zoom teaching, meetings, and conferences, it was also a year of rich collaboration through our relationships with the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies, the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, Vered Canadian Jewish Studies (University of Ottawa), and Gratz College. These collaborations are substantive, developing research projects that bring together researchers from across Canada, supporting students across institutions, sharing new research, and mentoring young scholars through conferences and programs.

This past December, Carleton University signed an MOU with Gratz College <https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/2020/mazel-tov-on-the-signing-of-the-mou-between-gratz-college-and-carleton-university/>. Jacques Shore, donor, and a past chair of Carleton University's board of governors and its executive committee was the driving force behind this opportunity. His mother had a very strong relationship with Gratz College. As founder and director of the Lena Allen-Shore Center in Philadelphia, she taught ... for more than 30 years (see p. 3). Shore noted, "Today's MOU gives Gratz, a leader in university e-learning, and Carleton an unbelievable opportunity to work together and to engage students and faculty around the world." (see page 4)

ZC continues to support its external affiliates, who are doing their research and teaching in closer places Toronto, the United States and farther places, Israel, China, Germany. The ZC received a lovely

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Director's Message

thank you note from one of our graduate affiliates that we would like to share (see bottom of page.).

In February CHES and the ZC officially announced that CHES would henceforth be operating independently of the ZC (see p. 7). Holocaust and Antisemitism scholarship remain central to the ZC's mission. A variety of programs and initiatives took place this semester over ZOOM. In honour of International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27), the ZC hosted a panel discussion on the documentary *Glass Negatives* directed by Jan Borowiec. As part of the program, Mr. Ohad Kaynar, Charge d'affaires and Deputy Chief of Mission, Israel Embassy in Canada announced its generous contributions to both Carleton University and the University of Ottawa for the purchase of Holocaust-related materials. Zelikovitz Affiliate, Dr. Rohee Dasgupta spoke on "Cosmopolitics and Holocaust Education" and the importance of teaching the Holocaust in multicultural societies. Recordings of these two events can be found here: <<https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/antisemitism/videos>>. Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie, Associate Professor in Media and Communication, University of Nottingham Ningbo China, spoke on "Challenging Antisemitism in Contemporary Malaysia: Countering Malay nationalist forces through pro-Israel expressions." It is known that the experiences of the Holocaust do not only affect the persecuted generation, but the trauma they carry, reaches down to the 3rd generation. Emanuel Rosen, author of *If Anyone Calls, Tell Them I Died*, spoke about his book which describes his search for why his grandfather (a well-known lawyer in Hamm, Germany prior to 1933) killed himself in 1957, after returning from a visit to Germany < <https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/events/2021-events/#2021EmanuelRosen2021> >.

This year the ZC participated in Black History Month (now a part of our annual calendar). The movie *Shared Legacies* was aired, followed by a panel discussion. This event was supported through a grant from the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Mission to Canada. <<https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/events/2021-events/#2021SharedLegacies>>.

On a lighter subject, Professor Allan Moscovitch, a member of the Advisory Board of the ZC shared his love of music

through his talk on Jewish contributions to popular music in the 20th century <https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/events/2021-events/#2021AllanMoscovitch>.

Our academic year concluded with a celebration of student research at our annual Zelikovitz Centre student colloquium. This year's conference was co-sponsored by the Religion program and the Vered Centre. The conference is traditionally interdisciplinary, this year's conference boasted particularly strong offerings in Jewish Studies topics from Canadian and international students (see p. 6 for details).

We are excited that several programs are already scheduled (online) for Fall 2021. We look forward to a Sigd program to learn more about Ethiopian Jewry in Israel and the Diaspora (November 1). The ZC will be working with the Azrieli Foundation to do a book launch (November 4) of the memoir *Escape from the Edge, a Holocaust Survivor* story by Dr Morris Schnitzer, z"l, as part of Ottawa's Holocaust Education Month. <https://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/titles/escape-from-the-edge/>. There will be an evening lecture, November 17, with historian Susannah Heschel. She will speak about the ways in which historians and other scholars have defined antijudaism and antisemitism.

Earlier in the year, the ZC applied for funding from monies being made available through ecampusOntario. The ZC is very excited that its application was successful. The funds will be used to develop curated digital resources for the study of antisemitism and the Holocaust (see page 4).

My thanks go out to our team who worked so hard, under such challenging conditions, to continue the work of the Zelikovitz Centre to support Jewish Studies research, teaching, and education at Carleton and in our broader community: Thank you Dr. Susan Landau-Chark, and Mirka Snopkowska. Thanks, and congratulations to departing graduating students Belle Riley Thompson, Shaked Karabelnicoff, and Michaela Bax Leany. We wish you all the best as you move on to new challenges. We also extend a warm welcome to new student staff Talya Stein who will be our social media coordinator and Hannah Javanpour who is assisting with the Israel travel course and developing online resources for antisemitism education.

Thank-You To the ZC

Rich Robertson joined the ZC as a graduate affiliate in late November. In the New Year he emailed the ZC this very supportive email:

I just wanted to extend a brief thank you to the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies. The access to Carleton's library collection, which surpasses that of my home institution in terms of the number of general texts and the amount of resources available in digital format related to Jewish Studies, has been extremely valuable to my research.

Of note, the plethora of materials related to Holocaust Studies that have been digitized and

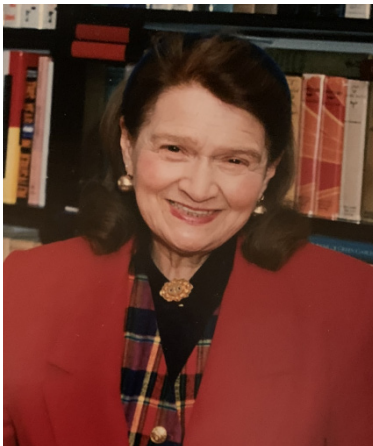
made available for access online through the MacOdrum Library is commendable. The array of biographies, secondary sources, and access to academic journals has been of great assistance in helping me to develop my understanding of the resistance groups that operated within the General government (General Government) of Poland during the Holocaust, which is the particular focus of my present research.

It may shock some Jewish intellectuals, but digital access to an updated and modern collection of print resources related to Jewish Studies is not to be taken for granted. Especially, as we all try

to progress through the pandemic which has only intensified the value of easily accessible and digital resources.

The ability to offer such access is one of the many components which makes affiliation with the Zelikovitz Center a worthwhile endeavour for any student or academic whose area of focus relates to Jewish Studies. Congratulations to the Zelikovitz Center for fostering a viable means through which to offer bona fide assistance to their affiliates and in doing so ensuring the further prospering of the field of Jewish Studies.

Remembering Dr. Lena Allen-Shore



Thérèse Lena Herzig, born in 1921, in Cracow, Poland, was an outdoors person, an avid skier, horseback rider, swimmer, and tennis player. When the German army occupied her town of Jaslow in 1939, Thérèse Lena, her parents Jakub and Lusja Herzig, and her younger brother Adam, moved to Lvov. In Lvov, she pursued her interest in music, enrolling in the Conservatory of Music. Her studies were cut short when the Germans entered Lvov. The family fled the Nazis,

Photographer Burney Lieberman

and Lena played a role in the Resistance at great risk to her life. She saved many from the Germans and made a promise to God that if she survived, she would work towards a better world of understanding among people of different religions, ethnic groups, races, and cultures. With the help of righteous gentiles, she and her family did survive.



Sigmund Shore and Lena Hurzig Paris 1946

After the war, she married Sigmund Shore, an engineer and economist, whose first wife and five-year-old son were murdered by the Nazis. Sigmund had fought with the partisans. Soon after their marriage, they moved to Paris where Sigmund was a diplomat, working as a commercial attaché. Lena worked as a writer and journalist and then took on her new pen name, Lena Allen-Shore. Lena also resumed her studies at the Université of Paris.

In 1951, the Shores moved to Montreal with their son Michel. Sigmund Shore built an import-export business and Lena was able to return to her first love of composing music and writing poetry and short stories. Sigmund died in 1967, and Lena took over his business and grew its operations until she returned to her writing and studies, once her two sons were adults. In her late forties, Lena enrolled in various programs at the Université de Montreal and worked with professors in several fields of study. She then

pursued further studies at McGill University, where she received her MA in Education. Her thesis was “Kant’s Ethics and Aesthetics in Education.” Thereafter, she enrolled in Philosophy at Dropsie University, in Philadelphia, and wrote her doctoral thesis on Julian Tuwim, a Jewish Polish poet (as well as lawyer and philosopher) receiving her doctorate in 1977.

In 1979, after having worked with several professors at Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania, Lena moved with her second husband, John Edward Greenberg, to Philadelphia. An accomplished philosopher, writer, music composer, historian and educator, Lena believed in the importance of multi-disciplinary studies. She founded (1984) the Lena Allen-Shore Centre for the Advancement of Human Potential, which, after a short period, became affiliated with Gratz College. “She was a beloved teacher,” Gratz College President Paul Finkelman said. “Students felt they not only learned from her and were mentored by her, but they were nurtured by her”.

Lena was also actively involved with Jewish-Catholic relations, traveling to Jerusalem in 2000 with Pope John Paul II on his historic trip. An exceptional woman who spent her life spreading principles of universality and human potential, her writings bring a message of inspiration and hope for a better tomorrow. She authored 17 books and publications in both English and French and has composed over 100 songs, including a cantata called *The Little Shoes* performed in Poland for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Lena’s last book has just been published by Simon and Schuster. This picture book for children, *Sleep, My Baby*, is based on a lullaby she composed.

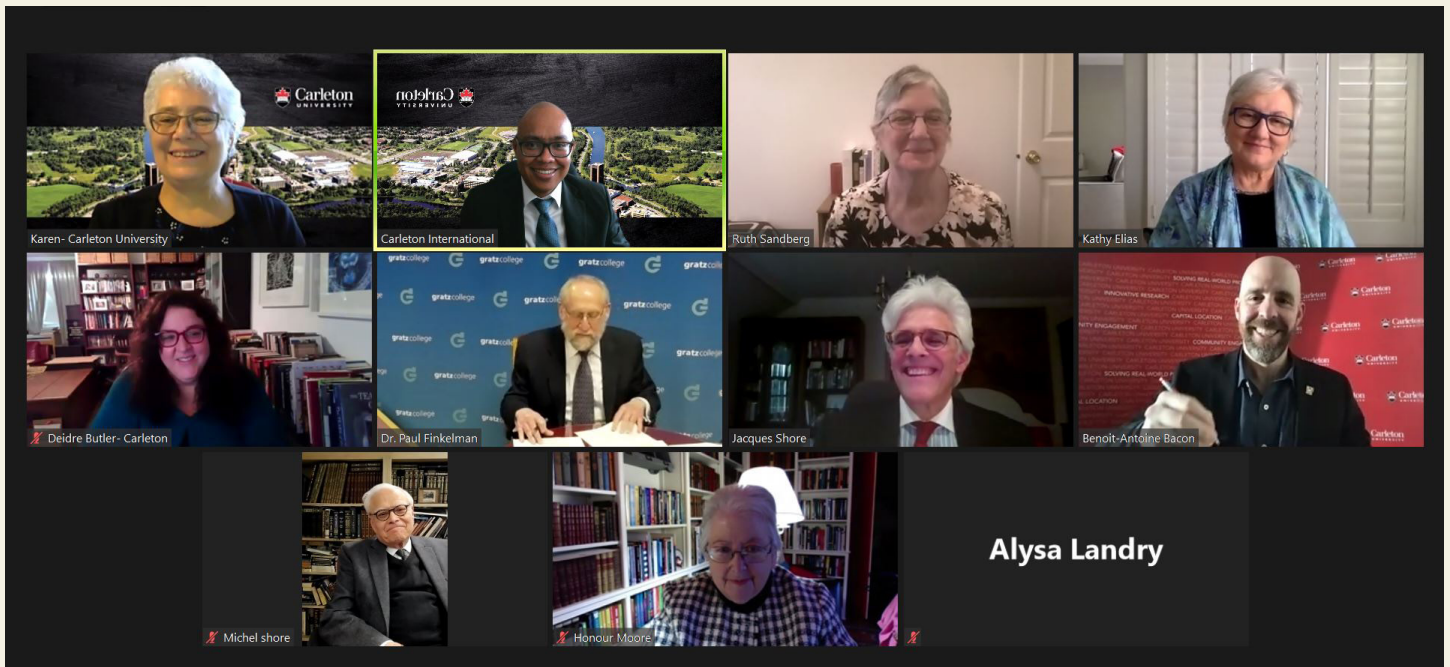


Her legacy continues. In appreciation of his mother’s love of teaching, sharing, and encouraging her over 6,000 students to “leave the world a better place”, Jacques Shore advocated the MOU between Gratz College and Carleton University.

Welcoming Gratz College Affiliates

Several Gratz faculty (3) and graduate students (11) have joined the Zelikovitz Centre as research affiliates. The ZC welcomes their contribution to Jewish Studies at Carleton and in the larger community, through research and teaching, engaging with us through conferences, presentations, and workshops, and enjoying access to our own extensive library resources. In February, the ZC was in-

vited to be a Teach-in partner with Gratz College for their biennial Arnold and Esther Tuzman Memorial Holocaust Teach-In which took place March 7. The 2021 program featured the renowned Art Spiegelman. As a Teach-In partner, interested faculty, staff and students of Carleton University were provided complimentary access to the program.



Carleton University signs the MOU with Gratz College.

FIRST PERSON: A new initiative at the Zelikovitz Centre



Marie-Catherine Allard (doctoral candidate in Cultural Mediations at Carleton University)

Earlier this Spring, Dr. Deidre Butler approached me to discuss the Ontario government invitation to submit proposals for online learning projects. She was interested in submitting a proposal for a project that would involve developing online resources to educate about the Holocaust and antisemitism and she hoped that I would work with her to submit the proposal and, if we were successful, serve as the project coordinator. The core of this project would be oral histories, both the existing oral history interviews produced at Carleton, and new interviews that we would produce to further enrich the historical record of the Holocaust and preserve survivor histories in Canada. As a Graduate Research Affiliate of the Zelikovitz Centre working in the area of Holocaust Studies, I was excited by the project and eager to get started. Over ten days (and nights!) we worked to develop the proposal and bring together the key researchers and institutional partners that would make this project possible.

We are delighted to share the news that the project that we have submitted has been fully funded. *Hear Our Voices: Holocaust Survivors Share their Stories of Trauma and Hate* is a bilingual online course that places the voices of Holocaust survivors at the centre of learning about the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism. It consists of four modules which will be created in partnership with the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies at the University of Ottawa, Saint Paul University, and Nipissing University. For the project's first module entitled "Oral History,"

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FIRST PERSON: Con't

Dr. Anna Sheftel (Associate Professor in the School of Conflict Studies at Saint Paul University) and research assistant **Erin Wilkins** (incoming Master student in Religion and Public Life at Carleton University) will focus on the uses of survivor testimony and will discuss, compare, and contrast key historical examples of the use of survivor testimony from the Nuremberg Trials to the present day. The second module, "Gender & Sexuality," co-chaired by **Dr. Deidre Butler** and myself, with the research assistantship of **Noë Bourdeau** (incoming Master student in Religion and Public Life at Carleton University), will problematize the depiction of gender and sexuality during the Holocaust by charting its evolving historical scholarship. The third module, co-chaired by **Dr. Deidre Butler** and **Jesse Toufexis** (Doctoral candidate in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies, the University of Ottawa), with **Hannah Javanpour** (undergraduate student in Public Affairs and Policy Management at Carleton University) as a research assistant, explores Jewish, Christian, and Muslim responses during and after the war. The fourth module of *Hear our Voices*, "Anti-Semitism & Race," will analyze survivor stories in order to engage antisemitism as a challenging and complex example of religious, racial, and ethnic hatred. **Dr. Hilary Earl** (Professor in Modern European History and Genocide studies at Nipissing University), together with research assistant **Jaqueline Girard** (undergraduate student in History at Nipissing University), will discuss how oral history interviews with perpetrators and survivors reveal how Jewishness exceeds the boundaries of race.

Collectively and individually, the modules will enable educators from multiple disciplines to apply their own questions and methods to this powerful material. To ensure the cohesion of the project, **Dr. Hernan Tesler-Mabé** (in addition to his role as Adjunct Professor in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies and teaching in the Department of History, **Dr. Hernan Tesler-Mabé** is Coordinator of the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program (all at the University of Ottawa), and President of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.), together with research assistant **Sarah Benson** (undergraduate in History at the University of Ottawa), will enable faculty and students to better appreciate the cultural context that was lost by sharing his research expertise on cultural materials such as music, art, literature, news items etc. that will be included in each module.

Since the voices of survivors are at the core of *Hear Our Voices*, our team will incorporate into the modules existing survivors' testimonies, will restore older footage, and will produce new interviews. I'm particularly excited to bridge my own doctoral research with this project through an upcoming interview with Dr. Josef Eisinger which discusses his evacuation from Austria to England on the Kindertransport and his interment as an enemy alien in Canada (discussed in his memoir *Flight and Refuge*). By doing so, *Hear Our Voices* will provide Canadian examples of survivors' testimony from during and after the war, in Europe, and in internment camps in Canada. By addressing a number of contexts and targeting oral histories as our entry point, *Hear Our Voices* challenges educators, and students to engage with the trauma of the Holocaust as a human story, lived by diverse persons, and not

merely as a chronological litany of suffering.

Through short mini lectures by Module Chairs and other invited experts we hope that students will directly engage these oral histories in their historical and theoretical contexts. Each survivor testimony will be contextualized through primary sources, digitized maps and timelines, and engaged from multiple disciplinary perspectives. These together provide the tools for educators and students from a range of disciplines to analyze, critique, and reflect on the paradigms that frame Holocaust scholarship and public discourses around the Holocaust, Anti-Semitism, and Racism.

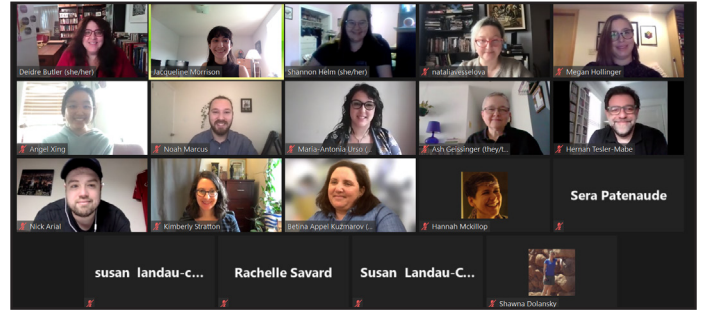
A key objective of this project is bilingual accessibility in French and English for all audiovisual elements including subtitles and dubbing. As a Francophone, I am especially concerned with such issues. **Dr. Butler**, a former Montrealer, is all too aware that these resources are too often not available in French and is committed to making these resources fully accessible. We, therefore, wanted to ensure that not only all text be translated into both official languages, but that the modules be bilingual and that original material in French be included in the modules.

I am pleased to announce that in addition to these valuable collaborators, the following partners will consult with our team and share resources where possible during the creation and implementation of *Hear Our Voices*: the Holocaust Literature Research Institute at the University of Western Ontario, the department of Digital Humanities and the Institute for Comparative Studies in Literature, Art and Culture at Carleton University, the Ottawa Jewish Archives, the Montreal Holocaust Museum, the March of the Living, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, and the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship, Ottawa. The Zelikovitz Centre is particularly proud to support this project, at this moment, as part of its larger efforts to assemble educational and scholarly programs around antisemitism and the Holocaust. During the creation process, our team, under the direction of **Dr. Deidre Butler** and the help of our Research Coordinator **Dana Fishman** (recent Carleton university graduate), will work closely with our partners. **Mirka Snopkowska**, the Zelikovitz Centre's Financial Coordinator will also serve as the project's financial and human resources coordinator.

Project content will be available freely to post-secondary educators and students through the e-campus Ontario online platform. Educators will be able to choose modules or even parts of modules for their courses. Each module is designed to work together or stand alone and be integrated into a post-secondary online course. All content for this project will also be available on the Zelikovitz Centre web site for the public and additional framing will be provided for secondary school teachers and students to access these materials as well.

Due to the current restrictive protocols surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, our team is at the early stages of the creation process. We hope to begin interviewing survivors and subject matter experts soon. This being said, we have a motivated team whose expertise has facilitated the process tremendously, and we look forward to sharing our bilingual and accessible resources by, hopefully, next Spring.

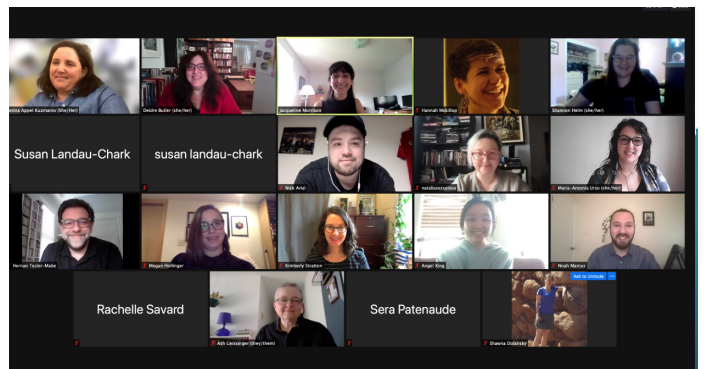
A Day of Learning: the ZC Interdisciplinary Student Colloquium



Co-Chairs: Nick Ariel, Shannon Helm, and Jacqueline Morrison

This year the ZC interdisciplinary student colloquium took place April 16 over ZOOM. Co-Chairs **Nick Ariel**, **Shannon Helm** and **Jacqueline Morrison** put together a lively conference with papers drawn from a wide range of subjects. **Michal Malecki**, (University of Warsaw) speaking from Warsaw, Poland, raised the question in his paper “How religious is Poland?” Using census data, and data from other surveys and polls, he demonstrated that while 90% of the Polish population identify as Catholic, a sizable proportion of this 90% do not go to church nor do they follow the beliefs and values that represent Catholicism. **Maria-Antonia Urso** (Carleton University) presented her paper on the Amazon Prime series, *Hunters*. The program is set in the United States and follows a group of Holocaust survivors who are “hunting” down Nazis. The issue discussed is how the Holocaust is represented (or not) in pop culture. Who is permitted to create memory? How factual does fiction need to be? Does “playing loose” with fiction distort memory? **Hannah McKillop** (University of Ottawa), using the TV show *The Good Place*, looks at non-religion in the United States. The questions raised: can one be moral and not religious? Can one be ethical without being moral? **Jacqueline Morrison** (Carleton University) presented a paper about Israeli Orthodox Jewish women and how they deal with a diagnosis of infertility. The paper also explores how their identities as “Jewish,” and “women” affect their decision to access assisted reproductive technologies. In his paper, **Nick Ariel** (Carleton University) addressed the shifting perceptions of Jewish men in America. In their families’ countries of origin, the ideal man was a scholar, whereas in this new world (America), physical prowess and sports now defined masculinity. Through the lives and careers of two famous Jewish baseball players, Hank Greenberg, and Sandy Koufax, he illustrates how sports, particularly baseball, became a way for Jewish men to integrate into American culture.

In his presentation, **Noah Marcus** (University of Ottawa) highlighted S. Ansky’s *The Dybbuk* as an educational tool. He noted that the Jewish rituals and ceremonies in the play were portrayed in the same manner as they occur in the Jewish community. As the play was viewed by a largely Gentile, Russian, audience, Ansky thought that the play could contribute to the combatting of anti-semitism by presenting Jewish rituals and ceremonies through entertainment. **Shannon Helm**’s (Carleton University) paper on “the daily life of women in Iron 1 Israel” underscored the degree to which archeology is highly speculative, especially where women are concerned. She noted that archeological sites that indicate usage in one period of time only (unlike some sites that have strata covering many hundreds of years) are not that helpful in developing a picture of ancient women. However, in assessing what is not on the site (that one might expect), can also be an aide to the daily life of women. **Megan Hollinger**’s (University of Ottawa) paper on anti-semitism in Canada today looked at the use of law, legislation, the internet, and social media, in combatting hate crimes (specifically antisemitism). The increase of incidents of hatred against Jewish Canadians reinforces the importance of education in combatting antisemitism.



Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship: Warm Thanks to ZC as New Journey Begins

After five years of fruitful cooperation, the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) and the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) at Carleton University have entered a new phase in their relationship. While the two Centres will continue to collaborate on Holocaust Education programs in pursuit of common goals, CHES, now operating independently as a registered charity, is expanding its horizons.

As CHES looks forward to new challenges and opportunities as a registered charity, we wish to first and foremost thank the ZC for embracing our ideas and giving us the space to grow and develop during the past five years. CHES appreciates the warmth and collegiality extended by Dr. Deidre Butler, Director of the ZC, Associate Director Dr. Susan Landau-Chark, Financial Coordinator Mirka Snopkowska, and all those at Carleton University with whom we worked throughout our formative years.

Established in 2015 as a community-based organization committed to “develop educational programs that promote knowledge and understanding of the history and legacy of the Holocaust,” CHES will continue to offer quality, year-round programming that combats prejudice and racism and promotes respect for diversity, social justice, and human rights. Activities include presenting teacher workshops, bringing world-renowned speakers to Ottawa, performing outreach to organizations within the community, and providing educational resources to help institutions and organizations fight antisemitism.

CHES programs respond to a significant need and fulfill a critical function in Ottawa. Our quality events attract diplomats, government representatives, community leaders, and the general public. CHES will continue to bring together academics, educators and their students, survivors and their children, diplomats, community members, local and international Holocaust Centres and museums, all levels of government, and other partners.

The strength of CHES is its dedicated team of volunteers whose vision is the driving force behind establishing a permanent home for Holocaust Education and Outreach in Ottawa. Committee members include CHES Chair Mina Cohn; retired lawyer Sharon Rosenberg; Judy Young and Elly Bollegraaf, both accomplished professionals and child Holocaust survivors; dedicated educators Minda Chaikin, Hilda Bleyer, Kenra Mroz, and Sophia Mirzayee; Abigail Bimman, an award-winning journalist, and Sheila Hurtig Robertson, an award-winning communications expert. Representing descendants of survivors are Marion Silver, Muriel Korngold Wexler, Dr. Art Leader, Dr. Phil Emberley, Stan Farber, and Marlene Wolinsky.

CHES plays an essential role in preserving the memory and the voices of the survivors who have made Ottawa their home. CHES’ first major project, in the spring and summer of 2016, was dedicated to interviewing and professionally recording film testimonies of 10 Holocaust survivors who live in Ottawa. Realizing that the weight of teaching the Holocaust poses challenges for educators and students helped CHES to focus the rationale and develop the project’s goal: “To document and preserve the testimonies of Ottawa Holocaust survivors as primary sources of oral history mediated through film and with broad online access.”

The important work of CHES, as it has become known to many Ottawa communities, must continue, and will include new ideas that enhance the testimonial project.

We are living in anxious times characterized by ever-mounting uncertainty. One thing, however, is certain. Antisemitism in Canada and around the world is escalating. We must build bridges based on understanding, knowledge, memory, and communication. These are the foundations upon which we can build a promising future.

CHES looks forwards to cooperating with the ZC on future programs and to further exploring our shared interests.

Sincerely,

Mina Cohn and the Members of CHES

Deidre Butler: Online Participation and Presentations

Aside from teaching, and writing funding applications, Dr. Butler gave a keynote lecture, served as a moderator, and with Dr Betina Appel Kuzmarov presented aspects of their research on Jewish divorce at two Jewish study conferences.

In March, Dr. Butler delivered a very well-received keynote lecture (over ZOOM) at the University of London for International Women’s Day. This lecture was part of a year-long seminar on Martin Buber. The theme of the seminar: Language and Symbolic Power: Feminist Dialogues with Buber. Dr Butler’s keynote was: I and Thou? Listening to Stories of Jewish Divorce with Buber.

In May, Dr. Butler was asked to moderate the “Author Talk” with Judy Batalion, who wrote *The Light of Days*. Follow the link and view Dr. Butler in conversation with Judy Batalion. <[\[www.youtube.com/watch?v=_roRHLBocjo&ab_channel=Jewish FederationofOttawa\]\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_roRHLBocjo&ab_channel=JewishFederationofOttawa\)>](https://</p></div><div data-bbox=)

This event took place in collaboration with the Shoah Committee of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and Greenberg Families Library.

Also in May, both Dr. Butler and Dr. Betina Appel Kuzmarov presented some of their findings concerning Jewish divorce in Canada at the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (“Warning Labels: Rabbinic Stories of Canadian Divorce” and at the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies (“Troubling Batei Din: Stories of Jewish Divorce in Canada”).

The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies Welcomes New External Affiliate, Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie

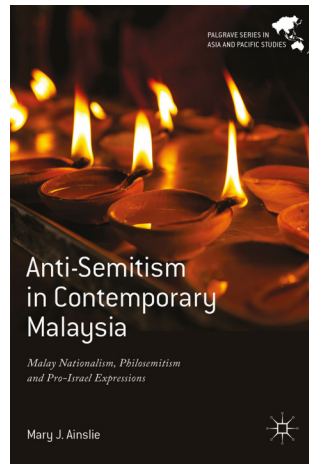


Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie

Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie is Associate Professor in Media at the University of Nottingham in the UK, however she is permanently based on their overseas Campus in the city of Ningbo in Eastern China. Recently Dr. Ainslie published two seminal studies addressing antisemitism and philosemitism in Asia, both original contributions that have been highly lauded by both governmental and academic sources as significant contributions to the field.

As a student Dr. Ainslie was based in Thailand, studying the development of media in the country, with a focus upon the post-World War II period. This included learning the Thai language and completing a PhD in Manchester, during which she was based in Bangkok and worked for the Bangkok International Film Festival. During this time Dr. Ainslie regularly travelled to present her work at media conferences in Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, formulating strong links as both institutions developed their Asian studies programs and sought to increase their connections in Southeast Asia.

When Dr. Ainslie was then offered an academic position at the University of Nottingham's overseas campus in Malaysia, she was aware of Malaysia's status as the most anti-Semitic nation in Asia, which includes the complete demonization, denial and delegitimization of Israel. However, determined not to hide her Jewish and Israeli links, Dr. Ainslie was surprised and delighted to find her Malaysian students intensely curious and very open to learning about Judaism and Israel. After surmising that there was more to be understood about this complex nation, Dr. Ainslie was awarded funding from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Vidal Sassoon Center for the Study of Antisemitism and began the first empirical investigation into antisemitism in Malaysia. Along with documenting anti-Semitic sources and actions in the country, this secretive project involved interviewing a number of Malaysian citizens sympathetic to Israel. Dr. Ainslie uncovered evidence of Islamic philosemitism, identification with Jewish people as a persecuted minority from Malaysian minorities, and a general dissatisfaction with the growing authoritarian nature of religious discourse that manifested through interest in forbidden topics such as Israel, secularization, and LGBT issues. Groundbreaking findings involved young Malaysian Muslims speaking of their shock in learning online about the Holocaust for the first time, and their admiration for Israel's equal treatment of Muslim citizens, likewise their own theological interest in Judaism and its relationship to Islamic belief.



Accepted by Palgrave Macmillan as part of their Asia Pacific series, the project was published in monograph form as '[Anti-Semitism in Contemporary Malaysia: Malay Nationalism, Philosemitism and Pro-Israel Expressions](#)' in 2019. The book was so significant that [the Times of Israel chose to interview Dr. Ainslie about her findings](#), and Dr. Ainslie was later contacted by various Israeli organizations to discuss her conclusions and their implications for international relations. Dr. Ainslie then travelled to present the project in Israel, Canada, the UK, and Singapore. Malaysian sources also sought wider information about the project, with the book quietly distributed across academic and journalist networks. Such prominence culminated in Dr. Ainslie being invited to deliver the talk "Antisemitism: Does it exist in Malaysia and why it matters" at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah in Borneo. This was to mark International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust for 2021 and was hosted by the Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Language Learning as part of a broader human rights course run by the university. This was the first such lecture of its kind in the country and was well received by staff and students alike, who asked intelligent questions about the history of Judaism in Malaysia and Dr. Ainslie's own experiences in Israel. Dr. Ainslie is now in discussion with academics at the university, identifying ways in which to approach teaching topics such as the Holocaust and Israel/Palestine relations in the Malaysian context.

After moving from the Malaysia campus to the Nottingham China Campus in 2017, Dr. Ainslie became curious about the presentation of Chinese Jewish history in light of the growing China-Israel economic links. Building upon her knowledge of philosemitism and antisemitism, Dr. Ainslie began a project addressing how such history has been adapted to suit the contemporary context, focusing particularly upon China's One Belt One Road global investment initiative. After finishing her research, Dr. Ainslie published this article as '[Chinese Philosemitism and Historical Statecraft: Incorporating Jews and Israel into Contemporary Chinese Civilizationism](#)' in the top Chinese studies journal *China Quarterly* in 2020. She outlined the danger of pushing Jewish stereotypes in the racialized Chinese context and the potential effects of doing so. This seminal article resulted in invited presentations at prestigious institutions across the UK, Canada and China, and a commendation from Freeman Professor of East Asian Studies Prof. Vera Schwarcz at Wesleyan University.

Having now been based in Asia for over 15 years, Dr. Ainslie is planning a move to Canada to be with her Canadian fiancé. However, her Jewish studies project is far from over. She is spend-

Dr. Mary Jane Ainslie Con't

ing her time gathering data about Jewish history in Ningbo, conducted with encouragement from the modern diasporic Ningbo Jewish community. As a significant ancient and modern-day port, Ningbo holds some of the oldest references to Judaism in China. Indeed, when the well-known Kaifeng Jewish community suffered damage from flooding that caused significant damage to their synagogue, it was the Jews of Ningbo who sent new Torah scrolls to their Kaifeng brethren. Such actions are indicative of a thriving and established community not far from the sizable community of Hangzhou Jews, yet Ningbo Jewish history is yet to be explored. The Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies wishes Dr. Ainslie all success in her endeavors and looks forward to a prosperous and fruitful cooperation.

The ZC welcomes new 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

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 short descriptions of one's research. The link to Emerging Academics' webpage is: <https://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/academics/emerging-academics/>.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, November 17.

Dr Susannah Heschel will be speaking about the definitions of antijudaism and antisemitism from a historical perspective.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, November 4, at 7:30 pm

There will be a Book launch of the memoir *Escape from the Edge*, a Holocaust Survivor story by Dr Morris Schnitzer, z"l. This event is a joint effort of the ZC and the Azrieli Foundation as part of Ottawa's Holocaust Education Month. <https://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/titles/escape-from-the-edge/>.

Join us on our virtual venture:



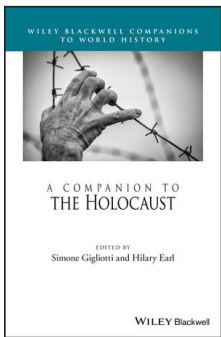
"Like" us on Facebook at
[facebook.com/
ZelikovitzCentre](https://www.facebook.com/ZelikovitzCentre)

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.

External Research Affiliates Publications and Presentations



Dr. Hilary Earl



Publication:

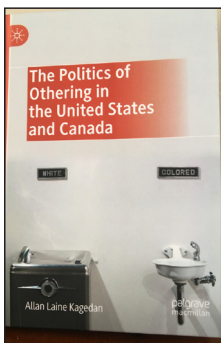
2020 *A Companion to the Holocaust*. eds. Hilary Earl and Simone Gigliotti (Croydon, UK: WILEY Blackwell)

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/9781118970492>

A Companion to the Holocaust contains 36 essays reflecting on current and emerging debates as well as identifying new connections for research. The text incorporates new language, geographies, and approaches to address the precursors of the Holocaust, and examine its global consequences. Scholars draw on their original research to interpret current, agenda-setting historical and historiographical debates on the Holocaust. Wide-ranging topics such as new debates about Nazi perpetrators, arguments about the causes and places of persecution of Jews in Germany and Europe, and Jewish and non-Jewish responses to it, the use of forced labor in the German war economy, for example, are covered.



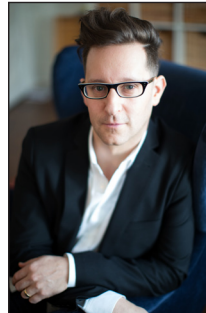
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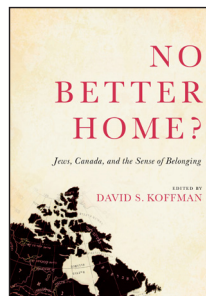
Publication:

2020 *The Politics of Othering in the United States and Canada*. (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan) www.palgrave.com/978-3-030-52443-2.

This book analyses the politics of othering in the USA and Canada from the nineteenth century to the present. Through case studies drawn from specific time periods (the years of the indigenous residential schools, the rise in antisemitism in the interwar period, and othering during wartime, the book compares how political and public opinion leaders in both countries targeted minority groups — Indigenous, Black, Jewish, Muslim, left wing and LGBTQ2+ and Japanese. The book argues that, with the exception of Blacks, Canadian leaders did more targeting before World War II and American leaders have done more targeting since then. Outlining the basis in human behaviour for disliking the unlike, it shows how politicians take advantage of this human tendency and discusses future trends in political othering.



David Koffman



Publication:

2021 (January) *No Better Home? Jews, Canada, and the Sense of Belonging*. David S. Koffman (ed.) Toronto: University of Toronto Press. <https://utorontopress.com/9781487523572/no-better-home/>.

Has there ever been a better home for Jews than Canada? The book's 19 essays are divided into 3 main sections. Section One compares Canadian Jewish life with the quality of life experienced by Jews in other countries, as well as examining Jewish and non-Jewish interactions in Canada. Section Two examines specific historical moments and literary texts. Section Three reflects personal histories, as well as the impact of language on the Canadian Jewish experience.

Panel Discussions:

2021 (February) *Jews and the American West: Violence, Race, and Masculinity*.

A conversation with Professors David S.

Koffman (York University), Caroline Luce (Indiana University), and Sarah Imhoff (UCLA). The webinar takes place under the auspices of UCLA's Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdrTYxo4AvQ>.

..... (February) *Leonard Cohen: Untold Stories*. David S. Koffman interviews Journalist Michael Posner about his biography on Leonard Cohen.

Available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wW-fhiLZFOA>.

2020 (November) *Canadian Jewish Historical Fiction*. Panel discussion featuring authors David Bezmozgis, Ayelet Tsabari, Nessa Rapoport, and Norman Ravvin, interviewed by Professors Sara Horowitz and David S. Koffman:

<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iV1xX3q4pAY>>.

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

External Research Affiliates Publications and Presentations



Dani Kranz

Publications:

2021 (July publication date) “(Friendly) Strangers in Their Own Land No More: Third Generation Jews and Socio-Political Activism in the Present in Germany,” in *The Stranger in Jewish Thought, History and Fiction* (Hg.) Catherine Bartlett & Joachim Schlör, 113-138. Amsterdam: Brill.

.....“Living and Loving Jews in the German Present: Jewish Life Beyond the Past, and Beyond Antisemitism,” *FQS/Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung*, 22 (1) <<https://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/article/view/3620>>.

2020 (December) “Navigating Mythical Time: Israeli Jewish Migrants and the Identity Play of Mirrors,” in *The Future of the German Jewish Past: Festschrift of the Centre of German-Jewish Studies of the University of Sussex* (Hg.) Gideon Reuveni, 163-176. West Lafayette: Purdue University Press

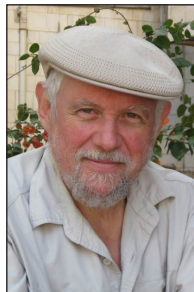
<https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1058&context=purduepress_ebooks>.

“Das Körnchen Wahrheit im Mythos: Israelis in Deutschland - Diskurse, Empirie und Forschungsdesiderate,” *Medaon*, 14 (27) <https://www.medaon.de/de/artikel/das-koernchen-wahrheit-im-mythos-israelis-in-deutschland-%cc%9b-diskurse-empirie-und-forschungsdesiderate/>

“Das Körnchen Wahrheit im Mythos: Israelis in Deutschland - Diskurse, Empirie und Forschungsdesiderate,” *Medaon*, 14 (27) <https://www.medaon.de/de/artikel/das-koernchen-wahrheit-im-mythos-israelis-in-deutschland-%cc%9b-diskurse-empirie-und-forschungsdesiderate/>

Save the Date Monday November 1

The ZC will be hosting a Sigd program to learn more about Ethiopian Jewry in Israel and the Diaspora.



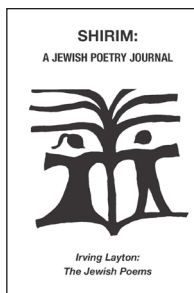
Seymour Mayne
Photo Credit Sharon Katz

Publication:

2020 “Irving Layton: The Jewish Poems” in *Shirim: The Jewish Poetry Journal*. Guest Editor: Seymour Mayne. Double Issue Vol. XXXVII, No.II (2019) & Vol. XXXVIII, No. I (2020)

Marc Dworkin, the editor of *Shirim* invited Seymour Mayne to prepare a double issue of Layton’s poetry with the permission of the late poet’s publisher. This issue of *Shirim* is aimed at rekindling the interest of those who read him in the past and kindling the interest of those discovering Layton for the first time. The focus of the issue is the poet’s work on Jewish themes and subjects. Mayne comments that “his Jewish poems, so central to his body of work, definitely hold attention today when anti-Semitism, morphed into new recrudescence, assaults Jews, Judaism, and Israel with an offensive vehemence.”

For inquiries on subscriptions, please contact the Editor of *Shirim*, Marc Dworkin @ msdworkin@hotmail.com



For poetry lovers, *An Evening with Seymour Mayne*, a recording of Seymour Mayne reading at the Montreal Public Library in 1978 can be found in the digital archives of the Yiddish Book Center https://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/collections/archival-recordings/frances-brandt/fbr-643_4642/evening-seymour-mayne-seymour-mayne and on the website Internet Archives https://archive.org/details/ybc-fbr-643_4642

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.

The ZC Welcomes New Graduate Research Affiliate



Rich Robertson graduated from York University with an HBA in History in 2014 and subsequently obtained his Juris Doctorate from Dalhousie University in 2017. At present he is completing his MA in History at York University. Next year, he will be attending the University of Ottawa to complete his PhD in History under the tutelage of Jan Grabowski.

As a proud cultural Jew, Rich enjoys being an advocate for both the domestic and international Jewish communities. When not engaged in academia or advocacy, he enjoys blogging at the *Times of Israel* <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/in-defense-of-carleton-universitys-zelikovitz-centre-for-jewish-studies/>.

When asked how he came to be interested in history and more specifically the Shoa, he noted he had always been interested in History. It is his understanding that “Not only can we learn from the past, but we can become better humans and citizens of this earth by studying our development”. He first learned about the Shoa at the Leo Baeck Day School. Learning about the genocide of European Jews ignited a passion for learning about the global proliferation of human rights. This led him to focus his research at the undergraduate level on the Rwandan genocide and influenced his decision to attend law school.

After graduating law school, he began to practice in the field of criminal jurisprudence. However, while rewarding, he felt he was not being an advocate for global change. He decided to return to academia. He heard Jan Grabowski say in an interview, “you do not choose the holocaust. Rather, it chooses you.” Rich felt his skills as an advocate were underutilized in his law practice. He was very keen to participate in the global advancement of human rights. Thus, he headed back to York University for graduate school.

As a social historian, Rich is curious as to how adolescents have cultivated their own human agency throughout history. It was his original intention to focus his Masters’ thesis on the ideological development of the leaders of the Interahamwe, the violent group of mostly young adults who became the principal genocidaires during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide. Instead, he switched to Holocaust Studies/Jewish Studies. Rather than focusing on how human beings were influenced to hate, he wanted to understand how human beings developed a capacity to resist and survive oppression. Rich also noted that besides educating about the horrors and realities of the Holocaust, inspiration can be gained from appreciating the individual narratives. In the course of his research, he stumbled across some of the final writings of Mordechai Anielewicz. Leader of the *Żydowska Organizacja Bojowa (ZOB)* “Jewish Combat Organization” in the Warsaw ghetto, he was one of the principal leaders of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Rich notes that he felt impassioned as a historian by his finding and relished the opportunity to explore the ideologies of the young men and women, who chose in the face of certain peril, to resist the Nazis.

He is now partway through his graduate studies reviewing the formation of and the actions of the members of the *(ZOB)*, in the Warsaw ghetto and the *Fareynikte Partizaner Organizatsye (FPO)*, “United Partisan Organization” in the Vilna ghetto. Beginning with the query, “what inspired these individuals to resist their impending demise when so many Jewish persons failed to do so” has led him to explore adolescent Polish Jews, who had come of age, and were educated in the unique environ of inter-war Poland. Rich asserts that as a result of their experiences in the interwar years “they were emboldened with a sense of Jewish nationalism that was foreign to previous generations of European Jewry.” Part of his methodology for assessing the behaviors and thoughts of these young people will be drawn from the sociological concept of a “resistor’s toolbox” as developed by Evgeny Finkel. This strategy reveals how previous experiences made certain cohorts of young Jewish persons more capable as resisters than others.

Rich intends to continue his research into this topic and looks forward to exploring the resistance movement within the Bialystok ghetto. He also hopes to travel to Israel, Poland, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington, DC to continue to conduct archival research related to his project.

Job Opportunities with the ZC

The ZC is seeking work-study eligible students (<<https://carleton.ca/awards/students/>>) for the fall semester. Please note that job postings are made available September 1.

Three positions are available.

The first, which can be done from home, is for a General Communications Coordinator. The successful candidate would manage and maintain the Zelikovitz Centre-affiliated websites: <www.carleton.ca/jewishstudies>, and <www.carleton.ca/studyisrael>. In addition, the skills and knowledge for hosting zoom seminars, webinars and lectures is required. English language skills are necessary at times, it might be necessary to write up reports on ZC events for the ZC webpages/ newsletter.

The second position the Cataloguing and Reference Assistant-ZC which requires the successful candidate to work on campus. The Zelikovitz Centre is in the process of curating its library for more efficient access for its affiliates and other scholars. The person in this position would be responsible for completing the library inventory and liaising with George Duimovich, MacOdrum Library,

Collections Librarian (Science, Engineering, & Design Team) with Research Support Services.

The third position is General Administrative Assistant for the ZC. While much of the position can be done remotely (from home) there will be times when the successful candidate is required to work on campus. This position requires someone with good research skills, the ability to assist with online events (ZOOM) as well as assist with in-person events beginning in January. This individual also assists with the set up/tear down for in-person events, checks telephone messages, and does smaller tasks, such as hanging up posters on campus, ensuring audio-visuals work for upcoming events, and any other tasks that the event might require.

For in-person ZC events, the individuals in the three positions serve as ambassadors for the ZC and should be able to provide insight and information about the ZC's annual programming to guests, as well as being available for any smaller tasks that might be needed.

These positions require some knowledge of Judaism. Knowledge of the Jewish community is an asset.