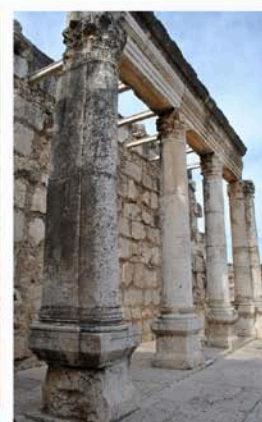


Fall 2015 Newsletter



Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies



Director's Message

Fall at Carleton University sees professors preparing their courses and wrapping up the most intensive elements of their summer research projects, while students move into Residence and gather their new textbooks. At the Zelikovitz Centre, it is this time of year when we reflect on the past year and look forward to the new.

As a Carleton University Research Centre (CURC), the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies moves forward each year with a central mandate to promote and foster Jewish Studies research. We are driven by Max Zelikovitz' vision of a Jewish Studies Centre that would broadly promote Jewish Studies on campus and in the community. As a research centre devoted to scholarly excellence and community education, we strive to enact the dictate of Pirkei Avot to study, teach, observe, *and* do.

This past year saw a renewed commitment on two key fronts: University and community partnerships and supporting and promoting Jewish Studies research. Our focus on University and community partnerships continues to be one of the Zelikovitz Centre's strengths. It is particularly on our mind this year, as we wrap up the fifth year of the

highly successful five-year Developing Future Leaders pilot program. DFL has placed over seventy students (from both Carleton University and the University of Ottawa) in leadership roles in Jewish community and national organizations. Originally conceived by founding donor Roger Greenberg to address the challenge of identifying and training professional, philanthropic and volunteer leadership in the Jewish community, the most recent evaluation points to the ways that the program has exceeded expectations in terms of student impact and benefit to community organizations.

"Rabbi Yossi said: One who studies Torah in order to teach is granted the ability to study and to teach. One who studies in order to do is granted the ability to study, to teach, to observe, and to do."

(Pirkei Avot, Ch. 4, Mishna 6)

Now that the model is tested and proven, Mr. Greenberg is pleased to pass on the torch for other donors to support this innovative program. With the goal of developing a strong self-sustaining program in mind, we have received a positive initial response from community leaders to help build the foundations of the next phase of DFL. We are currently preparing for this year's incoming cohort of interns under the direction of DFL's interim

Director David Tanhel. David is an alumnus of the DFL program and has been serving as Deputy Director under Dr. Josée Posen's able leadership. As we transition from the pilot program into this new phase, it is important to reflect on what we have learned and to share our findings with others. The DFL program at Carleton takes place in the larger context of Carleton's growing expertise in the area of university and community partnerships through the M.A. in Philanthropy and Non-Profit Leadership, the Engaged Pedagogy Group, and Community Service Learning, as well as the new initiatives around Aboriginal leadership. As such, we are in the final stages of preparing for our upcoming DFL conference on October 7 that will highlight university community partnerships and bring together scholars and community experts to explore the intersections of professional and philanthropic leadership within emerging generations.

The most public face of our efforts in building stronger bridges between the community and the University began with Limmud Ottawa in the fall of 2014. I often speak of the ZC's role in bringing the University to the community and the community to the University. This was notably exemplified when ZC researchers joined Limmud to share their research and expertise in Jewish law, Judaism and feminism, as well as poverty and

the Canadian Jewish community. This mandate became quite literal when we arranged a free shuttle from the JCC to bring participants to the closing evening Taffilalt concert at Carleton. As the conference ended, the conversation continued on campus through Yair Harel's public lecture in Carleton's Religion and Public Life M.A. program, which introduced students to the complexities of inter-religious dialogue in Israel's diverse music scene. We look forward to supporting Limmud Ottawa again in 2015 by bringing together ZC faculty, student and affiliated researchers.

Jewish Studies Research Across the Disciplines

The theme of Memory and Identity that Professors Crook and Stratton will further explore at Limmud 2015 has emerged as a strategic area of strength for the Zelikovitz Centre over the past year. While many are familiar with ZC expertise in the area of Holocaust Studies, particularly following the 2013 *If Not Now, When?* conference (in honour of Canada assuming the Chair of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance), our ZC researchers are moving many key areas of Jewish Studies forward – from ancient to modern, from Ottawa and the Canadian context, across the Diaspora and in Israel, and are doing so across all disciplines. The Memory and Identity research cluster was first identified in conversation with Professor Ira Wagman; the theme was explored at this year's research luncheon. Memory and Identity also served as the organizing theme for the 2015 Spring Zelikovitz Centre Graduate Student Symposium (co-sponsored by the Religion program in the College of Humanities). It was exciting to see where Memory and Identity research took these emerging researchers—from the biological impact of social bullying, to brain studies on Qu'ranic memorization, to Jewish Polish identity studies, to important questions about the memory of the Shoah resulting from the Eichmann trial. We look forward to bringing the Memory and Identity research cluster together for an interdisciplinary symposium in 2015-2016.

Strategic partnerships within the university allowed the ZC to support a range of programming with a variety of Carleton programs by co-sponsoring and supporting events such as Dr. Sarah Phillips Casteel's presentation "Blacks and Jews: The Other 1492 and the Holocaust in the Caribbean Literary Imagination," and Dr. Aaron Kaiserman's talk, "The Jew that Shakespeare Drew: Unintended Consequences of Representation and the Call for Authorial Responsibility in Depictions of Jews during the Long Eighteenth-Century." Such collaborations within the university often bring us into dialogue with new institutional partnerships, such as when we joined forces with Carleton's Greek and Roman Studies, the Archeological Institute of America, and the Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies, for Professor Theodore W. Burgh's lecture "Do You Hear What I Hear? Music Culture in Ancient Israel." In-progress collaborations include a symposium on the Spinoza excommunication with Philosophy, as well as early talks with Law and Legal Studies.

Summer consultations with faculty researchers led to a number of programming initiatives that are progressing. In addition to the successful roundtable led by Professor Bettina Kuzmarov on the history and legal issues surrounding Nazi plundered cultural objects and their restitution, we partnered again with the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in supporting the public community lecture "Searching for Nazi Plunder in the 21st Century: Recovering Max Stern's Paintings One by One," by Dr. Clarence Epstein, Director of the Max Stern Art Restitution Project. We are particularly interested in moving forward on an emerging research cluster, Arts and Culture, by bringing together researchers from across the university and among our Affiliated Researchers in 2015-2016. Please contact us if you or your students are doing any research intersecting with Jewish Studies and Arts and Culture and we will include you at our next research lunch.

In May 2016, we will again be pleased to support the Israel Travel Course, offered through the Religion program in the College of Humanities and generously sup-

ported by Dean Osborne of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Andrea D. Lobel, who has joined the ZC team as Assistant Director, Academic for the 2015-16 year. Dr. Lobel is a ZC Research Affiliate and rabbinics scholar.

To learn more about Dr. Lobel's research, see her research affiliate profile on page 9.

As I close this message, I do so with the warmest thanks to Mr. Roger Greenberg and Dr. Josée Posen. Roger Greenberg's vision of a program that would provide substantive and professional leadership training while meaningfully engaging the Jewish community's next generation of leaders has become one of the ZC's proudest initiatives. His understanding that the university had unique resources for taking seriously the Jewish community's concerns for the next generation has led to a partnership that has been enormously successful. For five years, Mr. Greenberg has nurtured this program as the sole donor in partnership with Carleton and the Zelikovitz Centre. Where other community-based youth programs have faltered, DFL has made substantive contributions to the Ottawa Jewish community while transcending denominational divides, engaging the right students at the right time in their professional development, and providing them with real world experience and professional leadership training.

And so, I must also thank Dr. Josée Posen who so brilliantly brought to life Roger Greenberg's vision. It has been my pleasure to work closely with Josée since she first took on the task of developing, refining, and overseeing the program. As she concludes her five-year commitment, she does so with the promise of continuing the good counsel I have come to rely on. Her legacy is a program that is rigorous and effective, a talented young Interim Director who she has personally trained to take us through this exciting transition, and a cadre of alumni who are tremendously fortunate to have benefited from her wise counsel and no-nonsense mentoring. **Yasher Koach!**

Professor Deidre Butler

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Date/ Location	Event Description
Study Israel	September 17, 2015 — 6pm Room 2A46, Paterson Hall	Information session about the Study Israel course in May, 2016. Course Website: http://carleton.ca/studyisrael/ Course Application: http://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/israel-travel-course-registration-form/
Research Luncheon	Late September — TBA	Theme: Arts and Culture Luncheon
Developing Future Leaders Conference “Partners in Emerging Leadership: Campus and Community”	October 7, 2015 — 8:30-2 pm Fenn Lounge Contact ZC to register	Carleton will host a half-day DFL conference to bring together community professionals, scholars and students to share best practices and creative strategies, and to explore the most recent research about engaging emerging generations in volunteerism, philanthropy and professional services. <i>See page 11 for more conference details!</i>
Limmud Ottawa 2015 <i>SEE SIDE BAR to this event below!</i>	November 1, 2015 Full day event at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre *Free registration for full-time Carleton students	Join hundreds of engaged Jewish learners for the annual Limmud Ottawa 2015, a cross-communal, diverse, transformational celebration of Jewish life and learning. Featured ZC Panels: Blockbuster Judaism: A Century of Jews in Movies - Daniel Bernard Will they come back wearing a Sheitel? Engaging Jewish women through camel riding, challah baking, and learning - Deidre Butler and Lauren Shaps Memory and Story in Nascent Judaism and Christianity - Kimberly Stratton and Zeba Crook and a panel hosted by Ira Wagman
Rabbi Idan Sher Guest Lecture	November 5, 2015 — 1:05-2:30pm Room 435 St. Patrick's Building	Rabbi Sher will speak to students in RELI 2110 about Orthodox Judaism in the modern world. Open to the public.
Rabbi Schlesinger Guest Lecture	November 17, 2015 — 1:05-2:30pm Room 435 St. Patrick's Building	Rabbi Schlesinger will speak to students in RELI 2110 about Conservative Judaism, halakha and observance. Open to public.
Chanukah Research Open House	December 10, 2015 — 11-3pm ZC Boardroom, 1401R-C River Building (near Tim Hortons)	Open house for researchers (faculty and students). Network and enjoy Israeli donuts
Half-Day Symposium: “Memory and Identity”	February — TBA	Follow up from Memory and Identity Luncheon. Professors will present recent research at Carleton related to memory and identity.



Student Perspective: Limmud Ottawa 2014

By Erin Dawson, recent graduate of Carleton's B.A. in Religion and a senior DFL intern

As a Developing Future Leaders intern, I was given the opportunity to work with Jenny Roberge and a group of volunteers to organise Limmud

Ottawa 2014. Together, we carefully planned the sessions, coordinated guest speakers, advertised the event, and ensured that the day of the conference went smoothly. I learned a lot from this experience, both by planning the event and through the sessions that I attended. The mixture of voices—including Leah Cohen's session on the

Jacob M. Lowy Collection at Library and Archives Canada, the panel on Jewish Feminism with Liz Bolton, Peggy Kleinplatz and Deidre Butler, and the Tamir session entitled “Inclusion Takes Centre Stage: The Challenges and Benefits of Involving People With Developmental Disabilities in the Visual and Performing Arts”—made the day very rich. The DFL program is a valuable opportunity for students in Jewish Studies at Carleton to spend time with the Ottawa Jewish community. This gives real context to what is learned in the classroom and also challenges the textbook understanding of the tradition. Every community is different, and the uniqueness of the Ottawa Jewish community was truly highlighted at last

year's Limmud conference.

This fall, I am entering Carleton's M.A. in Religion and Public Life and will continue my work with DFL as a senior intern. I am lucky to have the opportunity to work with Jenny Roberge and her team of volunteers again this year. I am excited to continue learning from this leadership opportunity and to contribute to the overall success of Limmud Ottawa 2015 through the skills I gained last year. I am thankful to the Limmud team for welcoming me back and empowering me to succeed. It feels great to give back to the volunteer team and the Ottawa Jewish Community for the opportunities they have afforded me.

Israel Travel Course 2016:

New Partnerships Highlight Diversity in Israel

By Christina Pasqua

Christina Pasqua recently graduated from Carleton's M.A. in Religion and Public Life. She travelled to Israel in May 2014 and documented her experience through a series of blogs that can be viewed [here](#). She now works for the Zelikovitz Centre as the Newsletter Editor and Conference Coordinator for the upcoming Developing Future Leaders Conference.

"You can't help but encounter diversity in Israel," said Dana Murray, a recent graduate of Carleton's M.A. in Religion and Public Life. Her observation rang true for myself and other students who participated in the three-week travel course to Israel, offered by Carleton's Religion department in May 2014.

Our first week was spent in Jerusalem, where the class encountered varying degrees of Judaism, from the strictly orthodox to the secular. But for me, the most striking example of Israel's diversity came unexpectedly.

I awoke early one morning and from my dorm room at Hebrew University, I could hear the call to prayer echoing in the surrounding Muslim neighbourhood. It was then that I realized I was in a unique place where I would be intimately exposed to the cultural and religious diversity that exists outside of our textbooks.

Carleton's *Study Israel* course provided students, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, the opportunity to explore the country through an academic lens. Altogether, nineteen students participated from various disciplines, including Architecture, History, Humanities, Music, and Religion.

This emphasis on diverse academic perspectives was also present in the leadership of the course, spearheaded by Dr. Shawna Dolansky, a specialist in Hebrew Bible and Jewish history, and Dr. Deidre Butler, a specialist in contemporary Judaism with a focus on ethics and feminist thought.



With the help of Danny "The Digger" Herman, an award-winning archaeologist and tour guide, the professors were able to provide a truly immersive learning environment that covered both ancient and modern content.

The course was largely supported by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) through John Osborne, former dean of FASS, who is a strong advocate for university-organized travel courses. He generously contributed to decreasing travel costs for students, along with private donors who donated through **Future Funder**, a micro-giving website that has benefited other fundraising campaigns in the Carleton community.

Many students who participated in the course also took the initiative in raising their own funds. They organized various community events, including a music night featuring Ottawa musicians, a comedy night,

and several bake sales. These efforts allowed students to interact and get to know each other prior to their travels, which allowed for networking beyond one's own program and made for a more cohesive travel group.

Looking to the future, Professor Mary Hale, a specialist in Christianity, Religion, and Politics from Saint Mary's University in Halifax, will be traveling with Carleton students in May 2016 with an eye towards partnering in 2018. Such partnerships build long-term stability into the program and lower costs for individual students.

The overall success of the course has led Dr. Butler to organize another trip to Israel, scheduled for May 2016. "There are few experiences I've had as a professor that were as rewarding as this travel course," Butler said.

"The trip's impact has been further reaching than I could have possibly imagined: students were engaged and excited

While the Religion program offers the course for academic credit, and Professor Deidre Butler teaches, the ZC supports the course by providing leadership in making connections with Israeli scholars and institutions, fundraising on behalf of the students to lower costs for the course to keep it accessible to all, providing administrative staff support in the planning stages, through the application process, and while we are in country. Importantly, as a CURC, the ZC is particularly interested in supporting student and faculty research that is facilitated through this travel program. In 2014, the ZC was pleased to support several graduate students. We are excited to see how participation in the course continues to inspire our students. Two of our undergraduate students who joined us in 2014, Avra Kates and Erin Drawson, have graduated this summer and are entering the M.A. in Religion and Public Life program in the fall. Avra's research will explore questions about the place of survivor testimony in Ontario and Israeli schools. Erin will examine a Christian evangelical group that advocates for and is active in Israel.

A version of this article appeared in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Sept. 7, 2015

by what they were seeing and who they were meeting in Israel. They came back with a hunger to learn more. A number decided to continue on to graduate studies and several have decided to focus on Jewish Studies topics. As a group they were substantively more thoughtful in their thinking about religious history and much more nuanced in their understanding of contemporary debates. Many of them blossomed on the trip, and it was a pleasure to see them grow as young scholars,” Butler added.

Although we visited the Mahane Yehuda in Jerusalem, the Baha’i gardens in Haifa, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Old City, many students were happy to hear that the new itinerary places a greater emphasis on direct interactions with Israel’s religious and cultural diversity, something that students felt the course struggled to fully accommodate last year.

“I wish we could have seen more Muslim sites and learned more about their history because the majority of what we saw was Jewish or Christian. It felt like we were missing an important piece of the puzzle,” said Simon Zeldin, a course participant and recent graduate of Carleton’s B.A. in Humanities and Religion.

“In the first year of the course, we were building relationships and learning what was possible. Many of our plans to include more diversity simply fell through. Addressing that issue is a priority for 2016,” Butler said.

As a result, the 2016 itinerary features a unique collaboration with the Daniel Centers for Progressive Judaism, an organization that brings together Palestinians, Arabs, and Jewish Israelis in dialogue for peace. A joint lecture series with Tel Aviv University (TAU) will allow our students to interact and socialize with TAU students (Jewish and non-Jewish, Israeli and non-Israeli) and to learn more about the country from an insider perspective. Students will also learn with members of the Bedouin, Druze, and Black Jewish communities.

The Zelikovitz Centre will host a Study Israel information session on September 17, 2015 to discuss the new itinerary. For more information, visit: <http://carleton.ca/jewishstudies/israel-travel-course/>

Israel Course 2014: Student Testimonies

Carleton’s three-week *Study Israel* course, offered in May 2014, attracted a high calibre of students who were looking for an immersive learning experience to maximize both their academic research and cultural awareness. Here are some of their thoughts on their travel experiences:

“In my opinion the course was highly successful. There was an abundance of material packed into each day of site visits and each student was required to give a presentation. Studying a topic on-site is always more stimulating than just reading about it or hearing about it in a university classroom.”

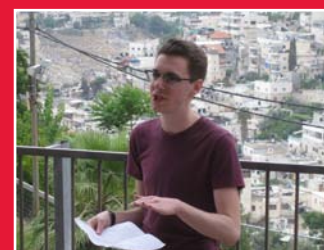
—Bliss Tracy, B.A. Religion

“I don’t quite know how to explain it, but to be able to stand in an ancient amphitheatre or within an ancient synagogue and discuss its history with a local archaeologist, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I wish every student could experience it. As a graduate student studying the link between ancient synagogues and Judean identity, just being able to see the synagogal remains was astonishing enough. The carpet mosaics and architectural features that we examined certainly put my research into perspective and inspired me to continue with my project. I was especially mesmerized by the Beit Alpha and Hamat Tiberias synagogues. The zodiac mosaics at both locations featured in my final research project and I was certainly proud to describe the features from my own perspective.”

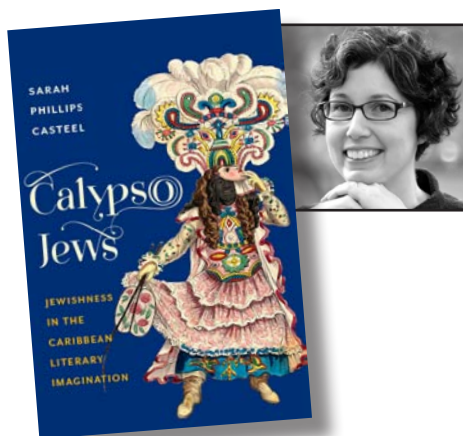
—Dana Murray, M.A. Religion and Public Life

“Being completely immersed in a course—as opposed to doing a three-hour lecture once a week—intensifies the learning experience, making it much more immersive. Additionally, the course was helpful in visualizing history. Rather than simply reading from a textbook about Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls, we were able to see the discovery site itself.”

—Simon Zeldin, B.A. Humanities and Religion



Faculty Members' Corner



SARAH PHILLIPS CASTEEL

is an Associate Professor of English at Carleton University, where she holds a cross-appointment to the Institute of African Studies. As a faculty research associate at the ZC, we wish to highlight her forthcoming book from Columbia University Press in January 2016.

Calypso Jews: Jewishness in the Caribbean Literary Imagination is the first book-length study of representations of Jewishness in Caribbean literature.

It examines how anglophone and francophone Caribbean writers such as Derek Walcott and Maryse Condé record the historical presence of Jews in the region, and in so doing, unsettle dominant narratives of slavery, empire and race.

Conventionally, the Blacks-and-Jews discussion has been centered on the United States, and has been shaped by the persistent political tensions between African Americans and Jewish Americans.

Casteel argues that Caribbean writers' invocations of Jewishness cannot be interpreted through the lens of Black-Jewish relations in the U.S., and especially not in the light of no-

tions of competitive victimhood. Instead, Caribbean writers advance a distinctive discourse on Black-Jewish relations that, while not without its tensions and ambivalences, favours an identificatory mode of comparing histories of trauma.



KIMBERLY STRATTON

is an Associate Professor of Religion in the College of the Humanities. Her book, *Naming the Witch: Magic, Ideology, and Stereotype in the Ancient World* (2007) received the F.W. Beare Award from the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies in 2008.

Kimberly Stratton's research interrogates the intersection of emergent Judaism and Christianity within the broader social and historical context of Graeco-Roman civilization. She has published widely on the topic of gender and magic in the ancient world, including an article and a book chapter on representations of magic in the Babylonian Talmud.

More recently, her work has begun to explore the ideology of violence and collective identity in early Judaism and Christianity, including articles on the rhetoric of cursing, as well as apocalyptic revenge fantasies that reinscribe the Roman arena.

She is currently working on a book manuscript titled "Slavery, Redemption, and the Sacrificed Lamb: Exodus and Empire in Early Judaism and Christianity." This book traces the post-exilic *Nachleben* of the Exodus narrative, examining how the story of the Exodus was enlisted discursively in response to conquest, exile, and occupation during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

The biblical story of slavery and emancipation provided ancient Jews with a paradigm to understand and survive political destruction and cultural domination; by offering a model of suffering and redemption, it preserved hope for political restitution.

This narrative also fueled messianic expectations, however, which led to the two failed Jewish revolts against Rome. Later, after the fall of the Second Temple, rabbinic exegeses of Exodus functioned as hidden transcripts that covertly resisted Roman cultural domination and assimilation.

An article examining this use of Exodus in rabbinic responses to Roman occupation and violence is currently under review by the journal *History of Religions*.

WANT TO HEAR MORE about her research?

Dr. Stratton is presenting at Limmud Ottawa on November 1, 2015! Catch her panel on "Memory and Story in Nascent Judaism and Christianity" with co-panelist Dr. Zeba Crook, Full Professor of Religion at Carleton University.

Highlights of 2014-2015



Student Perspective: *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum*

Deidre Butler offers a fourth-year undergraduate and M.A. level seminar entitled RELI 4851/5851: Holocaust Responses, which explores religious and philosophical responses to the Holocaust. Each year the course is offered, Dr. Butler and the students travel to Washington, D.C. to tour the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and to conduct individual research. In November 2013, students met with senior Applied Research Scholar, Dr. Joseph White, who spoke about his own research, the history of the museum, its current projects and offered students an inside look into the inner workings of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. The following article was written by undergraduate student and ZC staffer Gillian Langland:

Needless to say, I was not ready. I was registered in a Holocaust response class at Carleton University and had spent many hours studying the atrocities and horrors of the Holocaust displayed in films and depicted in numerous texts. When it came to visiting to the USHMM, I thought it was going to be simply another learning experience, another text to read. I was wrong.

The museum's exhibits appealed to many senses in order to bring the reality of what



happened to the visitor, such as playing the sounds of book burnings and the silence and scratches from inside of the train car. What really moved me was the overwhelming smell given off from the executed victims shoes. These smells exemplified how those taken and executed without mercy were ordinary humans much like myself. They were people who hoped, who dreamed, and who loved.

The message that I take away from this experience should be felt by those who came before me and many who will come after me. We must maintain vigilance, both in memory and in scholarship, so that this atrocity will not happen again.

"You are my witness" (Isaiah 43:10)

Graduate Student Conference, April 17 2015

Each year, the Zelikovitz Centre is pleased to sponsor an interdisciplinary gradu-

ate student conference on a theme that brings students working in the area of Jewish Studies into conversation with each other. These students study and produce research in a wide range of disciplines across the university, including Art History, Biology, Law, Neuroscience, Political Economy, Religion, and Sociology. This year's conference, co-chaired by Krystal Elkhoury and Sana Patel from the M.A. program in Religion and Public Life, had as its theme "Religion, Memory, and Identity."

Every year, the conference grows larger and reaches out to more graduate students beyond the Carleton community. In 2015, the ZC was honoured to welcome student presenters from the University of Ottawa, Ryerson University, and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

Details of this exciting interdisciplinary conference may be found [here](#).

(continued on page 12)

NEW COURSE FOR WINTER 2016



Contemporary Jewish Debates

The tradition of Jewish debate is as old as Judaism itself, from the differences of opinion preserved in the Babylonian Talmud to today's disputes over key religious topics, from women's roles in Judaism to the circumcision of male infants.

RELI 3842
Topics in Judaism:
Contemporary Jewish Debates
Winter term
Fridays 11:30-14:30
CRN: 15273
Professor Andrea Lobel

Research Affiliates Spotlight

The Zelikovitz Centre is strengthened by a growing network of research affiliates. These researchers are emerging scholars, graduate students, fellow faculty at other universities, and independent scholars. With each newsletter we will highlight the research of several of these colleagues.



A Bi-National Narrative: *The Integration of Jewish Heritage Conservation Projects in Canada and the U.S.*

By Barry Stiefel, Assistant Professor of Historic Preservation and Community Planning at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina and President of the Canadian Association for Jewish Studies

I am in the first stages of my newest research project, "Preserving Jewish Heritage in North America: A Comparative Study of Heritage Conservation in Canada and the United States" (working title). In both Canada and the United States, publications on heritage conservation (called "historic preservation" in the U.S.) have proliferated in recent years, yet none have taken a bi-national approach. Jewish Studies scholarship has also been consistently abundant for multiple decades. The research I am working on, which I hope will result in a monograph, would integrate the two, using the history, politics, and economics of preserving Jewish heritage as a controlled case study with respect to how heritage conservation has approached a specific ethnic group that transcends the geopolitical border. Jewish heritage in North America presents an ideal case study due to a number of factors, including: a common place of origin (e.g., the "Old World"); its presence in Canadian and American societies since the eighteenth century; and a strong tradition of material culture and historical

documentation that predates the beginning of modern heritage conservation. The premise is: how has the preservation of Jewish heritage in Canada been similar to, as well as different from, similar efforts in the United States?

Presently, I have only had the opportunity to conduct an in-depth comparative study on the preservation of the oldest synagogues in Canada and the United States, Emanu-el in Victoria, BC and Touro in Newport, R.I. Of course, I hope to delve significantly further into the preservation of Jewish sites in both countries. I can foresee the Zelikovitz Centre becoming a valuable asset in my research due to its position in the capital, Ottawa, where I will be able to use the materials compiled by the Canadian government on heritage conservation.

— Barry Stiefel

Jewish Musical Traditions: *A Microcosm of Stylistic Innovation and Cultural Hybridity*

By Carmel Raz, Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Society of Fellows and Lecturer in Music at Columbia University

I am greatly honored to join the Zelikovitz Centre as a research affiliate this year. I'm currently an incoming Mellon Research Fellow at the Columbia Society of Fellows, having completed a Ph.D. in music theory at Yale looking at the relationship between early Romantic music, medicine, and the philosophy of perception. In parallel, I work on Jewish musical traditions, including the *piyyut* revival of the past decade, Israeli folksongs, and experimental music of Jewish composers in the Weimar Republic. I'm also active as a composer and violinist.

Jewish music presents a fascinating microcosm of stylistic innovation and cultural hybridity. My research has explored ways in which political changes

can be heard in various cover versions of Israeli songs, as well as the musical and sociological ramifications of the *piyyut* revival. I've also published on the music of the Austrian Jewish composer Ernst Toch, whose most famous work today is the Geographical Fugue, which he wrote as part of the early electronic music scene in early 1930s Berlin.

I draw inspiration for my academic work through playing and composing music. As a member of the Jewish music ensemble Tafillalt, I study repertoires ranging from ancient *piyyut* texts to contemporary Israeli experimental music together with some of the most dedicated musicians I know. Over the past few years I've also performed a lot of contemporary Israeli Classical music with two fine Tel-Aviv-based music ensembles, Meitar and Ensemble 21.



Photo: Rick Kim

As an incoming affiliate at the ZC, I'm excited about becoming part of a diverse and interdisciplinary Jewish Studies research network. We have much to learn from each other through sharing ideas and experiences across fields and disciplines, and I am sure that this community will find many unexpected points of convergence. Finally, I'd like to mention that Tafillalt had a truly wonderful experience performing at Limmud Ottawa 2014, and that [band

members] Yair, Nori, and Yoni send everyone their warmest regards.

— Carmel Raz

Under a Censored Sky: *Astronomy and Rabbinic Authority in the Talmud Bavli and Related Literature*

By: Andrea D. Lobel, Assistant Director, Academic, Zelikovitz Centre and Lecturer at Carleton University

My research spans the history of astronomy, cosmogony, and cosmology in Judaism, with an emphasis on rabbinic Judaism, as well as religion and the history of science, nature, magic, mathematics, space exploration, and religious authority. More broadly speaking, these research interests encompass the overlapping categories of “religion,” “science,” and “magic.”

My doctoral dissertation, completed at Concordia University in 2015, is entitled “Under a Censored Sky: Astronomy and Rabbinic Authority in the Talmud Bavli and Related Literature.” In it, I demonstrate both the richness of celestial discourse in the Babylonian Talmud and the nuanced play of rabbinic authority in the text as it interacts with rabbinic discussions and debates addressing the overlapping celestial concerns of astronomy, astrology, astral magic, astrolatry, and cosmogony. By examining these astronomical topics together for the first time, I demonstrate a recurrent pattern of tight rabbinic controls over the celestial sciences as preserved in the Babylonian Talmud.

My planned research includes the preparation of a revised monograph based on my dissertation, as well as publications related to Judaism and the natural world, the emergence of Earth-based varieties of Judaism, astrology in rabbinic Judaism, as well as Jewish perspectives on, and possible implications of, space exploration and the search for exoplanets.

I have taught university courses in

western religious traditions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Zoroastrianism, as well as on the religious textual traditions related to astronomy and astral religion in Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, Ugarit, and ancient Israel. I will be teaching the course **Contemporary Jewish Debates** at Carleton during the winter semester this year.

— Andrea D. Lobel

The ZC is also proud to welcome the following research affiliates:

Hilary Earl, Associate Professor in the Department of History at Nipissing University

W. Raymond Palmer, Independent Scholar and professional genealogist specializing in research on New England families

Steven Lapidus, Research Associate at the Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies

Lindsay Dearing, Louisiana State University

Sharon Gubbay Helfer, an oral historian and a scholar-practitioner of difficult dialogues, affiliated as Research Associate with the Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies

Judith Cohen, a performer and ethnomusicologist specializing in Judeo-Spanish (“Ladino”) Sephardic songs, as well as in medieval and traditional music, including Balkan, Portuguese, Yiddish, and French Canadian, pan-European balladry, and songs from Crypto-Jewish regions of the Portuguese-Spanish border. She is currently Contract Faculty and Adjunct Graduate Faculty at York University.

ZC Research Associate Recruitment

The Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) invites research associate applications from graduate students, faculty and independent scholars for the 2015-2017 academic term. Research associates are unpaid, but have full online and on-site library access. Incumbents will be expected to attend one conference or event over the course of the 2015-2017 academic term.

The ZC is an integrative research centre situated at Carleton University (CU) in Ottawa, ON. With more than twenty-five faculty members conducting research in the field of Jewish Studies, the Centre fosters academic research collaboration, community engagement through public lectures and educational programs, as well as facilitates community service and leadership training. Currently we are in the process of building a dynamic group of national and international Jewish Studies scholars. Our network of scholars and graduate students will contribute to an ongoing dialogue on the diversity of the Jewish experience.

ZC research associates are normally active members of the Centre and contribute to teaching, research endeavours, and/or participate in at least one of the Zelikovitz Centre conferences, workshops, or give a guest lecture during their two-year term.

Interested applicants should email jewish.studies@carleton.ca with a letter of introduction as well as a CV, a photo, and a short research statement, noting areas of interest as they pertain to Jewish Studies, which will be made public on our website.



Photo by Chris Roussakis

David Tanhelson has been with DFL for the past four years, working closely with Dr. Josée Posen, first as an intern, then as an administrator and deputy director, and now as the Interim Director of the program. With his undergraduate degree in Commerce and a concentration in International Business from Carleton University, David has helped DFL grow while making it ever more efficient with respect to costs, file keeping, and general processes. Given his unique perspective on the program previously gained as an intern, and the valuable feedback of partner agencies and past interns, David is well placed to lead DFL into continued success. His plans include further streamlining the program and working even more closely with its many stakeholders.

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OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM

Helping prepare the next generation of Jewish leaders

BY CHRISTINA PASQUA
FOR ZELIKOVITZ CENTRE
CARLETON UNIVERSITY

How to engage the next generation of Jewish leaders? This question is becoming increasingly urgent for Jewish communities across Canada, but addressing it strategically is particularly critical for the Developing Future Leaders (DFL) program at Carleton University.

The initiative, which focuses on building community-university partnerships, has embraced community collaboration since its inception. In 2010, an anonymous donor partnered with the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies. Together, they implemented a five-year pilot program that would accomplish the “double mitzvah” of providing young people with an opportunity for professional development, while also assisting local and national Jewish organizations.

The pilot program’s \$500,000 endowment has offered more than 80 students from Carleton University and the University of Ottawa access to intensive leadership training. By bringing together real world expertise with scholarship, the workshops prepared students for paid internships with approximately 15 partner agencies, including Tamir, Limmud Ottawa, Ottawa Jewish

Archives, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, the Ottawa Community Jewish School, and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

Both students and community partners have benefited from the program.

Lewis Novack, a 2015 senior intern 2015, said that DFL enabled him “to experience the challenges of the workforce” before entering the market as a new graduate. For others, the program is about character-building, networking and skill development. But these internships cannot be reduced to their practical applications.

Sarah Beutel, director of grants and evaluations at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, said partnering with DFL expresses a deep commitment to educating young people about Jewish commun-

ity life. The hope is to teach this emerging generation of leaders the “importance of being actively involved and engaged in building community,” she said.

Now, the program is set to enter a new chapter as David Tanhelson takes over leadership of DFL from former director Josée Posen.

As a past DFL participant under Posen’s mentorship, Tanhelson’s priority as the program’s new director is to fine-tune DFL’s intern education by inviting more guest speakers and community leaders to train students. However, he notes, “we are quite limited by our budget as many other similar programs are.”

Nevertheless, he is passionate about propelling the program’s mandate into the future.

“When you have a successful product, and a system that works, all that’s left is to grow it, to make it reach and serve more people,” Tanhelson said.

The program has become a model for others within the Carleton community and has even gained significant support from the president’s office. Moving forward, DFL will continue to advocate on behalf of the *emerging generation* – a generation of leaders who rely on these internships for practical, professional and meaningful experiences beyond the classroom.

The Zelikovitz Centre will host a DFL conference on October 7 at Carleton University to address the future of the program and its continued success. For more information, contact the Zelikovitz Centre at jewishstudies@carleton.ca.

**Readers and advertisers are advised
the next edition of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin
will be published on Monday, August 17, 2015.
Deadline date is Wednesday, July 29, 2015.**

Please join the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre at Carleton University on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 for the

Developing Future Leaders Conference

Partners in Emerging Leadership: Campus and Community

8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Fenn Lounge



About this conference:

As a university / community partnership, The Developing Future Leaders program at The Zelikovitz Centre will bring together scholars, leaders in the Jewish community and the community at large to learn from each other and to discuss the challenges, opportunities, strategies, and best practices with respect to attracting and training the emerging generation of leaders.



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

(confirmed, unless otherwise noted)

9:00 - 9:15

Opening Remarks

Professor Deidre Butler, Director of the Zelikovitz Centre — *Welcome Address*

Andrea Freedman, President and CEO Jewish Federation of Ottawa — *The Ottawa Jewish Community Today*

9:15 - 9:45

Session 1: Current Scholarship on Leadership, University/Community Partnerships

Professor Edward Jackson, Senior Research Fellow, Carleton Centre for Community Innovation, Adjunct Research Professor, Public Policy and Administration, International Affairs and African Studies, Carleton University — *"Sustaining community-campus partnerships that matter"*

Professor Paloma Raggio, Assistant Professor of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at the School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University — *"So you think you can lead?"*

Bernadette Johnson, MA student, MA Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, Carleton University — *Leadership Research TBA*

9:45 - 10:30

Session 2: Young Leaders: Trends and Best Practices

Bram Bregman, Vice President, Community Building at Jewish Federation, Ottawa — *"Making connections: engaging volunteer and professional young leaders"*

Ariella Kimmel, Director of Operations for the campaign to re-elect Peter Kent, DFL alumna — *"Getting engaged: the importance of young leaders' involvement in politics"*

Adam Moscoe, Junior Policy Officer for the Government of Canada, M.A. Candidate at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa, Board Member of Youth Ottawa and the Tamir Foundation of Ottawa, and DFL alumnus — *"How to strengthen the Jewish community by stepping outside of it"*

Break 10:30-10:50

10:50 - 11:45

Session 3: Developing Future Leaders Program

Dr. Josee Posen, past Director, and David Tanhelson, current Interim Director — *Overview of DFL program and professional leadership training for university students.*

Tobin Kaiman, DFL intern, Senior Administrative Assistant (Finance) Zelikovitz Centre, CPA Program — *TBA*

11:45 - 12:30

Session 4: Expanding the Conversation: From Community to University

Rodney Nelson, Coordinator, Aboriginal Enriched Support Program, Centre for Initiatives in Education, Carleton University — *"Aitawazi Nisoditadiwin: between two worlds. Bridging Indigenous ways of being through mentorship programs"*

Erica Bregman, Coordinator, Networking 4 Youth (N4Y), formerly the Jewish-Somali mentorship program at Jewish Family Services Ottawa — *"Somali Community and Networking4Youth"*

Professor Peter Andree, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, Carleton University — *"Community First: Impact of community engagement"*

Lunch Program

12:30 Kosher Buffet

(registrants and invited guests)

Professor Deidre Butler, Director Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies

President Roseann O'Reilly Runte, Carleton University

Mr. Roger Greenberg, Executive Chairman, the Minto Group

Keynote Address: Barbara Crook, Director, Danbe Foundation

The Zelikovitz Centre is delighted to make this conference free of charge to attendees; however, registration is requested in order to ensure the reservation of your kosher lunch. Registrants will also have access to free parking.

In order to hold your place now, or for more information, please email jewish.studies@carleton.ca or call and leave a message at the Zelikovitz Centre at Tel: 613-520-2600 extension 1320. Please indicate the names of each person attending, contact information (phone number and email) and each attendee's affiliation.

Highlights

(continued from page 7)

Mazel Tov to Our Award Winners and Grads!



Carleton's Summer 2015 Convocation. Zeldin is photographed with his mother, Corinne Hart, Associate Professor of Nursing at Ryerson University.



Sophie Crump and Sarah Cook in Jerusalem, while on Carleton's travel course to Israel

Congratulations **Simon Zeldin**, recipient of the 2014-15 Salomon (Mundi) Bergstein and Lily Porter **Bergstein Memorial Bursary** in Jewish Studies at Carleton University.

This bursary is awarded annually, on the recommendation of the Director of the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, to a deserving undergraduate student who is affiliated with Jewish Studies by coursework or volunteerism. The endowment was made in 2010 by Jacques J.M. and Donna A. Shore.

Zeldin will continue his studies at McMaster University this fall. He is entering the M.A. in Religion, with a focus on early Judaism. Zeldin is also the recipient of McMaster's Harry Lyman Hooker Senior Fellowship, awarded to graduate students entering programs in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Mazel tov also goes out to the alumni of our **Study Israel** travel course who are moving on to graduate studies in Carleton University's M.A. in Religion and Public Life: **Erin Dawson, Avra Kates, Bliss Tracy, Sophie Crump, and Sarah Cook**

Congratulations and best wishes are also extended to:

Dana Murray, entering the M.A. in Museum Studies at the University of Toronto

Christina Pasqua, Newsletter Editor and DFL Conference Coordinator at the Zelikovitz Centre and

Willem Pereboom, entering the M.A. in Public Administration at Carleton University (pictured right, at Mount of Olives, Jerusalem)



We wish you all much continued success!

ZC Partners 2015-2016

- Archeological Institute of America
- The Canadian Friends of Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- The Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation
- College of the Humanities, Carleton University
- The Department of English Language and Literature, Carleton University
- The Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University
- The Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Fund in Religious Studies
- Embassy of Israel
- Graduate Student Association, Carleton University
- Greek and Roman Studies, Carleton University
- The Israel Institute
- Limmud Ottawa 2015
- M.A. in Religion and Public Life, Carleton University
- Religion Program, Carleton University
- The School for Studies in Art and Culture, Carleton University
- Soloway Jewish Community Centre

In light of the New Year — both Jewish and academic, the Zelikovitz Centre is revitalizing its web presence. With a fresh approach to social media, we are aiming to create a digital space that's as active and vibrant as the ZC itself. This will enhance connectivity between the ZC and the broader community, making it easier for people to engage with the Centre and its academics, as well as stay up-to-date on its research, events and overall happenings.

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.

Join us on our virtual venture:



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



Twitter: Follow us on Twitter [@ZelikovitzC](https://twitter.com/ZelikovitzC)
Or, send an email to jewish.studies@carleton.ca