



# THE ROBERT A. AND SANDRA S. BORN'S JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM



ROBERT A. AND  
SANDRA S. BORN'S  
JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM



Mark Roseman

## From the Outgoing Director

The approaching end of my two terms as Director of the Borns Jewish Studies Program (JSP) prompts me to reflect on all the constituencies that make this job so meaningful, and together define our program. There are our versatile, multifaceted, and committed undergraduates, whose energy and intelligence enable them to master so many different demands alongside each graduates' Jewish Studies (JS) major, certificate, or minor. The intimate online graduation ceremony we conducted this year, (see small photos on cover page), where a different faculty member talked about each senior, brought out their passion and quality more clearly than ever. There is our tightknit group of high-powered graduate students, extending knowledge in JS from biblical analysis through to the sociology of contemporary Israel. Our graduate conference is an annual reminder of their range and sophistication, and their ability to attract faculty and graduate students from all over the US and beyond to present and debate. There is our internationally renowned and interdisciplinary faculty, newly rejuvenated with three outstanding appointments in the fields of Hebrew Bible, modern antisemitism, and memory studies. Their intense commitment to our students is the glue that holds the program together — as was again so evident in our graduation ceremony. Each year, too, we bring in excellent visiting appointments, and this year, we were thrilled to welcome **Ezra Tzfadya**, trained at Dartmouth, Princeton, and Erlangen.

A particular responsibility for any director is connecting with our major donors (aided, I should note, by our outstanding College Executive Director of Advancement **Travis Paulin**). For me, getting to know the Borns family — Bob and Sandra, Betsy and Jonathan — has been one of the highlights of the job. Bob, in particular, has been a perpetual inspiration, and I am so relieved he and Sandra have successfully come through their battle with COVID-19. I've also so enjoyed engaging with many of our other longer term and newer supporters, with **Sybil, Lou** (sadly no longer with us), **Ted, Barbara** and **Joe, Dorit, Gerald** (also now sadly passed), **Melanie** and **Andy, Myrna** and **Myron**, and so many more. Their generosity has been transformative, their passion continually renewing ours. The group of alumni, Friends, and readers — you in other words — whom we depend on for audiences, advice, financial aid, and encouragement is large and thankfully growing. Last, but not least, for any director absolutely key, there is our outstanding staff, whose expertise, versatility, loyalty, and commitment power everything we do. **Carolyn, Tracy, Missy, and Melissa** — thank you.

But alas, I can't leave on any note of complacency, even though I know that with **Judah Cohen** the program is in great hands. I am writing this in July, in the shadow of the COVID-19 epidemic, its massive economic and social consequences, not least for higher education, and the social reverberations of police killings of unarmed black citizens. High level political figures, who should know better, are stoking the flames of a netherworld of conspiracy theories, antisemitism, and racism. As a program, as a university, as a nation, we face the most challenging time in more than half a century. Our campus has been empty, our classrooms will be, in large part, virtual this fall, our students are anxious and many of them hurting, their families also. In such a moment, I believe we as a JS program have a more important mission than ever. The Jewish experience offers important and painful lessons of the way social crises feed fear of the other. Jewish thinkers, writers, and activists over the last two hundred years have been at the forefront of battles for social change. Whether we are thinking about language, religion, identity, or violence, Jewish experience and Jewish tradition has important lessons to offer about what can go wrong, and how to make it better. But if this moment is one of opportunity for us to be a voice, it is also one of great need. For students to embrace the costs and challenges of following their passion, we have to pull out all the stops to offer all the support we can. Without your support, we cannot play the role we should. Thank you for your continued devotion to our mission. ■

Mark Roseman, Former Director  
Distinguished Professor in History and Pat M. Glazer Chair in Jewish Studies

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Cover: Larger photos: top left: doctoral student Julia Riegel, Professor Mark Roseman, and doctoral student Sean Sidky; top middle: Professor Laura Carlson Hasler; right top: see page 25; right side: JS majors (left to right) Rachel Aranyi, Ethan Goldberg, Sarina-Elenbogen Siegel; right side: at JSSA Tudor Room brunch (left to right) Levi Gittleman, Taylor-Paige Guba, Ethan Goldberg, Adina Malmon;

*Continued on page 8*





Judah Cohen

From summer 2013 to summer 2017 and from summer 2018 to summer 2020, **Mark Roseman** guided the Borns JSP with great good sense, good humor, vision, and humanity. Under his remarkable leadership, the Borns JSP continued to be an eminent and humane place for teaching and research. On July 1, 2020, **Judah Cohen**, who ably served as Interim Director in 2017-2018 during Mark's sabbatical year, became the fifth Director of the Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns JSP, following in the footsteps of **Alvin Rosenfeld**, **Steven Weitzman**, **Jeffrey Veidlinger**, and **Mark**. Judah is the Lou and Sybil Mervis Chair in the Study of Jewish Culture; Professor of Jewish Studies and Musicology. He directs our Jewish sacred music program and was for many years the dedicated Director of Undergraduate Studies for JS. Mark Roseman, Pat M. Glazer Chair in Jewish Studies; Distinguished Professor of History and Jewish Studies, will continue to serve as an active and beloved member of our faculty.

## From the New Director

I write in times of tribulation and hope. As a student of ethnography and history, I constantly seek to understand how the challenges of the past meet the choices of today. But spring 2020 brought the challenge to us, changing our view of the world in ways that we have yet to understand.

Just weeks after celebrating Indiana University's (IU's) bicentennial on January 20, 2020, we began to follow reports of a new virus one case at a time. We heard administrative reports of a pending disruption. Students, immersed in their studies, at first showed little awareness. Then talk was everywhere, as was the dawning realization that things would change. In days, our plans fell, one after the next. Classes suspended on March 12. Online teaching soon afterward. Little 500 cancelled. Graduation festivities postponed. Our classrooms, libraries, and offices off-limits. Our scattered faculty, staff, and students, along with the rest of IU, working mightily to keep classes moving under a flurry of stay-at-home orders: with "Zoom" a seemingly universal solution to problems we never predicted. And yet, we ended the semester strong. Our extraordinary staff and faculty worked and taught from home. Our esteemed colleagues **Dina Spechler** and **Ayelet Weiss** won Trustees Teaching Awards. And in early May, the Borns JSP gathered virtually with its graduating undergraduate students and their families: from our little Zoom rooms we feted our students and their accomplishments, expressing pride and support as they bravely entered a future of promise and uncertainty.

Months later, with IU's fall schedule tentatively in place, we forged ahead as a program. Many of us are teaching online. Some of us have entered the classroom with masks and sanitizers in place. We all know that things can change quickly. Our health, economy, security, confidence, and sense of justice remain fragile. In a single week, as happened this summer, we humans can aspire to colonize space, face days of protests, follow changing COVID numbers, and find comfort in baking and gardening. Who knows what else will occur before this magazine gets into your hands?

Quite a time to become Director of a Jewish Studies Program.

In my fourteen years at IU, I have often had to answer the rhetorical question "Why Jewish Studies?" for prospective students. Today, I see this question with renewed urgency. The college curriculum needs Jewish studies. Through history, philosophy, religion, language, sociology, ethnography, and the arts, Jewish studies teems with case study after case study of action in the face of change, struggle, and upheaval: asking questions of how communities build societies, find common causes, maintain diverse populations, develop symbols and sounds, face crises and existential threats, seek justice and humanity, question ourselves, mourn losses, rebuild anew, and hold rigorous debates across generations. Now, more than ever, we need these conversations.

I look to the next years of the JSP with cautious optimism. Our outgoing Director, Mark Roseman, has led and grown the program beautifully over the past seven years, and remains a close consultant in these tense times. **Robert and Sandra Borns** have faced the virus and prevailed. We are pleased to welcome new postdoctoral fellow, **Ezra Tzfadya**, to campus — virtually in the fall, and in person come spring. Like all JS programs (and all other academic units), we face an unusual 2020-2021. But we do so with courage and resolve: we have no other option, and we bring thousands of years of knowledge to bear upon today's crises. May our new experiences bring us, and our society, to a better place in the months and years ahead. ■

Judah Cohen, Director  
Lou and Sybil Mervis Chair in the Study of Jewish Culture  
Professor, Jewish Studies and Musicology



# IU Will Recognize Bob Borns with Honorary Doctorate



Bob Borns

We are all thrilled that Bob Borns will receive IU's highest academic honor, an honorary doctorate in recognition of his visionary role in revitalizing downtown Indianapolis, including the remarkable Union Station project — and his multifaceted philanthropic activities, including, of course, his and Sandra's transformative role as founding donors of the Borns JSP. Bob's dedication, enthusiasm, and wholehearted commitment to IU and to the Borns JSP continues to inspire us all. COVID-19 prevented

conferral of the degree at May 2020 graduation ceremonies. We look forward to celebrating with Bob and Sandra, in person, in 2021. ■



Ezra Tzfadya

## Ezra Tzfadya 2020-2021 Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow

Our 2020-2021 visiting post-doctoral fellow, **Ezra Tzfadya**, recently completed his doctorate at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg with a dissertation "Theocratic Affinities in Judaism and Shia Islam: Studies

in Legal Theology." He completed his MA in Religion at Princeton with subfields in modern Jewish thought, modern Islamic thought and more. He has outstanding language skills in Hebrew, Arabic, Persian, and German (in addition to his own native English). This fall, Dr. Tzfadya will teach "Judaism and Islam, Muslim and Jews" and in spring 2021, he will teach two additional courses, including the modern semester of our core course: "Introduction to Jewish History." ■

## Leyzer Burko Visiting Lecturer in Yiddish



Leyzer Burko

**Leyzer Burko**, who received his Ph.D. in Modern Jewish Studies from Jewish Theological Seminary in 2019, was our Visiting Lecturer in Yiddish in spring 2020, while Professor Dov-Ber Kerler was an Institute Fellow at the University of Michigan's Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Leyzer taught Yiddish language and an undergraduate course "Jews in the Underworld" in spring 2020. ■

# Alpert, Lemberger/Schor Family, and Waksmans Establish Endowments

**Barbara and Joe Alpert**, members of the Borns JSP advisory board and significant partners in the creation of the Olamot Center, have established a meaningful endowment in memory of Barbara's brother. **The Ronald J. Zabinsky Memorial Lecture Fund** will provide generous funding for lectures by noted Israeli scholars and artists through our **Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel**. The Alpert, Nachlis, and Levine families chose to remember Ronald and his sense of responsibility and affection to those who were dear to him. Director of Olamot, **Professor Irit Dekel**, looks forward to holding an inaugural Ronald J. Zabinsky Memorial Lecture after we can gather again.

This fall, **Dr. Harriet Schor** and **Margo Lemberger** endowed the **Dr. Louis and Myrna Lemberger Memorial Scholarship/Fellowship in Jewish Studies**. This gift, given by Lou and Myrna's daughters, will carry on their parents' passionate support for IU JS student and their studies.

**Dr. Alberto and Paulina** (IU BA, 1980) **Waksman** of San Marcos, California, have generously funded the **Paulina and Dr. Alberto Waksman Scholarship in Jewish Studies** which will support future generations of undergraduate and graduate students. ■

## Aziza Khazzoom New Director of Undergraduate Studies



Aziza Khazzoom

**Professor Aziza Khazzoom**, Associate Professor of MELC and a core member of the Borns JSP faculty, is the Borns JSP's second Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS). She follows Judah Cohen, who served in the position since 2013.

Her research on Israeli society is important and courageous. She is a dedicated and experienced teacher and her courses "What is Middle Eastern? Perspectives Gained through Comparison with Israel," "Israeli Inequality in Context," and a course on "Israel and the Concept of Universal Women's Experiences," are in demand. She is a scholar at home in Israeli society, interested in that society's tensions and complexities, and capable of constructive dialogue with groups from many perspectives.

As DUS, Professor Khazzoom will oversee the undergraduate curriculum, including the major, certificate, JS minor, and Hebrew minor, as well as undergraduate funding and initiatives. ■



# Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel

## New Director Irit Dekel; Ronald J. Zabinsky Lecture Fund

We are delighted to announce that the new Director of our one-of-a-kind **Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel** — is **Professor Irit Dekel**, a cultural sociologist who is Assistant Professor of JS and Germanic Studies.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, **Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with**



Irit Dekel

**Israel** continued to advance its mission. In November, the center welcomed one of Israel's leading archaeologists, **Professor Oded Lipschits** of Tel Aviv University, to deliver a lecture

entitled "Jerusalem between Bible and Archaeology." This event was organized as part of IU's Themester "Remembering and Forgetting."

We are delighted to announce that the first book in our new IU Press book series (of translations of Israeli scholarship into Hebrew) **The Jewish Eighteenth Century: A European Biography, 1700-1750** by **Shmuel Feiner** (Bar-Ilan University), will be published this year.

In spring 2020, Olamot and the Borns JSP welcomed art historian **Dr. Emma Gashinsky** from Ben Gurion University, our second annual spring semester Olamot Visiting Scholar. A specialist in the relationship between Jewish and Israeli visual culture, she taught two compelling semester courses: "Seven Decades of Art in Israel" and "Identity Politics: Migration and Otherness in Modern Israeli Art and Popular Culture." Because of the pandemic, her in-person teaching in Bloomington was cut short and she completed the semester teaching remotely from Jerusalem. "Throughout my time as Olamot Fellow in Bloomington, I enjoyed and derived enormous benefit from the rich intellectual environment of the JSP and its many events, lectures, and workshops."

**Barbara and Joseph Alpert**, who have generously supported Olamot from its beginning with their gift of the **Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel Fund**, recently endowed **The Ronald J. Zabinsky Memorial Lecture Fund** that will provide generous funding for Olamot lectures by noted Israeli scholars and artists. We thank JS alumnus **Andrew Goodman** and his wife **Melanie** who are supporting the center through the **Melanie and Andrew Goodman Endowment**.

Olamot's major goal this year is to permanently sustain the center with a naming gift that will allow the Borns JSP to broaden, deepen, and strengthen IU's ties with institutions of higher learning in Israel. ■



Philip Rantzer, "When Daddy Met Mommy," 1999  
Wooden houses, 3 wheeled cart, sound, dimensions variable  
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem  
Gift of the Dov and Rachel Gottesman Fund, Tel Aviv and Geneva  
B00.1113 © The Artist. This image is courtesy of the artist

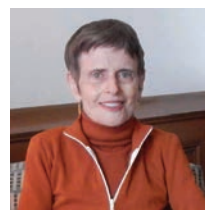


Ayelet Weiss

## Ayelet Weiss and Dina Spechler Honored with Trustees Teaching Awards

In spring 2020, **Dina Spechler** and **Ayelet Weiss** were recognized with Trustees Teaching Awards for their outstanding teaching.

Ayelet, the Director of our Modern Hebrew program, was recognized for her inspiring and effective teaching and for her enormous dedication and purpose that has transformed our Modern Hebrew program into a gold standard for teaching of Modern Hebrew in the US.



Dina Spechler

A consummate, renowned, and beloved teacher is Professor Dina Spechler (Political Science and JS). Our JS students have been fortunate to focus their work on Israel in her "U.S. Foreign Policy," "Contemporary Theories of International Politics," and "Comparative Foreign Policy: Why Nations Go to War" courses. ■



# 2020-2021 Events



Tony Kusher and Aimee Bunting

## “The Co-Present in Holocaust Memory”

Two lectures by Professor Tony Kushner, University of Southampton and Dr. Aimee Bunting, Godolphin and Latymer School, UK  
*Helen and Martin Schwartz Lectures in Jewish Studies*

Friday, October 23 — “Co-Presents to the Holocaust:  
Space, Belsen and Religion”

Friday, October 30 — “Co-Presence in Auschwitz and Belsen:  
Performing Memory”

Both lectures will begin at 12 noon (EST) on Zoom. Please email [ijjsp@indiana.edu](mailto:ijjsp@indiana.edu) for Zoom registration link.

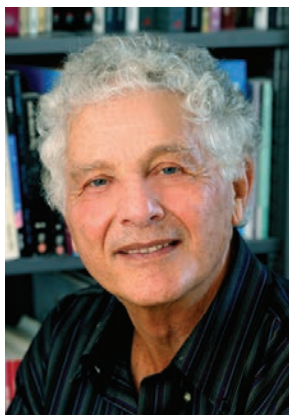
## Free Screening of “Neither Memory nor Magic”

A film introduction, screening, and interactive Q&A with writer/director Hugo Perez

Curated by Professor Joan Hawkins of the Writers Guild of  
Bloomington with support from IU Cinema. Co-sponsored by the  
Borns JSP

Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 pm. Free.

Contact [ucinema@indiana.edu](mailto:ucinema@indiana.edu) for Zoom registration link.



## “The Challenge of Translating the Bible”

Pre-eminent scholar Professor Robert Alter, University of California Berkeley, delivers the 2020 Edward A. Block Lecture in Jewish Studies  
Friday, November 13, 12 noon (EST)  
on Zoom. Please email [ijjsp@indiana.edu](mailto:ijjsp@indiana.edu) for Zoom registration link.

## “Gender and the Jewish Past” 9th Annual Jewish Studies Graduate Student Association Conference

February 4-5, 2021 on Zoom



The conference will focus on history and memory with attention to the role of gender in constructing the Jewish past.

## “Affect, History, and Gender: Reading the Last Will and Testament of the Ninety-Three Bais Yaakov Girls”

Professor Naomi Seidman, University of Toronto  
*Lillian Solotkin Lecture* and Jewish Studies Graduate Student  
Association Conference Keynote Address  
Thursday, February 4, 2021 on Zoom



# 2020-2021 Events

## 2020-2021 Jewish Studies Faculty-Graduate Student Workshops

Friday, August 28 *"The Jew Who Would Be King: One Man's Quest for a Crown in Africa"*  
Professor Adam Rovner, University of Denver

Friday, September 11 *"From Left to Right. Holocaust Historian Lucy S. Dawidowicz and the Politics of Jewish History"*  
Professor Nancy Sinkoff, Rutgers University

Friday, September 25 *"We Renounce Hymns': Form and Voice in American Yiddish Holocaust Poetry"*  
Sean Sidky, IU Religious Studies and Comparative Literature PhD candidate, Jewish Studies PhD minor student

Friday, October 16



Kerry Wallach

*"Excerpts from 'Rahel Szalit-Marcus, a Jewish Artist in Berlin and Paris'"*  
Professor Kerry Wallach, Gettysburg College



Adam Rovner, IU Comparative Literature PhD and JS PhD minor, (2003) at the grave of Nathaniel Isaacs in the old Jewish cemetery, Canterbury, UK.

Friday, December 4 *"Almost as Inaccessible as Tibet: Mobilizing under Restriction before World War II"*  
Professor Maddalena Marinari, Gustavus Adolphus College

Friday, January 15 *"Kabbalah and Scholarship in the School of the Vilna Gaon"*  
Brian Hillman, IU Religious Studies PhD candidate, Jewish Studies PhD minor student

Friday, January 29 *"Judaism and the Jews in Contemporary Muslim Public Life: Religion, Anti-Zionism and Historical Memory"*  
Dr. Ezra Tzfadya, 2020-2021 Borns JSP Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow

Friday, February 12 *"Representations of Immigration and Identity Stratification in Contemporary Israeli Art"*  
Professor Emma Gashinsky, Ben Gurion University

Friday, February 26 *"Sex Segregation and Women's Exclusion: Israel's New Civil Rights Frontier"*  
Professor Yofi Tirosh, Tel Aviv University

Friday, March 26 *"Jews and the American South: Race, Religion, Region"*  
Professor Shari Rabin, Oberlin College

The Borns JSP Faculty-Graduate Workshop Series is generously supported by the Melvin and Betty Cohn Jewish Studies Institute Fund.



# Spotlight on our Scholarship

## Archival Historiography in Jewish Antiquity

by Laura Carlson Hasler  
Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies  
Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies and Religious Studies

**M**y book, *Archival Historiography in Jewish Antiquity* (Oxford University Press, 2020) reevaluates one of the Hebrew Bible's most maligned books: Ezra-Nehemiah. Over the past century, historians and biblical scholars have characterized these atypical texts as "mutilated," "uninviting,"



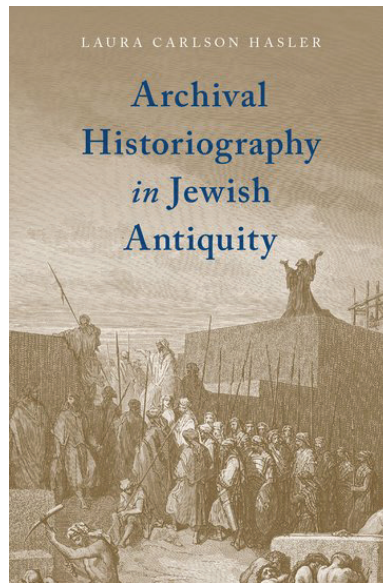
Laura Carlson Hasler

and—perhaps most damningly—"not ideal." This distaste, usually prompted by Ezra-Nehemiah's textual disruptions, incongruities, protracted citations of lists, letters, and decrees, has rendered it, in the eyes of many modern readers, "unreadable." By contrast, my book presents Ezra-Nehemiah (originally viewed as a single text under the

name of "Ezra" but divided into separate texts in the third century CE) as more than a haphazard blend of texts. I argue that it is, rather, an archive of important texts as well as an account of the return from Babylonian exile. On this view, the apparent disjointedness of Ezra-Nehemiah approximates an imperial archival space and capitalizes on its symbolic force.

In the twenty-first century, we tend to envision archives as dusty administrative collections, as public or university libraries, or as infinite digital repositories of information. Near Eastern archives in first millennium BCE were also diverse, sharing some features of our contemporary collections but also radically departing from them in other ways. *Archival Historiography* emphasizes how these repositories functioned in the ancient Near Eastern political landscape where collections of documents served as instruments of bureaucratic control and symbols of cultural might.

As recent literary and postcolonial discourses have shown us, archives are intrinsic to an empire's control over bodies, land, and memory. Those familiar with Ezra-Nehemiah will know that imperial archives also surface in the narrative of this book, where the Persian archive is a formidable and malleable institution. In Ezra 1-6, the imperial archive contributes ambiguously with the returnees' attempts to rebuild the temple. In these stories, the archive is a tool that is wielded for and against such recovery efforts. In light of this, the archive serves as a symbol of Ezra-Nehemiah's complex and competitive relationship with Persian imperial authority. While I do not



argue that Ezra-Nehemiah's own archival literary form replicates the scale of its imperial counterparts, it produces a unique form of collective memory that signals communal vitality.

At its heart, *Archival Historiography* claims that citations in Ezra-Nehemiah assemble an archive that eschews typical spatial constraints and is made entirely out of texts. It is also not the only ancient Jewish text that demonstrates archival features. The book of Esther, likewise occupied with the dangers of living

in the shadow of the Persian empire, collects texts that dictate both the terms of genocide and its reversal. While Ezra-Nehemiah and Esther differ significantly in form and content, both deploy citation as a technology of survival.

Does the term I coin here—"archival historiography"—matter beyond the study of the Bible or ancient Judaism? My hope is that the answer is yes. First and foremost, this study seeks to re-wire our expectations for the genre of historiography—both what it looks like and how it means—in Jewish antiquity. Ezra-Nehemiah shows us a form of historiography that prioritizes collection over coherence.

Beyond that, the book issues a broader invitation to reconsider how we evaluate texts, especially those that generate our instinctive distaste for their apparent rough edges and obvious seams. The challenge I offer to modern readers is to re-think those evaluations that confuse disjointed literary form for bad storytelling. It may be that these stories are inflected by particular spatial realities and, more pressingly, by the urgent need to survive. ■

### Cover

*Continued from page 2*

bottom left: see top of page 18; bottom middle: see bottom of page 18. Small photos of our intimate online graduation ceremony on May 10, 2020: (left to right) top row: Professor Jason Mokhtarian; Professor Günther Jikeli; Events Coordinator Missy Deckard; Professor Mark Roseman; Assistant Director Carolyn Lipson-Walker; 2nd row of small photos: Dr. Sarah Ifft Decker; Richard Fisher, uncle of Yotam Fisher-Pinsker; Tina Goldberg, mother of graduate Ethan Goldberg; Program Administrator and Fiscal Officer Tracy Richardson; Professor Stephen Katz; 3rd row of small photos: graduate Jenna Solomon; Isadore and Mirielle Fisher, grandparents of Yotam Fisher-Pinsker; Professor Judah Cohen; father Professor Shachar Pinsker (University of Michigan) of graduate Yotam Fisher-Pinsker, and Yotam's mother Amanda Fisher; Professor Dov-Ber Kerler; 4th row of small photos: father Steve Siegel of graduate Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel, and her mother and JSP alumna Dina Elenbogen; Professor Laura Carlson Hasler; Professor Aziza Khazzoom; father Offer Korin of graduate Tahlia Korin and her mother Michelle Korin; Director of Modern Hebrew Program and Senior Lecturer Ayelet Weiss; Jordan Schiff, brother and 2019 JS BA graduate of 2020 graduate Talia Schiff, and Talia and Jordan's parents Henry Schiff and Fran Hersh; Senior Modern Hebrew Lecturer Michal Maoz-Levy; Professor Alvin Rosenfeld; graduate Tamar Tecktiel, her father Rabbi Bradley Tecktiel, and her mother Susan Tecktiel; Modern Hebrew lecturer Dima Romashov and his wife Dr. Bethany Braley-Romashov





# Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism

**T**he Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA) at IU, now in its 10th year under the directorship of **Professor Alvin H. Rosenfeld**, is the only research institute at an American university focused exclusively on ongoing, high-level study of contemporary antisemitism. Through its teaching, research, and service activities, it is dedicated to advancing knowledge of antisemitism in all of its manifestations.

Each year, ISCA faculty members offer courses on antisemitism at IU on both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Several of these courses are taught by **Professor Günther Jikeli**, the first incumbent of the Erna B. Rosenfeld Professorship, the only endowed faculty position at any American university with a focus on teaching and research on contemporary antisemitism. An **Erna B. Rosenfeld Scholarship** encourages and supports student research on antisemitism.

In cooperation with the Natural Language Processing Lab and IU's Department of Linguistics, and **Professor Damir Cavar**, Professor Jikeli organized an international online competition for high school and college students in May and June 2020: "Antisemitism on Social Media Datathon and Hackathon." The students from America, Brazil, Canada, and Germany participated, analyzing thousands of tweets and creating algorithms to detect antisemitic tweets, using AI. The workshops were funded by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at IU Bloomington through the Grant-in-Aid program, the Borns JSP, ISCA, and an anonymous private donor.

Over the past 9 years, ISCA has convened 4 major international scholars' conferences on antisemitism, which have brought to IU's Bloomington campus over 150 scholars from 17 countries. It

also helped to organize and co-host 3 major conferences in Berlin. Circumstances permitting, we plan to convene our 5th major conference in Bloomington, "Antisemitism in Today's America: Manifestations, Causes, and Consequences," in 2021.

In June, July, and August, 2020, ISCA hosted a webinar series featuring presentations on key aspects of European and American hostility to Jews, Judaism, Zionism and Israel (see page 10). These webinars are continuing this fall.



European Parliament Working Group on Antisemitism in Brussels. Left to right: Bojan Pancevski, Germany correspondent, *Wall Street Journal*; Professor Jean-Yves Camus, Research Associate, IRIS; Director, Observatory of Political Radicalism; Professor Günther Jikeli, IU; Marina Chernivsky, Director, Competence Center for Prevention and Empowerment, Central Welfare Council of Jews in Germany (ZWST)

In addition to his own publications on the subject, Professor Rosenfeld edits the IU Press series "Studies in Antisemitism." IUP publishes the scholarly journal, *Antisemitism Studies*, edited by Professor Catherine Chatterley.

For more on ISCA's activities, please see <https://isca.indiana.edu>. ■



# 2019-2020 Public Lectures, Conferences, and Events

## Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism “Come and Learn” Zoom webinar series – Summer 2020

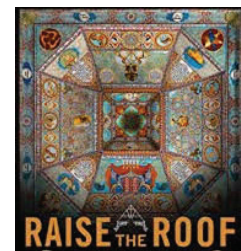
- **Dr. Dave Rich**, Director of Policy at the Community Security Trust, UK, “From Corbyn to COVID: How Antisemitism is Changing for British Jews”
- **Katharina von Schnurbein**, European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life, “New Developments in the European Response to Antisemitism”
- **Professor Rafal Pankowski**, Warsaw Collegium Civitas, Poland, “Antisemitism in Contemporary Poland: Nationalism, Populism, and Conspiracy Theories”
- **Professor Dina Porat**, Director of the Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry at Tel Aviv University and Chief Historian of Yad Vashem, “Defining and Monitoring Antisemitism: Current Changes”
- **Tammi Rossman-Benjamin**, Co-founder and Director of AMCHA Initiative, “The Latest Trend in Campus Antisemitism in America and What Can Be Done About It?”
- **Professor Cary Nelson**, Professor Emeritus of English, University of Illinois, “The Return of Christian Supersessionism”



2020 JS Graduate Student Conference (back row: left to right): Judah Isserhof, Jordan Molot, Claire Bergen, Julie Sharff, Hannah Mills; Professor Mara Benjamin, keynote speaker; Jonathan Lanz, Eliana Schechter, Meghan Paradis. (front row: left to right): Steve Kaplin, Sara Sharpe, Itamar Haritan

## The Lou and Sybil Mervis Chair in Jewish Cultural Studies

Screening of documentary film “Raise the Roof” with an introduction from **Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett**, POLIN Museum, followed by Q&A.



“Raise the Roof”

## “Kinship and Community in the Jewish World”: The 8th Annual Jewish Studies Graduate Student Association Conference

Keynote address

**Lillian Solotkin Memorial Lecture**, “Wondrous Kin,” by **Mara Benjamin**, Irene Kaplan Leiwant Associate Professor of Jewish Studies, Mount Holyoke College

## 19th Annual Joan and Samuel New Institute for the Study of Judaism and the Jews

### “Is Today’s Antisemitism the Same Old Problem or is it Something New?”

with **Professors Günther Jikeli and Mark Roseman**

Presented in collaboration with Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership (Chicago) as part of their Viewpoints series



### A Screening of “Who Will Write Our History?”

with discussion at the IU Cinema

A film particularly significant for the Borns JSP, since in many ways, it owes its existence to the program. The film draws on the book *Who Will Write Our History* by Samuel Kassow, which began life as two of our Helen and Martin

Schwartz Lectures and was published as part of IU Press’ Schwartz lecture series.

A College of Arts and Sciences Themester 2019 “Remembering and Forgetting” Program



(left to right): Mark Roseman, Irit Dekel, Ziya Meral, and Emma Gashinsky

## Bill and Frances Julian Program for Inter- and Intra Faith Understanding

- **Dr. Ziya Meral**, Senior Resident Fellow, at the UK Army’s Centre for Historical Analysis and Conflict Research/Senior Associate at the Royal United Services Institute/Director of the Centre on Religion and Global Affairs (based in London and Beirut), “Question of Theodicy: Religion, Violence and Ideology in the 21st Century”



# 2019-2020 Public Lectures, Conferences, and Events

## Olamot: Center for Scholarly & Cultural Exchange with Israel

Professor Oded Lipschits, Director of the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology, Tel Aviv University, "Jerusalem between Bible and Archaeology"

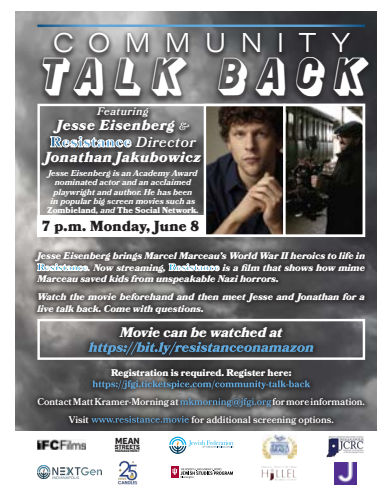
Co-sponsored by the Department of Religious Studies; A College of Arts & Sciences' Themester 2019 "Remembering and Forgetting" Program

- "The Tibetan Translation of Elie Wiesel's Night: A Discussion in Honor of Professor Elliot Sperling," on the third anniversary of his passing (Department of Central Eurasian Studies). Comments by Alvin Rosenfeld and others.
- Michael Weinman, Bard College Berlin/IU Department of Comparative Literature, "Hannah Arendt and the Three Antinomies of Liberal Political Theory"  
Cosponsored by Department of Germanic Studies

## Co-sponsored Lectures and Events

- "Human Rights in Russia— Past, Present, and Future: The Life and Legacy of Lyudmila Alexeeva," symposium hosted by the Russian Studies Workshop
- Professor Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, POLIN Museum, "Choreography of a Career: A Folklorist's Evolving Perspective on Folklore, Heritage, and Museums," The Richard M. Dorson Lecture (Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology) and Wells Lecture

- Community Talk Back featuring Jesse Eisenberg and director Jonathan Jakubowicz



## A Collaborative Faculty and Graduate Student Community 2019-2020

### JS Faculty & Graduate Student Workshops and Book Launches

Our faculty and graduate students join in an intellectual community:

- Moulie Vidas, Princeton University, "The Rise of Talmud"
- Dean Franco, Wake Forest University, "Feeling Jewish: On Race and Scale: The Object of Jewish American Literary History"
- Ben Nathans, University of Pennsylvania, "Refuseniks and Rights"
- Devi Mays, University of Michigan (IU JS PhD minor, 2013) "Becoming Illegal: Sephardi Jews in the Opiates Trades"
- Natalia Aleksion, Touro College, "When Your Subject Goes Underground: Methodological Challenges in Writing about Jews in Hiding during the Holocaust in Eastern Europe"
- Nathaniel Berman, Brown University, "Demonization and Transformation: Legal and Kabbalistic Myths of Self and Other"

- Laura Carlson Hasler, IU, "Archival Historiography in Jewish Antiquity"
- Lindsey Pullum, IU Anthropology PhD candidate and JS PhD minor (defended late spring 2020), "Waterfalls, Goats, and Bombs: An Ethno-Acoustic Analysis of the Occupied Golan Heights"

### Book and Journal Launches

- Michael Morgan, IU, *Michael L. Morgan: History and Moral Normativity* (Brill, 2018) (edited by Hava Tirosh-Samuels and Aaron W. Hughes)
- Mark Roseman, IU, *Lives Reclaimed: A Story of Rescue and Resistance in Nazi Germany* (Metropolitan, 2019)

## Our Modern Hebrew Language Program

"Our Hebrew teachers are dedicated to teaching specifically to each student at their own level."

The passing year saw two different realities for Hebrew language teaching: in person pre-COVID 19 and on-line as the pandemic took hold. In pre-COVID-19 days, our teachers and students worked closely together both inside and outside the classroom. As they do each year, our faculty (Ayelet Weiss, Director and Senior Lecturer; Michal Maoz-Levy, Senior Lecturer, and Dmitry Romashov, Lecturer) devoted their efforts and time to working individually with each student, aiming to meet their needs and foster their Hebrew abilities and proficiency. Ayelet was honored with a Trustees Teaching Award in honor of her transformation of our Modern Hebrew Program and her outstanding teaching.

We welcomed site visits by faculty from two universities seeking to learn about our successful model for our Modern Hebrew language program. As they learned about our program and how we teach, our visitors recognized the program as "something very special" and "exemplary." These visits also offered our faculty a unique opportunity to pause and to see the work we do through the eyes of others. They also allowed our students to share with visiting faculty their learning experiences in our program, and to describe how our pedagogy and work affect their Hebrew skills: "The immediate benefits of this pedagogical methodology [are that] ... students stop using English ... and learn to switch fully into a Hebrew framework." "It's incredibly rewarding to be able to see how much of the Hebrew-speaking world is opened up to us, and how much we can really understand, having completed the language classes." ■



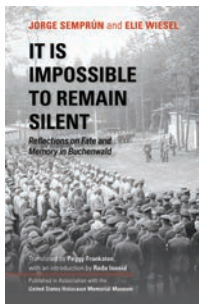
# IU Press – Jewish Studies Publications for 2020

by Gary Dunham, Director of IU Press

2020 has been a year of change and continuity for JS publications at Indiana University Press (IUP). With more than a tinge of sadness, we saw the retirement of **Dee Mortensen**, the longtime Editorial Director of IUP. Dee acquired in JS for more than two decades, and her humanity and influence in the field will be greatly missed. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the Press into working from home for the foreseeable future. This transition has had its challenges, as it has for all university presses, but the resourcefulness and technological expertise of the staff ensure that IU Press's productivity and commitment to our core principles and scholarly disciplines remain undiminished.

I'm delighted to announce the release of titles in two new JS series. *The Jewish Eighteenth Century: A European Biography, 1700–1750* by Shmuel Feiner, translated by Jeffrey M. Green, is the first in the Olamot Series in Humanities and Social Sciences. Partnering with IU's Olamot Center, the series aims to bring the best of recent, innovative, and high-quality scholarship by Israeli authors to light in the English language. *The Touch of an Angel* by Henryk Schönker, translated by Scotia Gilroy, is the first in our Jewish Lives in Poland series, a partnership between IU Press and the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw.

IU Press and our authors also enjoyed a wonderful year in awards. *Colonialism and the Jews* edited by Ethan B. Katz, Lisa Moses Leff, and Maud S. Mandel; *Hermann Cohen and the Crisis of Liberalism* by Paul Nahme; and *The Rise of the Modern Yiddish Theater* by Alyssa Quint were all named finalists for the Jewish Book Awards. *Martin Buber's Theopolitics* by Samuel Hayim Brody won the Association for JS Jordan Schnitzer Book Award. Finally, *The Obligated Self* by Mara H. Benjamin won the American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion. These awards are ample testament that IU



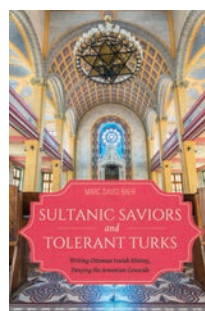
Press will continue to be a leading publisher of scholarship in JS for many years to come.

IU Press publications from 2020 include work from leading scholars in a range of disciplines and IU Press series: Published in association with the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, *It Is Impossible to Remain Silent: Reflections on Fate and Memory in Buchenwald*, by Jorge Semprun and Elie Wiesel, offers a unique examination of their mutual experiences in the Buchenwald

death camp. Jews in Eastern Europe Series, edited by Jeffrey Veidlinger, Mikhail Krutikov, and Geneviève Zubrzycki, published *Vladimir Jabotinsky's Russian Years, 1900–1925* by Brian J. Horowitz. Horowitz provides a compelling biography of one of the central figures in the history of Zionism and modern Jewish politics. *Perspectives on Israel Studies*, edited by S. Ilan Troen, published Uri Bailer's *Israeli Foreign*



*Policy: A People Shall Not Dwell Alone* in spring 2020, which details Israeli foreign policy from the early days of the state until the negotiations of the Oslo Accords. Coming up in the fall, the series will include two titles, Michal Shaul's *Holocaust Memory in Ultraorthodox Society in Israel* and *Israeli Community Action: Civic Associations and Community Resilience* by Paula Kabalo. The German Jewish Cultures series, published in cooperation with the Leo

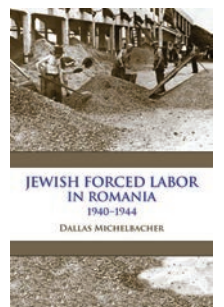
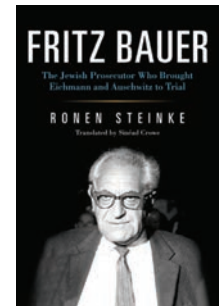


Baeck Institute in London, featured Ronen Steinke's *Fritz Bauer: The Jewish Prosecutor Who Brought Eichmann and Auschwitz to Trial*, which examines the life of famed German prosecutor and his role in the Auschwitz trials, and Rick McCormick's *Sex, Politics, and Comedy: The Transnational Cinema of Ernst Lubitsch*, which details the life of the early Hollywood pioneer. In fall 2020, the series will release *Yiddish Writers in Weimar Berlin: A Fugitive Modernism* by Marc Caplan. *Studies in Antisemitism*, edited by Alvin H. Rosenfeld, will publish *Blaming the Jews: Politics and Delusion* by Bernard Harrison in fall 2020. Harrison offers a new and unique analysis of the nature of antisemitism and its persistence as a cultural

phenomenon. Sephardi and Mizrahi Studies, edited by Harvey E. Goldberg and Matthias Lehmann, published two titles in spring 2020. *Sultanic Saviors and Tolerant Turks: Writing Ottoman Jewish History, Denying the Armenian Genocide*, by Marc David Baer, challenges many of the myths of Ottoman tolerance of Jews. *Jews and the Mediterranean*, edited by Matthias B. Lehmann and Jessica M. Marglin, examines what Mediterranean studies contribute to our knowledge of Jewish history.

In fall 2020, *The Memory Work of Jewish Spain* by Daniela Flesler and Adrián Pérez Melgosa, is scheduled for publication. Titles also published in 2020 include: *Conceiving Agency: Reproductive Authority among Haredi Women* by Michal S. Raucher; *Jewish Forced Labor in Romania, 1940–1944* by Dallas Michelbacher; and *Unexpected State: British Politics and the Creation of Israel* by Carly Beckerman.

In addition, IU Press JS journals — *Aleph*, *Antisemitism Studies*, *History & Memory*, *Israel Studies*, *Jewish Social Studies*, *Nashim*, and *Prooftexts* — are all coming out with new issues. As always, they are available in electronic as well as print form.



Readers seeking further information or wishing to order books and journals may visit IU Press's website: [iupress.org](http://iupress.org).

Indiana University Press, Office of Scholarly Publishing, Herman B Wells Library 350, 1320 E. 10th Street, Bloomington, IN 47405-3907. ■



# 48 Years at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem

## Terry Hendin Honored for 20 Years as “Friend”



Ayelet Weiss, IU Director of Modern Hebrew Language Program; Kyle Hayes, Senior Study Abroad Advisor; Dr. Kathleen Sideli, Associate VP for Overseas Study; VP Hannah Buxbaum; Terry Hendin; Carolyn Lipson-Walker, Assistant Director Borns JSP; Professor Mark Roseman, Director of Borns JSP; and Professor Judah Cohen, Director of Undergraduate Studies Borns JSP

In 2019-2020, among the IU students studying at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem (HUJ) were four JS students (one for the year — **Michael Mitgang**, and three — **Haley Kotzker**, **Leora Lindenbaum**, and **Eliana Martin** — for the spring 2020 semester). All of these students, along with other IU students studying in Israel, were eligible for funding through generous Borns JSP Presidential scholarships endowed by JSP supporters.

On December 6, 2019, **Terry Hendin**, our amazing “Friend” of IU Jewish Studies students studying at HUJ, was honored with a Bicentennial Certificate of Appreciation from the Office of Overseas Study and the Borns JSP on the 20th anniversary of her service. In 1971-1972, **Terry and Ron Hendin** were in the first group of IU students to study at HUJ (unofficially). 357 IU students have studied for a semester or a year at HUJ since that time. The Hendins have served as a “home away from home” for many of them. **Hannah Buxbaum**, IU Vice President for International Affairs, presented the certificate honoring Terry and her husband Ron (in Jerusalem that night) at a special dinner in Bloomington.

In 2018-2019, students majoring in JS continued to study abroad (80%), mostly in Israel: that’s about two and a half times the overall participation rate for all domestic IUB students (34%). Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all IU overseas study has been cancelled for fall 2020. Our hope is that students will, sooner than later, be able to continue to study in Israel and elsewhere around the world. ■

## In Memoriam

**June Herman** (June 19, 2020) was Director of both the annual and the long term endowments for the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. A member of Birch Bayh’s senate campaign, she was a longtime member of the Borns JSP Advisory Board.

**Isaiah Kuperstein** (April 24, 2020) died of COVID-19. At the time of his death, he was Visiting Research Scholar at the Borns JSP. The father of Borns JSP BA alumnus Daniel Kuperstein (2004), Isaiah served as the founding Director of the Holocaust Center of Greater Pittsburgh; became the first Director of Education for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum; and, served as Executive Director of the Zionist Organization of America in Baltimore.

**Myrna Lemberger** (September 12, 2019), who with her late husband Lou, a longtime advisory board member, were enthusiastic champions of JS at IU. They delighted in attending the annual student-faculty gala dinner to cheer on our outstanding students. A new student scholarship has been endowed in the Lembergers’ memory by their daughters.

**Bernice Levetown** (November 13, 2019) established with her husband Herbert Levetown, the Bernice and Herbert Levetown (four year incoming freshman) Scholarship. This significant Presidential Matching the Promise scholarship will support outstanding JS majors for generations to come.

**Gerald Paul** (October 29, 2019), who with his wife Dorit, made distinctive and creative contributions to the Borns JSP. Longtime members of the advisory board, they added dimensions to the program with the Dorit and Gerald Paul Endowment for Jewish Culture and the Arts, and the Dorit and Gerald Paul Lectures for the Study of Germans and Jews. They were honored in March 2015 by the Federal German government with the Bundesverdienstkreuz (the Federal Cross of Merit) for their charitable work, especially their contribution to German-Jewish understanding represented by the Pauls’ unique JSP lecture series.

**Reuven Shevitz, PhD** (October 13, 2019) in Indianapolis. He and his wife Leona were active supporters of the Borns JSP, establishing the Marilyn R. Shevitz Overseas Study Scholarship for study in Israel. The scholarship, in memory of their daughter who passed away of heart disease after her freshman year in college, will be awarded in perpetuity. ■



# Borns JSP Advisory Board



The Borns JSP benefits from the leadership and counsel of an excellent Executive Committee and Advisory Board. These leaders, who are deeply committed to education and Jewish culture, have been essential for the Borns JSP's success in community relations and fund raising. We are grateful to **Andy Mallor, President of the Advisory Board**, who works closely with the College's indispensable Executive Director of Advancement **Travis Paulin** and his team. We welcome our newest advisory board members **Lindsey (Barton) Mintz**, Executive Director of the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council and JS BA alumna (1998), and **Professor Emerita Jean Robinson** (Political Science) who was a tremendous support for the JSP when she served as Associate Executive Dean of the College, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education of the College, and Associate Dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs of the College.

We are most grateful to our members for bringing their passion and experience to the program and our students:

## Executive Committee

Robert Borns	Rancho Mirage, CA
Andrew Mallor, president	Bloomington
Sybil Mervis	Danville, IL
Andrew Soshnick, vp	Indianapolis

<i>Debra Barton Grant (1991)</i>	Carmel, IN
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Robin Gurin	Fishers, IN
Irene Jacobs	Blue Bell, PA
Martin Jacobs, PhD	Blue Bell, PA
Steve Jacobs	Carmel, IN
Bobbi Kroot	Columbus, IN
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Greg Silver	Indianapolis
Renny Silver	Indianapolis
Myrna Weinberger	Indianapolis
Dr. Myron Weinberger	Indianapolis
<i>Jennifer Zwilling (1994)</i>	Washington, D.C.

## Advisory Board

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Barbara Alpert	Indianapolis
Joseph Alpert	Indianapolis
Bob Aronson	Bloomfield Hills, MI
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Nancy Bate	Carmel, IN
Gail Berman	Pacific Palisades, CA
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Sandra Borns	Rancho Mirage, CA
Theodore Cohn	New York, NY
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Robert Gerber	Northbrook, IL

<i>Lindsey Mintz (1998)</i>	Indianapolis
Ilene New	Granger, IN
Jeffrey New	Granger, IN
Eloise Paul	Indianapolis
Jean Robinson	Bloomington
A John Rose	Bloomington
Judith Rose	Bloomington
Jonathan Shapiro	Beverly Hills, CA

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Edward Dobrow	Scottsdale, AZ
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Jay Glazer	Montecito, CA
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Dorit Paul	Indianapolis
Dr. Ora Pescovitz	Carmel, IN
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# Donor Honor Roll

## July 26, 2019 – July 29, 2020

Behind each Borns JSP chair, scholarship, and success are generous people. Through their gifts, they have become partners who share the vision of the program.

\*Deceased; *Italics* – JSP Alumni; ♦Parents and grandparents of alumni or current students

### JSP Endowments – Life/Perpetual Friends

(new endowments in 2019-2020 indicated with ✕)

Barbara and Joseph Alpert  
 –Harry A. Alpert, J.D., and Jeanette Solotken Alpert Overseas Study Scholarship  
 –Olamot Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel Fund  
 –David and Sylvia Zabinsky Overseas Study Scholarship  
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 –Henry A. Bern Memorial Scholarship Fund  
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 –Edward A. Block Lecture Fund  
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 –Elizabeth Borns and Jonathan S. Shapiro Scholarship  
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\*All donations below were donated to the general fund unless otherwise noted.

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Continued on page 16



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Continued from page 15

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*Professor Jessica Carr* (2013)  
*Shoshana (Yaffe)* (2002) and David Cenker  
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Karen and Charles Cohen  
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# Graduate Student News

## JS Graduate Students' Esprit de Corps

Our JS master's degree students and PhD minor students are part of a congenial and supportive community, in large part enlivened by the **Jewish Studies Graduate Student Association (JSGSA)**. 2019-2020 JSGSA officers were **Meghan Paradis**, President; **Eliana Schechter**, VP; **Jakob Breunig**, Secretary; **Hannah Mills**, Treasurer; **Bagel the Beagle**, Mascot. In addition to monthly dinners and gatherings, the JSGSA hosted its 8th annual IU JSGSA conference "Kinship and Community in the Jewish World," which included papers from graduate students from Cornell University, Princeton University, Concordia University, and IU. **Professor Mara Benjamin**, the Irene Kaplan Leiwant Associate Professor, Mount Holyoke College, presented the Lillian Solotkin keynote address.



Mara Benjamin

Early in fall 2019, JS librarian **Scott Libson** introduced graduate students to many library resources and soon after conducted a workshop on citation managers.

"**Gender and the Jewish Past**," February 4-5, 2021, will be the 9th JSGSA annual conference and the first on Zoom. **Naomi Seidman**, University of Toronto, will deliver the **Lillian Solotkin keynote address**. The 2020-2021 officers are **Julie Sharff**, President; **Meghan Paradis**, VP; **Claire Woodward**, Secretary; **Jonathan Lanz**, Treasurer.

During these uncertain times, our faculty continue to mentor and nurture our graduate students to ensure the best possible experience for them. ■

## Blitz, Holler, Magid, Pullum, and Wuensch Complete PhD

Five JS PhD minor students — **Avi Blitz**, **Roy Holler**, **Yehuda Magid**, **Lindsey Pullum**, and **Juliane Wuensch** — completed their PhDs in spring 2020.

**Avi Blitz** (Comparative Literature) is Director of Languages and Instruction at the trilingual K-12 Jewish school Instituto Alberto Einstein in Panama City, Panama. He previously taught Hebrew literature at the Polis Institute of Languages in Israel. He successfully defended his dissertation "The Tsene-rene: Midrash, Translation, and Commentary" in August 2020.

**Roy Holler** (Comparative Literature) accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Florida, Gainesville, as an Assistant Professor of Israel Studies. Roy was awarded the Salo Baron New Voices in Jewish Studies award from Columbia University and Fordham University, and will be delivering a public lecture in New York next spring in connection with this honor. During the 2019-2020 academic year, Roy successfully defended his dissertation, "All Things Must Pass: Negotiating Identity/Difference in Modern Hebrew Literature," and presented his research at the AJS annual conference.

**Yehuda Magid** (Political Science) completed his dissertation, "Explaining the Occurrence and Dynamics of Group Violence: Uncertainty, Threat, and Israeli Settler Violence in the West Bank."



Before a September 2019 JS Graduate Student Association meeting, outside the Global & International Studies building: (left to right) first row: Claire Bergen, MA student; Hannah Mills, MA student; Meghan Paradis (PhD minor, History PhD student); Julie Sharff, MA student; Julia Riegel (PhD minor, History PhD student). Second row: Eliana Schechter, MA student; Jakob Breunig, MA Religious Studies student; Jake Beckert, MA (JS and History) student; Sean Sidky, PhD minor, Comparative Literature and Religious Studies PhD student. Photo: Maxmillian Tortoriello

In August, he began as Data Scientist and a Presidential Management Fellow with USAID.

**Lindsey Pullum** (Anthropology) successfully defended her dissertation titled "Faithful/Traitor: Violence, Nationalism, and Performances of Druze Belonging" on May 7, 2020. During the 2019-2020 academic year, Lindsey's essay "A Resolute Display: Culture, Life, and Intersectional Identity in Israeli Druze Photography" was published in the journal *Anthropology of the Middle East*. She presented her ethnographic research at the American Anthropological Association conference in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, and at a JS faculty-graduate student workshop. She is currently Instructor of Anthropology and Communication at The Modern College of Design in Dayton, Ohio, where she incorporates her research and ethnography skills into her classroom teaching.

**Juliane Wuensch** (Germanic Studies) is now Visiting Assistant Professor for German at Skidmore College. She completed her dissertation entitled "German-Jewish Female Identity and the Dream of Egalitarianism — A Comparative Study of Rahel Varnhagen, Rosa Luxemburg and Hannah Arendt" with support from a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the IU College of Arts & Sciences. ■



Graduate students at welcome back dinner, September 2019: (left to right) Meghan Riley, Eliana Schechter, Meghan Paradis, Klil Gassi, Claire Woodward, Julia Riegel, Jonathan Lanz, Jakob Breunig, Roy Holler, Jake Beckert, Claire Bergen, Sean Sidky, Julie Sharff, Hannah Mills



## Our Doctoral Minor Students

We welcome recent JS doctoral minors: **Klil Agassi** (MELC), **Sabina Ali** (Religious Studies), **Kaidan McNamee** (English), **Brian Quinn** (History), and **Ellen Taraskiewicz** (History).

**Nicolette van den Bogerd** (Musicology) completed minors in JS and Ethnomusicology. In the 2019-2020 academic year, Nicolette passed her qualifying exam. She presented her paper titled "Music in a Distorting Mirror": Memory and Trauma in Szymon Laks's *Elégie pour les villages juifs*" at the Grief and the Arts conference in Belgium, as well as at the IU Musicology Colloquium Series. She travelled to Poland in July 2019 to study Polish for a month with a full scholarship from the Polish National Agency for Academic Affairs at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. While there, she presented a guest lecture on national constructs in Chopin's music. She returned to Lublin in late November 2019 when the German EVZ foundation invited her to participate in the seminar entitled "Local Perspectives on Difficult Histories: An Open Exchange for Best Practices in Memory Work" at the Brama Grodzka - Teatr NN Museum. This year, Nicolette will continue her study of Polish, begin studying Russian, and work on her dissertation.

**Charles Bonds** (History) will defend his dissertation, "No Soviet Zion: The Repression of Jewish Memory and Yiddish Literature in Stalin's Postwar," during the fall semester under the supervision of Professor Hiroaki Kuromiya.

Last year, **Brian Hillman** (Religious Studies) was a Future Faculty Teaching Fellow at Butler University in Indianapolis, teaching courses on world religions, mysticism, and the Hebrew Bible and New

Testament. He presented his research at the AJS conference and published book reviews in *Religious Studies Review*. Brian received a dissertation completion fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences for the 2020-2021 academic year. His will be the first sustained study of the "school" of the famous 18th century Lithuanian Rabbi Elijah of Vilna, known as the "Gaon."

In 2020-2021, **Steven Kaplin** (Religious Studies) finished his final year of PhD course work and will take his qualifying examinations this fall. His research focuses on American Judaism and Jewish spirituality, with particular emphasis on neo-Hasidism and Jewish feminism.

**Jonathan Lanz** (History) is currently a second year PhD student with a focus on the history of the Holocaust. His research interests center on the experiences of Jewish children in Nazi Germany and his preliminary dissertation project, supervised by Mark Roseman, seeks to write a children's history of the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex. In 2019-2020, Jonathan presented papers in Gdańsk, Dallas,

and Bloomington, and he conducted archival research at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. He will serve as the treasurer of the JSGSA this year.

In 2019-2020, **Meghan Paradis** (History) completed her qualifying exams and in August, 2020 she defended her dissertation prospectus, "Imagining Jewish Mothers, Raising Jewish Girls: A Cultural History of German-Jewish Girlhood, 1871-1933." In December 2019, she presented her paper, "A Quality Sensed and Felt: The Jewish Girls' School': Emotion, and Antisemitism in Interwar Vienna," at the AJS conference in San Diego. She served as 2019-2020 President of the JSGSA and is serving as VP in 2020-2021.

**Julia Riegel** (History) was awarded a President's Diversity Dissertation Fellowship. Her article "Jewish Composers are the Crowning Achievements of Foreign Nations': Jewish Identity and Yiddish Nationalism in the Writings of Menachem Kipnis," appeared in an issue (vol. 32) of *POLIN* focusing on Jews and music-making in Eastern Europe.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, **Meghan Riley** (History) conducted dissertation research at the Elmer L. Anderson Library at the University of Minnesota; the archives of the American Joint Distribution Committee; YIVO; the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum;

and the National Archives of France in Paris. She also presented her work at the Junior Scholars Conference in Jewish History at the Institute for the History of the German Jews in Hamburg, as well as at AJS in San Diego. This academic year, she will take part in the Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship at IU Northwest, where she will teach classes in French history, American history, and the Holocaust.

**Sean Sidky** (Comparative Literature and Religious Studies) is supported

this academic year by a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship. He presented "GOT, MAYN BRUDER: Glatshetyn's Holocaust Theories" at the 2019 AJS conference.

**Dale Spicer** (Religious Studies) was awarded a Devonia and Steve Stein Fund for the Study of American Religions Fellowship. Along with Professors Laura Carlson Hasler and Professor Cooper Harriss, Dale submitted the winning proposal for the IU Center for Religion and the Human's fall 2020 Teaching Religion in Public on the theme of failure.

**Claire Woodward** (Germanic Studies) spent the summer learning Hungarian online through the IU Summer Language Workshop and was awarded an exchange fellowship at the Free University in Berlin for spring 2021. She co-authored a digital humanities article called "Choosing and Enjoying Violence in Narratives" that was published in December. Her other research focuses on German-Jewish identity in 20th century German literature, especially in regard to hybrid German identities, Othering, and notions of Heimat. ■

"Even though I have only spent one semester at IU, I can already tell that the JSP is one of the university's most important assets. The research funding, faculty support, and collegial atmosphere in the program provide an ideal environment for studying Jewish history. Indeed, the stellar reputation of the program was one of the factors that drew me to IU."

—Jonathan Lanz



## PhD Alumni News

**Professor Gabrielle Berlinger** (Folklore & Ethnomusicology PhD and JS PhD minor, 2013), Babette S. and Bernard J. Tanenbaum Fellow in Jewish History and Culture, Assistant Professor of American Studies and Folklore, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, spoke at IU on October 4, 2019 about “Framing Sukkot: Jewish Ritual Architecture and Contemporary Life” during her ongoing related exhibit at IU’s Mathers Museum. The author of an IU Press book on this topic, Professor Berlinger’s curator’s talk was so engrossing that outstanding freshman JS major **Levi Gettleman** was inspired to add a second major – Folklore.

**Professor Jessica Carr** (Religious Studies PhD and JS PhD minor, 2013), Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Berman Scholar of JS at Lafayette College, is working on a project comparing visual culture representations of Jewish women by Jewish women from around the world. Her article “Redefining Kabbalah: Combinative American Religion at the Kabbalah Centre,” appeared in *Shofar*, Vol. 38, no. 1 (2020).

**Erin Corber** (History PhD and JS PhD minor, 2013) is Graduate Career Advisor in McGill University’s Career Planning Service where she provides career exploration advising, vitae and job narrative preparation, and design-thinking workshops. A gifted visual artist, Dr. Corber also consults with the Montreal Holocaust Museum on educational tool content and docent training.

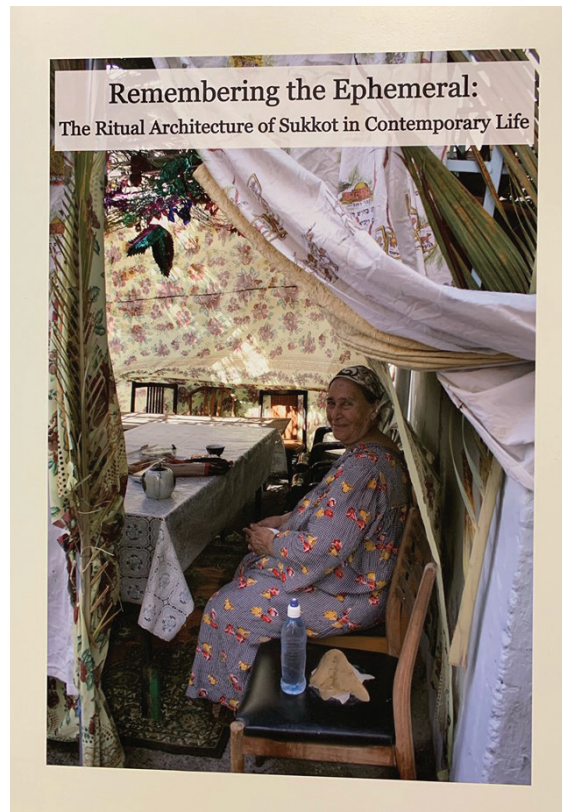
**Constanze Kolbe** (History PhD and JS PhD minor, 2017) was the winner of the 2019 John O. Iatrides Dissertation Prize awarded by the Modern Greek Studies Association for her dissertation “Crossing Regions, Nations, Empires: The Jews of Corfu and the Making of a Jewish Adriatic, 1850-1914.”

**Barbara Krawcowicz’s** (Religious Studies PhD and JS PhD minor, 2013) *History, Metahistory, and Evil: Jewish Theological Responses to the Holocaust* will be published by Academic Studies Press in December 2020. She is a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at The Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

We were delighted to welcome **Professor Devi Mays** (History, PhD and JS PhD minor, 2013) to lead a fall 2019 JSP Faculty-Graduate Student Workshop on “Becoming Illegal: Sephardi Jews in the Opiates Trades” on November 8, 2019. An article of the same name was published in *Jewish Social Studies*, Vol. 25,3. Devi is Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan.

**Jolanta Mickutė** (History PhD and JS PhD minor, 2011) is the Senior Researcher, Script Writer, and Jewish Historian for The Lost Shtetl Museum in Vilnius and Seduva, Lithuania.

**Jeremy Shere** (English PhD and JS PhD minor, 2006) is the producer of the Association for Jewish Studies *Adventures in Jewish Studies* series podcast. Launched in 2018, Dr. Shere produces five episodes annually. These have included “An American New York Jewish Food Tradition,” “The Origins of the Jews,” “Portnoy’s Complaint at 50,” and “Messiahs: Messianism in Jewish History and Thought.” He is also the producer of the *Frankly Judaic* podcast for the Frankel Center at the University of Michigan. ■



Sukkot exhibit at IU’s Mathers Museum by Professor Gabrielle Berlinger, JSP alumna

## Our MA Students

We are delighted to welcome to the JS MA program this fall — **Walker Rhea**, an exceptionally talented student of Semitic languages, and **Emily Vetne**, who just completed an MA in Religious Studies at the University of Chicago. If travel is possible, **Marian Gabani Gimenez**, who comes to us from the Universidade de Sao Paulo and Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ), will join us in spring 2021.

During the first year in the MA program, **Claire Bergen** received the Glazer Family Fellowship as well as the George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize. At the 2020 JSGSA conference, Claire delivered a paper entitled “Bread and Rose(s) to Bernie Bros: Gender and Yiddish Socialism,” and this summer, Claire continued to research contemporary American Jewish activism through a Borns Fellowship (grant-in-aid of research) towards their thesis, tentatively named “Diasporism as a Jewish Social Movement.” Claire looks forward to continuing their MA studies next year, and to eventual rabbinic ordination with the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism.

**Julie Sharff** completed the first year of her master’s degree with the support of the Glazer Family Fellowship. At the spring 2020 JSGSA conference, she delivered a paper, “Family and Community in the Fiction of Esther Singer Kreitman.” This summer, she continued learning Yiddish and began research for her thesis concerning translation, gender, and memory in Yiddish literature written by women. In the 2020-2021 school year, she is serving as the President of the JSGSA. ■



## Jake Beckert Completes MA in JS and History; Hannah Mills (December 2020) and Eliana Schechter Complete MA in JS

**Jake Beckert's** (MA in JS and History) thesis titled "At the Crossroads: Ahad Ha'am and American Zionism, Three Case Studies" (under the advisement of Sarah Imhoff and Noam Zadoff) focused on the history of the relationship between American Jews and Israel. This fall, he began his PhD studies in history at the University of Washington (working with the Stroum Center).

**Hannah Mills** (MA in JS) spent her second year in the MA program helping to teach classes on Jewish identity and Hebrew Bible, as well as expanding her language skills in Yiddish and German. She served as JSGSA treasurer and will complete her thesis "A Mother and Daughter Survive Context, Connection, and Rhetoric in *Dismiss the Black Butterflies: The Story of a Nazi Death Camps Survivor*."

With the support of the Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship, **Eliana Schechter** (MA in JS) completed her thesis, "American Jewish Women's Representations of Motherhood and Jewish Communal Belonging on Jewish Digital Media." In February, she presented a portion of her research at the JSGSA conference with a paper titled, "Hey Alma! Jewish American Women's Blogging, Dating, and Digital Media."

**Jakob Breunig**, whose scholarship is focused on Jewish Studies, completed his MA in Religious Studies in spring 2020. ■

## George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize — Claire Bergen



Claire Bergen

The 2020 George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize, which annually recognizes the most outstanding Yiddish student, was awarded to JS MA student, **Claire Bergen**. Their first year as a master's degree student was supported by the Glazer Family Fellowship. Dr. Leyzer Burko, visiting lecturer in Yiddish in spring 2020, wrote: "Claire has a rare love and enthusiasm for the language. They read, write, and speak the language quite well, given the limited

length of their exposure to it so far. I have found them to be not only smart and capable, but also very kind and what is in Yiddish called a 'mentsh,' a good person, a good soul." ■

## Sarah Ifft Decker, Post-Doctoral Fellow 2017-2020 Remarkable Teacher and Mentor for our Undergraduate and Graduate Students



Sarah Ifft Decker

The Borns JSP and IU have been my home for the past three years. Looking back, I could not have been more fortunate. The advice, intellectual engagement, and friendship of my colleagues made Bloomington both an academic community and a personal one. I have been especially fortunate in my students. The warmth, enthusiasm, and curiosity of the undergraduate and graduate students at IU has never ceased to impress me. I have had the pleasure of working with many of the current

majors, minors, and certificate students and will be deeply sorry not to continue to be a part of their academic careers — although I encourage them all to keep in touch!

These have also been three very productive years, during which I have presented at several conferences, published three articles, and completed my book manuscript, which is now under contract at the Pennsylvania State University Press. None of this would have been possible without the generous intellectual and financial support I received from the Borns JSP, including the tireless logistical assistance provided by the program staff.

I move on to a new position at Rhodes College. I will always think of my time at IU fondly and with deep gratitude for how it has shaped me as a teacher and scholar. —Sarah Ifft Decker ■

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# Jewish Studies Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

## Graduate Students

### Graduate Student Fellowships for Incoming Students

Sabina Ali (Religious Studies) Glazer Family Scholarship  
Marian Gabani Gimenez (JS MA) Glazer Family Fellowship  
Emily Vetne (JS MA) Borns Family Fellowship

### Grants-in-Aid of Research

Claire Bergen (JS MA) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund  
Aron Frank (Music Scoring) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund  
Jonathan Lanz (History) Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust  
Asher Lubotzky (History) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund  
Meghan Paradis (History) Erna B. Rosenfeld Fellowship  
Eliana Schechter (JS MA) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund  
Taylor Thomas (RS) Graduate Studies in Yiddish Fellowship  
Claire Woodward (Germanic Studies) Bicentennial Jewish Studies Fellowship Fund

### 2019-2020 Graduate Conference Funding supported by the Gurin Family Fund

Seyed AmirHossein Asghari (MELC)  
Jake Beckert (JS MA)  
Nicolette van den Bogerd (Musicology)  
Brian Hillman (Religious Studies)  
Roy Holler (Comparative Literature)  
Jonathan Lanz (History)  
Meghan Paradis (History)

## Undergraduate Students

### JS Undergraduate Scholarships

Lauren Appel (Buffalo Grove, IL) Irving Glazer Scholarship (4 year)  
Josie Epstein (Northbrook, IL) Borns Family Scholarship, Edward M. Dayan Scholarship  
Levi Gettleman (Bothell, WA) Isadore Mervis Scholarship (4 year), Martha Ann Mervis Scholarship (4 year), Irving Katz Scholarship, Erna Rosenfeld Scholarship  
Mikayla Gothard (Plano, TX) Borns Family Scholarship  
Taylor-Paige Guba (Indianapolis, IN) Roberta and Arthur Kroot Scholarship (4 year), Friends of the Borns Jewish Studies Program Scholarship, Sandra and Stanley Trockman Scholarship  
Haley Kotzker (Raleigh, NC) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship  
Adina Malmon (Irvine, CA) Borns Family Scholarship, Leonard Goldstein Scholarship



September 2019 incoming major and certificate students goal-setting session

Sarah Meadows (Mt. Pleasant, MI) Borns Family Scholarship  
Michael Mitgang (Newtown, PA) Leonard Goldstein Scholarship  
Benjamin Nadolne (Roswell, GA) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship (4 year), inaugural Bicentennial Scholarship, Sandra and Stanley Trockman Scholarship  
Justin Opell (Warren, NJ) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship  
Julia Orel (Cherry Hill, NJ) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship  
Morgan Shostak (Chesterfield, MO) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship  
Claire Silberman (San Antonio, TX) Irving M. Glazer Scholarship

### Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 JS Undergraduate Israel Scholarships

Naomi Bridger (HUJ) Andrew C. and Jane A. Mallor Overseas Scholarship  
Faith Hagerty (HUJ) Karl and Rosey Krakovitz Study Scholarship, Harry A. Alpert and Jeanette Solotken Alpert Overseas Study Scholarship  
Haley Kotzker (HUJ) Frederic M. and Esther G. Fogle Overseas Study Scholarship  
Savannah Lewis (HUJ) Irving and Sylvia Borns Fund for Overseas Study in Israel  
Leora Lindenbaum (HUJ) Louis L. and Sybil Mervis Overseas Study Scholarship  
Eliana Martin (HUJ) Marilyn R. Shevitz Overseas Study Scholarship  
Michael Mitgang (HUJ) David and Amy Cook Overseas Scholarship, David and Sylvia Zabinsky Overseas Study Scholarship  
Tal Rothenberg (TAU) Jeffrey B. and Ilene S. New Overseas Study Scholarship

### 2019-2020 Undergraduate Conference Funding supported by the Gurin Family Fund

Levi Gettleman (Bothell, WA)  
Ethan Goldberg (Dallas, TX)

## High school seniors!

Apply for up to \$60,000 (\$15,000 per year) scholarships for JS majors. Additional one-year scholarships for incoming JS majors and certificate students. Deadline:

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

See application details at:

[go.iu.edu/js\\_scholarships](http://go.iu.edu/js_scholarships)



# Undergraduate News | 2019-2020 JS Graduates



First "page" of our intimate online graduation ceremony we conducted on May 10, when a different faculty member talked about each senior.

## JS Majors

With the 2019-2020 graduation of an outstanding cohort of majors, 339 students have completed the B.A. in Jewish Studies since our major was established in 1992.

**Rebecca Bloom** – (May 2020) St. Louis, Missouri; Jewish Studies and Media Advertising with a specialization in Public Relations and Strategic Communications (with distinction); She is Marketing Associate for the Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School in Chicago.

**Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel** – (May 2020) Evanston, Illinois; Jewish Studies major (Jewish sacred music); Hebrew minor; Began cantorial studies at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

**Yotam Fisher-Pinsker** – (May 2020) Ann Arbor, Michigan; Jewish Studies, International Studies, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures majors (Arabic Flagship program) (with high distinction); Awarded New Israel Fund/ Shatil Social Justice Fellowship for 2020-2021, but due to coronavirus travel restrictions he will defer the fellowship until next year.

**Ethan Goldberg** – (May 2020) Dallas, Texas; Jewish Studies and International Studies majors; Case Assistant at Gordon & Rees law firm in Dallas. Hebrew school teacher at Temple Emanu-El. Plans to begin law school in fall 2021.

**Jordana Ichilov** – (May 2020) San Antonio, Texas; Jewish Studies and International Studies majors (with distinction); Israel Director at IU Hillel.

**Jacob Levy** – (May 2020) Munster, Indiana; Jewish Studies major; Social Welfare Advocacy minor; Began MSW program at the University of Texas at Austin while serving with Americorps and communities in schools in central Texas.

**Jenna Solomon** – (December 2019) Deerfield, Illinois; Jewish Studies major; Hebrew minor; Individualized minor (Israel Studies); Worked with Bloomington Parks and Recreation this summer.

**Tamar Tecktiel** – (December 2019) Henderson, Nevada; Jewish Studies major; Hebrew minor; Educational Policy minor. Teaching resident at The Shefa School in Manhattan. ■

## JS Certificate Students

The certificate program requires, at minimum, 8 courses in JS. Joining the 488 alumni of our certificate program (established in 1976) were graduates:

**Tahlia Korin** – (August 2020) Indianapolis, Indiana; Neuroscience (B.S.) major; Jewish Studies certificate; Psychology minor. Pursuing a master's degree in Neuroscience at Tulane University in preparation for medical school.

**Zoe Shir** – (May 2020) Cooper City, Florida; Law and Public Policy major (Honors program) SPEA; Jewish Studies certificate; Political and Civic Engagement certificate; Attending American University Law School in Washington, DC.

**Evan Weis** – (May 2020) Northbrook, Illinois; History major; Jewish Studies certificate; Anthropology minor; Law student at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. ■

## Jewish Studies Minor Students

The fourth class of students completing the JS minor included:

**Elynn Mendenhall** – (May 2020) Indianapolis, Indiana; History (departmental honors) and International Studies majors; Jewish Studies minor; Spanish minor; She is working in the marketing department of a law firm in Chicago.

**Douglas Rich** – (May 2020) Solon, Ohio; Sports & Marketing Management BSK; Jewish Studies minor; Business minor ■

## Hebrew Minor Students

The 17th class of students completing the JS minor in Hebrew:

**Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel** – (May 2020) Evanston, Illinois (also a major)

**Talia Schiff** – (May 2020) Northfield, Illinois; Elementary Education and Special Education; (Hutton Honors); Hebrew minor; K-2 Special Education teacher at a public school in Highland Park, IL.

**Ariel Shoffet** – (May 2020) Skokie, Illinois; Media major with Advertising concentration with sub-plan in media and creative advertising; Hebrew minor; Marketing minor

**Jenna Solomon** – (December 2019) Deerfield, Illinois (also a major)

**Tamar Tecktiel** – (December 2019) Henderson, Nevada (also a major) ■



## Yotam Fisher-Pinsker Inaugural Recipient of the Dr. Carolyn Lipson-Walker Outstanding Senior Scholarship



Yotam Fisher-Pinsker

**Yotam Fisher-Pinsker**, who graduated with high honors with majors in JS, International Studies, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Arabic Flagship Program), is the recipient of the inaugural Dr. Carolyn Lipson-Walker Outstanding Senior Scholarship. The annual prize recognizes a JS undergraduate with a record of academic excellence and commitment to JS initiatives.

In summer 2018, Yotam had a prestigious internship with the POLIN Museum in Warsaw. In spring semester 2019, he studied in Amman, Jordan where he was a member of the Independent Election Commission. He was a case worker for the African Refugee Development Center in Tel Aviv in summer 2019. He was awarded the competitive New Israel Fund/Shatil Social Justice Fellowship in Israel, but due to coronavirus travel restrictions he will defer the fellowship until 2021.

This scholarship was initiated to honor Dr. Carolyn Lipson-Walker, Assistant Director of the Borns JSP, for her instrumental role in the growth and success of the program, and to recognize her service as a friend, advisor, mentor, and teacher to hundreds of JS students over more than 25 years. Carolyn was the inaugural recipient of the College of Arts and Sciences' Advisor of the Year Prize (2000) and received the IU Professional Staff Merit Award in 2017. She received her PhD in Folklore and American Studies at IU supported by a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship. ■

## 2020 Piser Prize – Ethan Goldberg

**Ethan Goldberg**, Dallas, TX, was awarded the 2020 Leonore and Louis Piser Prize, an annual prize that honors the most outstanding JS graduating major or certificate student who plans to pursue a career related to JS. Ethan is the first student to serve consecutive years as the Borns Administrative Intern. As president of the JSSA last year and VP in 2018-2019, he championed Jewish Studies undergraduate life. He interned this summer in the development department of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. He will begin law school in fall 2021. ■



JSSA September 2019 sushi dinner

## Our Congenial Undergraduate Community

Unique to the Borns JSP's undergraduate experience is our warm, close undergraduate community, created with intention, by accessible faculty, staff, and our Jewish Studies Student Association (JSSA). In fall 2019, the JSSA year began on the day before classes with a lunch for incoming freshmen and a tour of their various classrooms. Soon after, freshmen met for a goal-setting/get to know one another session/pizza dinner with Dr. Carolyn Lipson-Walker. On September 13, our students and faculty gathered for the annual fall JSP welcome dessert, and then the JSSA year officially opened with a sushi dinner. JS majors and core faculty enjoyed dinner together at the home of Professor Judah Cohen, and the JSSA continued to sponsor rock climbing, bowling and pizza, brunch at the Tudor Room until Bloomington campus life was suspended on March 12. 2019-2020 JSSA officers were: **Ethan Goldberg**, President; **Zoe Shir**, VP; **Taylor-Paige Guba**, Programming Director; and, **Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel**, Engagement Director. Leading the JSSA during the 2020-2021 year are: **Levi Gettleman**, President; **Josie Epstein**, VP; **Adina Malmon**, Programming Director; and, **Lauren Appel**, Engagement Director. ■





## Academic Honors – Jewish Studies Majors

In fall 2019, 50% of JS majors studying full-time on the IU campus earned a 3.70 GPA or higher and were named to the Executive Dean's List: Lauren Appel, Rachel Aranyi, Rebecca Bloom, Yotam Fisher-Pinsker, Jacob Friedman, Levi Gettleman, Taylor-Paige Guba, and Jordana Ichilov. In spring 2020, nine JS majors were named to the list: Lauren Appel, Rachel Aranyi, Rebecca Bloom, Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel, Jacob Friedman, Levi Gettleman, Ethan Goldberg, Taylor-Paige Guba, and Jordana Ichilov.

JS major **Rachel Aranyi** is the 2020-2021 IU Bloomington Student Government President and is a member of the search team for the next IU president. She is also a Wells Scholar.

**Jacob Friedman** was admitted to the Sociology 4+1 master's degree program.

**Taylor-Paige Guba** was the recipient of the 2020 Cognitive Science Outstanding Contribution Award. The JS and Cognitive

## 2020 Henry A. Bern Memorial Essay Prize

Two IUB undergraduates won the **2020 Henry A. Bern Memorial Essay Prize**. **Yotam Fisher-Pinsker**, JS BA graduate in May 2020, was honored for his essay "The Constructed Threat of Infiltration: Reconciling the Jewish State and Anti-Asylum Seeker Narratives," which was described as "beautifully combining history, political science, and personal observation to offer an original interpretation of African asylum seekers in Israel."

Jacobs School of Music oboe major and Hebrew minor student **Max Ryan**'s winning Hebrew essay titled **וביני ובני משנת 2030, דיאלוג ביני ובני משנת 2040** ("A Dialogue between Me and Myself [from the year 2030] and Myself [from the year 2040]") was a product of a 4th semester Modern Hebrew assignment to demonstrate mastery of the future tense in a creative manner.

These winning papers can be found on our website at: <https://jsp.sitehost.iu.edu/undergraduates/bernWinners.shtml>. ■

## Rabbi Sue Silberberg – 30 Years as Director of IU Hillel



Rabbi Sue Silberberg

The Borns JSP congratulates Rabbi Sue Silberberg on 30 years as Director of IU Hillel. She has mentored generations of students. Her leadership role in speaking out about antisemitism and injustice has been significant in making IU and Bloomington a safer and more welcoming place for Jewish students and life, and for everyone. Mazel tov to her for creating a thriving Hillel at IU. ■

## Alumni News



JS alumni gather for lunch in Chicago at URJ Biennial, December 12, 2019: Top row, left to right: Cantor Ben Ellerin, Rabbi Philip Sherman, Zach Present (soon-to-be rabbi), George Walker, Cantor David Reinwald, Rabbi Austin Zoot, Ethan Bennett, Traci Stratford, Carolyn Lipson-Walker, Rabbi Jessica Wainer; Front row, left to right: Joelle Swatez, Rebecca Frazin, Dina Elenbogen, Cantor Julie Staple, Ilene Ausubel, Rabbi Stacy Schlein, Bekki Kaplan, Twenty year IU "Friend" to HUJ students Terry Hendin, and (kneeling) Laura Siegel Perpinyal.

We take pride in our 929 undergraduate alumni and are pleased to report the latest from these remarkable graduates:

**Bekki Harris Kaplan** (1987) is Executive Director of Beth Emet Free Synagogue in Evanston.

**Shelly Greenwald Malmon** (1987) is Director of Marketing and Outreach for Heritage Pointe, the only Jewish assisted living and memory care facility in Orange County, California. She is very proud of the newest Hoosier in the family, her daughter **Adina Malmon**, who is a current IU junior and JS major.

**Shira Raviv Schwartz** (1992) directs Schwartz Education Consulting that supports families with children who have/need IEP/504 plans. She is a member of the Everyone Reading Illinois board whose mission is to improve the lives of children and adults with dyslexia and related learning disabilities.

**Wendy (Rapport) Grinberg** (1993) was one of two to earn the Doctor of Education from Jewish Theological Seminary in May. Founder and Director of Grinberg Education Consulting, she is Director of Jewish Education for Eisner Camp, and she is a clinical faculty member at HUC-JIR.

**Jessica (Bennett) Mehlman** (1994), Chief Planning Officer for Jewish Federation at Greater MetroWest, is working toward an Executive Masters in Jewish Professional Studies at Spertus Institute.

**Cantor Paula Pepperstone** (1995) is Cantor and Educator at Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas in Syracuse, NY.

**Brad Finkel** (1998) has been named Chief Operating Officer of the JCC of Chicago. He continues to maintain oversight of Camp Chi which he directed in the past.

**Rabbi Laurie Matzkin** (2001) is a community rabbi in the Silicon Valley. She serves as the Mindful Jewish Journeys Educator for the Los Gatos JCC, Family Educator for PJ Library Silicon Valley, and is the Founder of Makom Yoga.

**Rabbi Andrew Kastner** (2002) is Development and Impact Officer for the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties.

Continued on page 26



## Alumni News

Continued from page 25

**Sarah Strnad** (2002) is the new Director of Community Development for Slingshot, a leading voice advocating for innovation in Jewish life, powered by Next-Gen funders. Chief Executive Director of Slingshot, is **Stefanie Rhodes** (1998).

**Jennifer (Bell) Hillel** (2003) is Director of Foundation Relations at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America.

**Amalia Shiffriss** (2004) moved back to Bloomington and is the Communications and Outreach Coordinator for Middle Way House. She is the Communications Director on the board of Monroe County NOW and is the mother of twin daughters Liza and Maddy.

**Jessica (Reiter) Gottlieb** (2005) completed a graduate certificate in Fundraising Management/Development at IU's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. She is the Development Officer of Major Gifts at Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation.

**Rabbi Jen Gubitz** (2005) married Matan BenYishay this summer. Jen is Rabbi at Temple Israel of Boston.

**Miles Roger** (2005) is the new Director of Education at Temple B'nai Shalom in Fairfax Station, VA.

**Samantha (Leapman) Spolter** (2007) is Safer Communities Coordinator at Jewish Community & Family Services in Chicago.

**Dr. Leslie (Abrams) Tobe** (2007), an ophthalmologist, is one of the Prystowsky ATID V Advanced Leadership Experience class of 2020 of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis.

**Jody (Gansel) Miller** (2008) was married to Aaron Miller in October 2018 and they are the parents of Henry Wyatt Gansel Miller, born February 25, 2020.

**Rebecca Frazin** (2009) is Director of Engagement and Programming for Chicago Sinai Congregation. She and **Joelle Swatez** (2015) completed their master's degrees in Jewish Professional Studies at Spertus Institute in December, 2019.

**Rabbi Rebecca Schatz** (2010) is Assistant Rabbi of Temple Beth Am in Los Angeles.

**Jill Cogan** (2011) is Director of Education and Youth Programming at Congregation M'kor Shalom in Philadelphia.

**Lauren Rosenblum** (2011) is Executive Assistant at Harbor Interfaith Services in San Pedro, CA.

**Rabbi Benjamin Gurin** (2012) has begun his PhD studies in religion at Boston University.

**Hannah (Bolter) Michelson** (2012) is owner of Helium Marketing LLC, a marketing and consulting business that works primarily with Jewish nonprofit organizations in the Kansas City area.

**Matthew Bikoff** (2013) is Foreign Affairs officer at the U.S. Department of State.

**Marisa Briefman** (2013) is Assistant Director of Development for the ADL in Washington, D.C.

**Rabbi Austin Zoot** (2014) was ordained by HUC-JIR in Cincinnati in spring 2020. He is Rabbi/Educator at Valley Temple in Cincinnati.

**Sasha Dominguez** (2015) received an MA in Jewish Education and an MA in Jewish Nonprofit Management from HUC-JIR in Los Angeles in spring 2020. She is Religious School Director at Mishkon Tephilo in Venice, CA and an Educator at Tzedek America.

**Amanda Phillips** (2015) is Center City Director at Makom Community Philadelphia.

**Rachel Sherman** (2015) is Director of Youth Programming and Engagement at Park Avenue Synagogue in Manhattan.



1993-1994 alumni Rabbi Stacy Schlein, Associate Rabbi and Director of Education, The Temple, Tifereth Israel, Shaker Heights, OH; Jen Zwilling, Chief Strategy Officer for International Hillel and a member of the Borns JSP advisory board; Dr. Wendy Grinberg, Founder and Director of Jewish Education Lab, Director of Jewish Learning at Camp Eisner, and a clinical faculty member at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion – NY; and, Stephanie Stern Fink, Associate Director within the Strengthening Congregations Department of the Union for Reform Judaism.

**Frankie Salzman** (2016) was New Israel Fund Froman Fellow during his first year as a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem in 2019-2020.

**Daniel Warshawsky** (2016) is Engagement Director for CHUSY (Chicago area) USY.

**Alexandra Koyfman** (2017), an analyst at PDMS, was named Isle of Man Young Achiever of the Year.

**Julia Laibstain** (2017) is an educator at Central Synagogue in Manhattan.

**David Solkowitz** (2017) completed an MA in JS and an MA in Jewish Education at Hebrew College. He is a Judaics teacher at Martin J. Gottlieb Day School in Jacksonville, FL.

**Toby Klein** (2018) completed her MS in Community Health Promotion at the University of Arkansas and has begun her PhD there in Public Policy with a concentration in Social Justice. She is the president of Temple Shalom of Northwest Arkansas where she teaches Sunday school.

**Naomi Farahan** (2019) works for Women4Change Indiana, an organization that advocates for Hoosier women as the Get Out the Vote Organizer for the 2020 election. She also works as an intern for the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. She will attend the University of Michigan Law School starting in the fall of 2021 as a Dean's Scholar. ■

Facebook posting by **Rabbi Jen Gubitz**, Temple Israel, Boston, about meeting fellow Jewish Studies major **Laura Siegel Perpinyal**, now Director of Congregational Learning at Temple Chai, Long Grove, IL: "More than 18 years ago, I met fellow JS major **Laura** at a significant lecture: Two freshman at IU attending a Lawrence Schiffman lecture on the Dead Sea Scrolls. It was the evening of September 10, 2001, a true moment of Chai — life — in what would become clouds of darkness. I'm so grateful to have friends like her as we navigated the highs and lows of being human."



# Recent and Forthcoming Course Offerings –2019-2020 and 2020-2021

## Arts & Humanities

### 100 Level Courses

*A Question of Identity: The Case of Judaism*—Cohen  
*Religion and Law*—Imhoff and Sullivan  
*Who Wrote the Bible?*—Marks

### 200 Level Courses

*Anne Frank & Hitler: Studies in the Representation of Good & Evil*—Rosenfeld  
*David: The Man and the King*—Katz  
*Gender and Power in the Hebrew Bible*—Carlson Hasler  
*Introduction to Hebrew Bible*—Carlson Hasler  
*Israeli Film and Fiction*—Katz  
*Literature of the Holocaust*—Rosenfeld  
*Prophets, Messiahs, Apocalypses*—Carlson Hasler  
*Representing Jews and African Americans in American Musical Theatre*—Cohen  
*Seven Decades of Art in Israel*—Gashinsky  
*Visualizing the Holocaust: Stage and Screen*—Sidky

### 300-400 Level Courses

*American Jewish Popular Music*—Cohen  
*The Bible and Ethics: Love, Poverty, and War*—Carlson Hasler  
*Ghetto, Shtetl and Beyond: Socio-Cultural History of Yiddish*—Kerler  
*Jewish Migration to Germany 1945 until Today*—Jikeli  
*The Jewish Underworld*—Burko  
*Jews, Christians & Others in Late Antiquity*—Mokhtarian  
*Jews in the Media: The Production & Experience of a Minority*—Dekel  
*Literature of the Bible*—Williams  
*Magic and Witchcraft in the Ancient World*—Mokhtarian  
*Modern Hebrew Literature in English*—Katz  
*Paul & His Influence on Early Christianity*—Schott  
*Rabbinic Judaism: Literature & Beliefs*—Mokhtarian  
*Recent Hebrew Literature in English*—Katz  
*Trauma, The Bible, and American Identity*—Carlson Hasler  
*Yiddish Life: On Page, On Stage, On Screen*—Kerler

## Social & Historical Studies

### 200 Level Courses

*Identity Politics: Migration and Otherness in Modern Israeli Art and Popular Culture*—Gashinsky  
*Introduction to Jewish History: From the Bible to Spanish Expulsion*—Carlson Hasler, Ifft Decker  
*Introduction to Jewish History: From Spanish Expulsion to the Present*—Ifft Decker, Tzfadya  
*Israeli Inequality in Context*—Khazzoom  
*Judaism and Islam, Muslims and Jews*—Tzfadya  
*What is Middle Eastern? Perspectives Gained through Comparison with Israel*—Khazzoom

## Social & Historical Studies

### 300-400 Level Courses

*Comparative Foreign Policy: Why Nations Go To War (role of U.S. Ambassador to Israel)*—Spechler  
*European Antisemitism from the Enlightenment to the Holocaust*—Jikeli  
*Exploring Jewish Identity Today*—Cohen  
*The History of Genocide*—Roseman  
*History of the Holocaust*—Riegel, Roseman  
*Muslim-Jewish Relations in the 20th and 21st Century*—Jikeli  
*Prostitutes, Homemakers, and CEOs: Israel and the Concept of Universal Women's Experiences*—Khazzoom  
*Researching Antisemitism in Social Media*—Jikeli  
*Testimonies of Violence*—Roseman  
*US Foreign Policy in the Nuclear Age (focus of papers on American policy toward Israel or American decisions that have significantly affected Israel)*—Spechler  
*What is Middle Eastern? Perspectives Gained through Comparison with Israel*—Khazzoom  
*Zionism, Anti-Zionism, and Judaism*—Tzfadya

## Languages

*Beginning Yiddish I & II*—Burko, Kerler  
*Intermediate Yiddish I & II*—Burko, Kerler  
*Elementary Modern Hebrew I & II*—Maoz-Levy, Romashov, Weiss  
*Intermediate Modern Hebrew I & II*—Maoz-Levy, Romashov, Weiss  
*Advanced Modern Hebrew I & II*—Maoz-Levy

## Graduate Courses

*Colloquium in Jewish Studies*—Imhoff  
*Gender and Jewish History*—Ifft Decker  
*The Holocaust in Comparative Perspective*—Roseman  
*The Past in the Present: Social Memory, Jewish Position*—Dekel  
*Text and Trauma*—Carlson Hasler



Margo Wagner (JS BA/Jewish sacred music, 2019), Institute for Southern Jewish Life Education Fellow. She plans to begin cantorial school in Fall 2021. Photo courtesy of the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL).



# Our Faculty



JS faculty at September 2019 welcome back dinner: (Left to right): Ayelet Weiss, Laura Carlson Hasler, Michael Morgan, Dina Spechler, Jason Mokhtarian, Stephen Katz, Dima Romashov, Sarah Ifft Decker, Mark Roseman, Sarah Imhoff, Dov-Ber Kerler, and Günther Jikeli

**Judah M. Cohen** succeeded Mark Roseman as the Director of the Borns JSP in July 2020. This past year, he published “Artistic Control and Partnership: JS Programs and the Incubation of New Musical Works” in *Studies in American Jewish Literature* 38.2, and the first scholarly bibliography on singer/songwriter/liturgist Debbie Friedman (Oxford Bibliographies in JS). He co-founded (with David Weinstein) the Public History Reviews section for the journal *American Jewish History*, and wrote its inaugural review on the exhibit “Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music.” In November 2019, he gave the talk “Musical Theater and Nazi-Era Stories: An Uncomfortable Pairing?” at Muhlenberg College; and he co-organized a session on music for the conference “The Power of Jewish Camps” at Brandeis University’s Mandel Center, including his own presentation “Summer Camps as Musical Laboratories: Experimenting Locally, Disseminating Nationally.” Judah also served as co-chair (with Jessica Cooperman) of the program committee for the 2020 Biennial Conference of American Jewish Historians, which was forced online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Irit Dekel**, jointly appointed to the JSP and the Department of Germanic Studies, is the new Director of the Olamot center. She recently published a chapter in *Rebuilding Jewish Life in Germany* (Rutgers University Press) entitled “You are My Liberty: On the Negotiation of Holocaust and Other Memories for Israelis in Berlin.” This year also saw her co-authored article “Circumcising the Body: Negotiating Difference and Belonging in Germany” published in *National Identities*. Her article, written with Esra Özyürek, “Perfides Ablenkungsmanöver” [Perfidious Subversion Tactics] appeared in *Die Zeit* on July 10, 2020. Dekel continues her research on Holocaust memory and the presentation and experience of Jews in Germany, and was commissioned to co-edit and contribute an article to a handbook on memory activism, the first such work on this topic. For her next book, as well as in articles, she studies the inter-relations between witnessing and subject positions for Jews and other minorities in the German society. Dekel brought her research to important interdisciplinary platforms: she led a masterclass on

audience research at the 2019 annual meeting of the Memory Studies Association and delivered an invited lecture to a conference on “The Future of Memory” (Goethe Universität, Frankfurt). She co-organized panels for the upcoming annual meetings of both the AJS and the German Studies Association where she will present her work on philosemitism in Germany. In spring 2019, Dekel taught a graduate course on social memory studies and began work with graduate students interested in collective memory in Israel, the US, and Germany. This fall, she is teaching a new course: “Jews in the Media: The Production and Experience of a Minority.” She delivered an invited lecture titled “Memory, and the Imperative to Remember the Holocaust in Israel” at the international conference “The Future of Remembrance: Memory Culture and Societal Responsibility,” jointly organized by the Martin Buber Institute for Jewish Philosophy and Religion; Goethe Universität, Frankfurt; the Central Council of Jews in Germany; the Institute for

Christian-Jewish Studies and Relations at the Augustana-Hochschule Neuendettelsau; the Theological Seminary at the Lutheran Church in Neuendettelsau, Bavaria; Fritz-Bauer-Institute; and The Jewish Museum Frankfurt am Main.

**Halina Goldberg** received the Excellence Award from the JS and Music Study Group of the American Musicological Society for her article “‘On the Wings of Aesthetic Beauty Towards the Radiant Spheres of the Infinite’: Music and Jewish Reformers in Nineteenth-Century Warsaw,” published in *Jewish Spirituality, Modernity, and Historicism in the Long Nineteenth Century: New Musical Perspectives* (special issue of *The Musical Quarterly*, Volume 101, Issue 4, Winter 2018) for which Goldberg also served as guest editor. She presented a lecture titled “The Jewish Inn in the Polish National Ballet” at an interdisciplinary workshop “The Jewish Inn: From Architecture to Phantasm,” at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, in Warsaw, Poland, in June 2019.

**Sarah Imhoff** and her colleague M Cooper Harriss founded *American Religion*, a new academic journal whose first issue was published in fall 2019. She is nearing completion of her current manuscript *A Queer, Crippled Zionism: The Lives of Jessie Sampter* and working toward two new books, one a study of women in JS co-authored with Susannah Heschel and one a hemispheric study of American Judaism. She has published articles in four edited volumes: “Belief” in *Religion, Law, USA* edited by Joshua Dubler and Isaac Weiner (NYU Press); “Racial Standing: How American Jews Imagine Community, and Why That Matters” in *Judaism, Race, and Ethics: Conversations and Questions*, edited by Jonathan Crane (Pennsylvania State University Press); “A Redemptive Masculinity: American Images of Jewish Men from the Holocaust to the Six Day War” in *The Holocaust and Masculinity: Critical Inquiries into the Presence and Absence of Men*, edited by Bjorn Krondorfer and Ovidiu Creanga (SUNY Press); and “Jewish Women and Race, Religion, and Sexuality in the Age of Immigration” in *Religion is Raced: Understanding American Religion in the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Grace Yukich and Penny Edgell (NYU Press). For fall 2020, through the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, she will be the Fellow for the IU Scholarly Writing



Program, while continuing as JSP Director of Graduate Studies and teaching the colloquium course for JS graduate students.

**Günther Jikeli** published (with Olaf Glockner) "Das neue Unbehagen. Antisemitismus in Deutschland heute" in *Haskala – Wissenschaftliche Abhandlungen*, 53 (OLMS Verlag, Germany, 2019). He edited the special issue "The Return of Religious Antisemitism?" of the peer-reviewed Journal *Religions*, published in spring 2020, that included his paper "Is Religion Coming Back as a Source for Antisemitic Views?" He and his IU colleague Asaad Alsaleh had scheduled the third wave of interviews in Germany with Syrian refugees in summer 2020 for their book project, but that had to be postponed because of the COVID-19 crisis. Jikeli's research on online forms of hate has grown steadily. He received funding from the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (funded by the NSF) for his project "Social Media and Hate," and IU's New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities Experimentation Fellowship for his project "'Ground Truth' of Antisemitism on Twitter." He gave scholarly talks in Cambridge, MA; Chicago, IL; Tucson, AZ; Dallas, TX; and Brussels, Belgium. He appeared in the documentary "Viral: Antisemitism in Four Mutations" that was aired on PBS in June. The newspaper *The Algemeiner* recognized him as among "The Top 100 People Positively Influencing Jewish Life" in 2019. He gave a workshop on antisemitism for middle and high school teachers from across the U.S. at the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous' (JFR) Advanced Seminar in Newark, NJ in January 2020. In December 2019, he gave a talk in Brussels at a conference "After Halle," organized by the European Parliament Working Group on Antisemitism. He spoke to the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana on "The Rising Tide of Antisemitism in Europe and the US Today," in October 2019. He led two seminars on antisemitism at Bloomington's First Presbyterian Church in spring 2020. In June 2019, he participated in a webinar on freedom of religion or belief organized by UN Special Rapporteur Ahmed Shaheed.

**Stephen Katz** completed his tenure as chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (renamed the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures as of June 2020). In fall 2018, he spoke on "Fighting a Dual War: Hebrew Literature and the Experience of the Great War," at a conference on WWI at Hofstra University. His article, published electronically, "American Hebrew Literature" is part of the *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, edited by Naomi Seidman. A forthcoming article, "Fighting a Dual War: Hebrew Literature and the Experience of the Great War," will be published in *Artistic Expressions and the Great War*, edited by Sally Charnow (New York: Peter Lang Publishers). He also delivered a paper in Hebrew entitled "Igfumim Ve'egrofim: Yitzugey Milhemet Ha'olam Harishonah Basifrut Ha'ivrit" ("Outflanking and Fists: Representations of the First World War in Hebrew Literature") at the National Association of Professors of Hebrew at Boston University, June 2019. Professor Katz is currently working on a book of early representations of and responses to the Holocaust.

In summer and fall 2019, **Dov-Ber Kerler** published two articles in the Yiddish literary quarterly *Yiddishland*, which he coedits together with its editors and publishers in Israel, Dr. Velvl Chernin and Michael Felesenbaum, in cooperation with the Swedish publishing house, Olinasky Tekst Farlag. The first article was on Zalman Rubashov's (Shazar, later the third President of Israel) Yiddish translations of Rachel's (Rachel Buwstein's) Hebrew poetry, and the other article focused on the phenomenal burgeoning of modernist and avant-garde Yiddish poetry in Kiev and New York in the year 1919. He wrote an introduction to the forthcoming anthology of Yiddish prose comprising

works by nine contemporary Israeli authors, scheduled to appear in July 2020 in the book series, *Bibliotek fun der hayntsaytiker yidisher literature*. His original Yiddish poetry was published in the New York *Forverts* (edited by Rukhl Schaechter), the American Yiddish electronic magazine *Yiddish Branzhe* (edited by Boris Sandler), and in *Yiddishland* in Israel. In August 2019, he participated in the second ethnographic summer expedition in Moldova, organized by the Moscow SEFER Center for University Research & Teaching of Jewish Civilization and IU's AHEYM Project, and supported by the Moscow Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center. In December 2019, he recorded oral history interviews in Jerusalem for the same project, and he continues to cooperate with his colleagues in Russia, Dr. Maria Kaspina, Professor Valery Dymshits and their associates, on their ethnographic documentation and collective monograph project on Jewish life in postwar Soviet Rybnitsa (today the Transnistrian Republic) and on its spiritual leader Chaim-Zanvl Abramowitz (der Rybnitser Rebbe, 1902-1995). In November-December 2019, he taught a Workers Circle online course, "Hundred Years Ago," on the rise of modern and modernist Yiddish poetry on both sides of the Atlantic in 1919. The course materials for advanced Yiddish students and scholars are accessible on the special website *Mit hundert yor tsurik*. In spring 2020, he was a Frankel Institute Fellow at the University of Michigan where he continued to edit his forthcoming anthology of contemporary Yiddish poetry, provisionally titled *Afn Veg / By The Wayside*. It will showcase (in the original and in English translation) poems of 21 contemporary Yiddish poets. In the context of this project, he also began exploring aspects of poetic creativity among contemporary Hasidic native Yiddish speakers in contrast to the oftentimes "post-vernacular" creativity of today's "secular" poets.

**Laura Carlson Hasler's** book *Archival Historiography in Jewish Antiquity*, was published by Oxford University Press in February. An introduction to the book can be found on page 8 in the magazine. This book followed the publication of an article, "The Cited Documents of Ezra-Nehemiah: Does Their Authenticity Matter?" in the journal *Biblical Interpretation* (August 2019). She presented the paper "Persia is Everywhere Where Nothing Happens: Imperial Ubiquity and Its Limits in Ezra-Nehemiah" at the Society of Biblical Literature's annual meeting in November. An adapted version of this paper has been accepted for publication in the journal *The Bible & Critical Theory*. She also completed essay-length contributions to several volumes, including *Ritual Space and Ritual Text: New Perspectives on Monumentality and Monumental Texts in the Southern Levant* (forthcoming from Mohr Siebeck) and *Scribes and Scribalism in Social Context* (forthcoming from T&T Clark). In spring 2020, she presented a paper that examined anxieties about sacred texts in recent television shows ("The Good Place" and "Good Omens") at a virtual conference titled, "The Bible and Popular Visual Media," hosted by the University of Exeter (UK). This paper will be published in a forthcoming volume assembled by the conference organizers. She had the pleasure of formulating two new courses this year: "Gender and Power in the Hebrew Bible" (fall 2019) and "The Bible and Ethics: Love, Poverty, and War" (fall 2020). Other courses from the 2019-20 academic year included, "Introduction to the Hebrew Bible" and "Trauma, the Bible, and American Identity." (The latter course explored the complicated legacies of biblical interpretation in American discourses about race-based slavery, westward expansion, the genocide of indigenous peoples, and the civil rights movement.)

Continued on page 30



**Jason Mokhtarian** taught several classes last year on the topics of Rabbinic Judaism, ancient magic, and Jews and Christians in late antiquity. In addition, he completed a forthcoming book, entitled *Medicine in the Talmud*, and had several articles published, including "Material Culture of the Jews of Sasanian Mesopotamia" in *A Companion to Late Ancient Jews and Judaism: Third Century BCE to Seventh Century CE*. Professor Mokhtarian also served as the Director of the Olamot Center for the 2019-20 academic year.

**Michael L. Morgan**, Professor Emeritus, Chancellor's Professor, Philosophy and JS, conducted a workshop for the Franz Rosenzweig Center at HUJ on the topic "Philosophy, the Therapy of the Soul, and Modern Jewish Philosophy" and gave a lecture to the Philosophy Department at HUJ on Emmanuel Levinas and recent work on relational morality in analytic philosophy. His edited collection of 38 new essays on the work of Levinas, *The Oxford Handbook of Levinas*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2019. He also had a number of publications appear and has several forthcoming. These include: "Traces of Tsimtsum: Berkovits, Fackenheim, Levinas" in *Tsimtsum and Modernity: Lurianic Heritage in Modern Philosophy and Theology*, edited by Agata Bielik-Robson and Daniel H. Weiss (DeGruyter, 2020); "Emmanuel Levinas (1906-1995)," in Christopher Erhard and Tobias Keiling (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Phenomenology of Agency* (Routledge, 2020); "On Sociality and Morality: Reflections on Levinas, Tomasello, Strawson, Wallace," in Michael Fagenblat and Melis Erdur, eds., *Levinas and Analytic Philosophy: Second-Person Normativity and the Moral Life* (Routledge, 2020); "Levinas, Løgstrup, and the Idea of Command," *The Monist* 103.1 (January 2020), 63-82, special issue, edited by Robert Stern and Irene McMullin, on Emmanuel Levinas and K.E. Løgstrup; "Levinas, History, and Historiography," *History and Theory* 58.3 (September 2019), 471-482; "I,You,We: Fraternity and Community in Buber, Rosenzweig, and Levinas" in *Levinas 13* (forthcoming 2020); "The Second Person in Fichte and Levinas," in *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, Michael L. Morgan and Owen Ware (forthcoming 2020); "Animals, Levinas, and Moral Imagination," in *Face to Face with Animals*, edited by Peter Atterton and Tamra Wright (SUNY Press, 2019); "Plato, Levinas, and Transcendence," for special volume, *Levinas 14* (forthcoming); "The Holocaust and Jewish Theology," in *The Cambridge Companion to Jewish Theology*, edited by Steven Kepnes (forthcoming, January, 2021); "Community and Redemption in Rosenzweig," *Naharaim* (forthcoming). He is currently completing a book on Emmanuel Levinas for the Routledge Philosophers Series and, with Paul Franks, is working on a book on modern Jewish philosophy. Morgan is an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at the University of Toronto and is Emeritus Visiting Jerahmiel S. and Carole S. Grafstein Chair in Philosophy and JS at the University of Toronto.

**Mark Roseman's** book *Lives Reclaimed. A Story of Rescue and Resistance* appeared in August 2019 with Metropolitan books and in October with Oxford University Press in the UK. In March 2020, the German edition, "*Du bist nicht ganz verlassen. Eine Geschichte von Rettung und Widerstand im Nationalsozialismus*," was published by DVA. Mark published an op-ed "Finding Inspiration in an Anti-Nazi Resistance Group," in the *LA Times*, September 15, 2019 (<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2019-09-15/nazi-germany-resistance-jews-holocaust-ethics>), and one for Oxford University Press entitled "The Holocaust and the Illusions of Hindsight" OUPblog, October 18, 2019 [\[in-context\]\(https://blog.oup.com/2019/10/understanding-holocaust-in-context\). He was interviewed for the podcast "New Books in Genocide Studies" \(<https://player.fm/series/new-books-in-genocide-studies-2421434/mark-roseman-lives-reclaimed-a-story-of-rescue-and-resistance-in-nazi-germany-metropolitan-books-2019>\), the \*Athenaeum Review\* \(<https://creativitydisturbance.org/podcast/rescue-and-resistance-a-conversation-with-mark-roseman/>\), and the German radio program "Vorlese" \(<https://www.freie-radios.net/101620>.\) COVID-19 led to the cancelling of a German lecture series and an appearance at the Leipzig book fair. Mark submitted the manuscript for a new anthology of his work that will appear with Wallstein Press in 2021, \*ÜberLeben im Dritten Reich. Handlungsmöglichkeiten und Wahrnehmungsräume von Juden und Ihren Helfern \(Survival/About Life in the Third Reich. Agency and Experience of Jews and their Helpers\)\*. With Richard Wetzell, he led the seminar: "Beyond the Racial State. New Perspectives on Nazi Germany," at the annual German Studies Association conference, Portland, Oregon, October 2019. He gave a series of endowed public lectures including the two annual Burton C. Einspruch lectures at the University of Texas, Dallas, in October; the 2019 Rosenthal lecture at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in November; a lecture at the Wiener Library London in November, and others. Closer to home, he gave a lecture at the Atheneum, in Indianapolis, on teaching and scholarship in the Holocaust, and with Günther Jikeli led a session on antisemitism at the Spertus Institute, Chicago. He is currently working on \*The Cambridge History of the Holocaust\* of which he is the general editor.](https://blog.oup.com/2019/10/understanding-holocaust-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

This year marked **Alvin H. Rosenfeld's** 51st year as an active faculty member of IU. His edited volume, *Contending with Antisemitism in a Rapidly Changing Political Climate*, a collection of 18 commissioned essays, is due to appear next year. He published articles on the Holocaust and also on contemporary antisemitism in *Fathom*, *Tablet*, *Mosaic*, *The Times of Israel*, and elsewhere. "Is There an Anti-Jewish Bias in Today's University?" is forthcoming in *The Betrayal of the Humanities: The University During the Third Reich*, ed. by Bernard Levinson and Robert Ericksen. He presented lectures on contemporary antisemitism at scholarly forums at HUJ, the University of Arizona, and IU. Forthcoming presentations are to take place in Belgium, Germany, Florida, and Oklahoma. He was featured in an updated Yad Vashem-produced film, "*Antisemitism: From Its Origins to the Present*." Interviews with him on antisemitism appeared on NPR and in other media in America, Israel, and Russia. As Director of IU's Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA), he sponsored lectures on the Bloomington campus by several scholars and is planning a major ISCA-sponsored conference on antisemitism in today's America (July, 2021). In June, he launched a research-oriented webinar series on antisemitism for scholars of the subject around the world. He continues to serve as an active member of the Academic Committee of the Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and is also a member of the museum's Committee on Combating Holocaust Denial and Contemporary Antisemitism. He serves as series editor of books in the area of Jewish Literature and Culture at IU Press and also edits IUP's book series, *Studies in Antisemitism*. He is a member of the Public Council of the Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism and Racism at Tel Aviv University, and a Senior Fellow of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, in Canada. Professor Rosenfeld is the recipient of IU's President's Medal for Excellence, the university's highest award, in recognition of his many years of sustained excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. ■



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