



LSA

JEAN & SAMUEL FRANKEL
CENTER FOR JUDAIC STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

FALL 2020

FRANKELY SPEAKING



Maria Mustafa and Serena Scholz holding columnar stone in the Makhtesh Ramon area of the Negev Desert in Israel

From the Director

By Jeffrey Veidlinger, Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies
and Joseph Brodsky Collegiate Professor of History and Judaic Studies

The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan is excited to welcome back our faculty, students, fellows, and staff to what we hope will be a fruitful, productive, and enjoyable year. At the same time, we face the year ahead with anxiety and consternation. We are concerned about the global pandemic spreading death and disease, about the disparities the health emergency has exposed in our society, about the systemic racism that has led to the loss of yet more Black lives this summer, about the political turmoil tearing apart our nation, about the labor unrest on our campus, about rising instances of antisemitism, and about the fires and storms that continue to devour our



land. Judaic Studies does not have all the answers—far from it! But I am heartened to see growing numbers of students looking toward us for some perspective, and seeking to learn from the Jewish experience.

The Frankel Center has dedicated significant attention in the last few years to some of these issues, introducing new classes into our curriculum that offer capacious understanding of Judaic Studies. New courses on Jewish experiences with “Policing and Civil Rights,” “Race and Sexuality,” “Protests and Conflicts,” “Identity and Community in a Pluralistic Society,” “Blackness and Jewishness,” and “Borders and Border Crossing” offer a range of views on some of the issues we grapple with today. Our more established courses also offer relevant lessons for our time. Studying the Holocaust, for instance, teaches students about the fragility of democratic institutions, the dangers of prejudice, and the powers of extremist ideologies and demagogic leaders;

learning about Jewish life in Spain, America, and the Ancient World offers students lessons on religious tolerance and ethnic diversity; and courses in Bible and Talmud reveal the ways these core texts speak to contemporary debates, ranging from gender to justice.

This year, the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies will also be exploring a timeless theme that continues to speak to us today: translation. “Translating Jewish Cultures” asks how we interpret texts across languages and how our values and ideas are affected by translation. Co-head fellows Maya Barzilai, Associate Professor of Modern Hebrew and Jewish Culture at the University of Michigan, and Adriana X. Jacobs, Associate Professor and

we can all benefit from thinking about the importance of translation, of listening to each other, and of working toward mutual understanding

Cowley Lecturer in Modern Hebrew Literature at Oxford University, have organized a stimulating year of intellectual enrichment. Fourteen scholars will be meeting virtually to explore issues of Jewish translation ranging from ancient Greek renditions of the Hebrew Bible to Russian-Israeli poetry. Whether they are studying medieval science, early modern biblical poetry, anarchist ideas, postcolonial Morocco, Hebrew literature, or Freud, our fellows will be shedding new light on how we exchange ideas across cultures. In connection with the theme, the Frankel Institute will be hosting public conversations that explore some of the challenges and rewards of translation, whether it be the Hebrew Bible or Harry Potter.

As we look forward to the year ahead, we can all benefit from thinking about the importance of translation, of listening to each other, and of working toward mutual understanding. It is a conversation to which Judaic Studies has much to contribute.

Shachar Pinsker

Professor of Judaic Studies and Associate Director of the Frankel Center



In July 2020, Professor Shachar Pinsker began a two-year term in the role of Associate Director of the Frankel Center. Pinsker will be looking at all aspects of the undergraduate and graduate programs with the goal of keeping them both attractive and relevant to students. “We will continue to work on the three core courses offered for Judaic studies undergraduate students. We will also examine the requirements for major and minor, including the new sub-plan with concentration on Hebrew and Yiddish. We will work with our wonderful students and faculty, and listen to new ideas and suggestions in order to build a shared, engaged community.” He’ll be building on the work by the outgoing associate director, Maya Barzilai, and working with the new student services coordinator, Sarah Kuljian, and the new curriculum committee. Pinsker has also been learning as much as he can about remote teaching and other best practices to help students continue to learn successfully amid the uncertainty of the pandemic

Pinsker believes that studying humanities generally, and Judaic studies specifically, is how we better understand the world around us. “Whether I study a well-written Yiddish story about the life of Holocaust survivors in the early years of Israel, a Hebrew feuilleton about a coffeehouse published in a newspaper at the Russian empire during the second half of the 19th century, or a poem written in a mixture of English and Yiddish by a contemporary Jewish poet in the US, it

always gives me not only an aesthetic pleasure, but also insights that I wouldn’t be able to glean from any other sources.”

For the first time, he will be teaching a 400-level Hebrew/Judaic class, “The Holocaust in Israeli Culture,” on the Big Ten Alliance CourseShare program. “Teaching a Hebrew course online with students across the country is a big challenge, but it is one that I am looking forward to, because it opens new pedagogical possibilities, and opportunities for necessary collaboration. I hope it will be a good example of resilient teaching,” Pinsker commented. He hopes to pass on to his students the love of literature he gained from his teachers while studying for his undergraduate degree at Hebrew University. “Many of them belonged to a different generation; some were immigrants from east and central Europe, others were born in mandatory Palestine or in the early years of the State of Israel,” said Pinsker. “They instilled in me a love and appreciation of the study of 19th- and early 20th-century literature and culture.”

While recognizing that there is much uncertainty among faculty members and students around learning and researching in fall 2020 and beyond, Pinsker hopes to find new opportunities in the challenge. In his new position, he plans to focus on the feedback from students about current classes and to work with faculty to brainstorm new courses they may be able to offer, building on the wide range of expertise held by Frankel

Center faculty. Additionally, he hopes to develop the master’s degree program and further engage the PhD students pursuing a Judaic studies graduate certificate.

Currently, he is working on three different projects: an edited volume of Israeli Yiddish stories in Hebrew translation; a book, tentatively titled *When Yiddish was Young: The Pervasive Influence of Israel’s Silent Language*; and a large collaborative project supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, “Below the Line: The Feuilleton, the Public Sphere, and Modern Jewish Cultures.” This project explores the feuilleton as a critical juncture in the production of modern cultures and the public sphere and a productive space for interdisciplinary and multilingual inquiry. His next project will focus on the cultural history of Jewish foodways, using modern Jewish literature to research the relations between Jews and food.

Pinsker is excited to begin his role as associate director and increase collaboration among students and faculty throughout the Frankel Center and University of Michigan community.

Jews, Racial Justice, and Policing

Webinar Event Presented by U-M Judaic Studies Scholars

This summer has laid bare the longstanding inequities and injustices that are woven into the fabric of America. But it was the very public murder of George Floyd captured on video by a bystander that finally galvanized masses of Americans. Since then, an estimated 15 to 26 million people have participated in demonstrations in support of the premise that Black Lives Matter. The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan inquired into the role of Jewish communities in these discussions with

The webinar draws attention to the many multi-faith and multiracial coalitions that Jews are engaged in today, and offers further opportunities for engagement. Roby, an expert on race and policing in Israel and Palestine, explores the Black Lives Matter movement and addresses the discomfort that some Jews feel because they associate the movement with anti-Zionist political stances. Goldman, a specialist in American Jewish women's history, emphasizes that these kinds of tensions also appear in the Women's March and

Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA). Pointing to the long history of racial profiling in America, Roby notes, "I think a more productive way to think about this is to think about why US police feel as if their relationship to citizens, particularly Black citizens or protesters, needs to be within the framework of counter-terrorism or even a military form?"

The panel concludes by offering resources for those looking to learn more about Jews and modern racial justice movements. "It's our turn to listen," Goldman urges. "It's our turn to try and process and learn. Part of that is speaking, but a lot of that is listening."



a July 8 webinar on Jews, Racial Justice, and Policing. The event was recorded and is available to view on YouTube.

Moderated by Frankel Center Director and Joseph Brodsky Collegiate Professor of History and Judaic Studies Jeffrey Veidlinger, the panel included Karla Goldman, who is Sol Drachler Professor of Social Work and professor of Judaic studies; assistant professor of Judaic studies and Middle East studies Bryan Roby; and Alice Mishkin, a PhD candidate in American studies and Judaic studies.

other social justice movements. Mishkin, whose work focuses on white supremacy and antisemitism, reframes the question to consider access to white privilege. Having difficult conversations, the panelists agree, can lead to a greater understanding of the motivations around social justice.

The panel also addresses questions around the 2018 Deadly Exchange report by the Jewish Voice for Peace that criticized the joint police exercises between American and Israeli law enforcement sponsored by the

Abrahamic Sensorium

Event Series Presented by Professors Rebecca Wollenberg and Yasmin Moll

During the fall 2019 semester, Professor Rebecca Wollenberg of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies and Professor Yasmin Moll of the Department of Anthropology began an event series, the Abrahamic Sensorium, which allows students to learn about Judaism, Islam, and Christianity by experiencing the ways in which these religious traditions are heard, seen, smelled, tasted, and touched by adherents. The events demonstrated how intertwined the three religions are, highlighting shared cultures among Jews, Muslims, and Christians, while also giving students an opportunity to discover the research being done on the complex intersections of these religious traditions.

“We hope that students, by literally smelling, hearing, seeing and touching religious intersections, develop a more complex embodied understanding of both their own heritage religious tradition and that of others,” explained Wollenberg.

A trained fragrance evaluator Michelle Krell Kydd led a “smell and tell” event, exploring the religiously significant scents from Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The students had firsthand experience with eight different Abrahamic scents, including spikenard oil, the fragrant substance Mary Magdalene used to anoint Jesus’ feet.

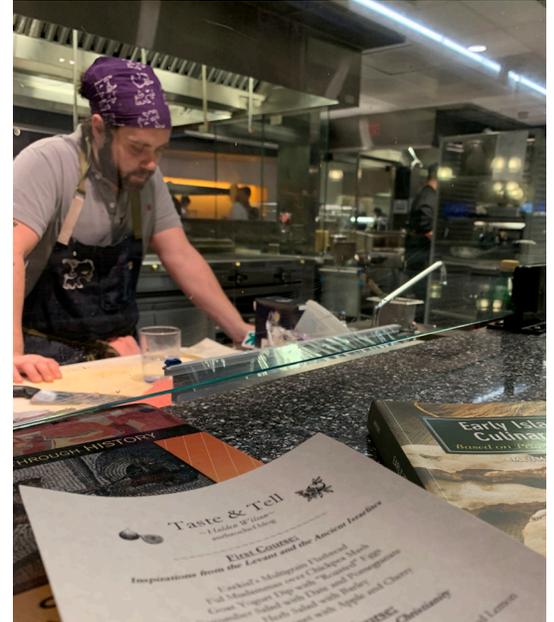
Michigan artist Razi Jafri led students on a photographic experience of Hamtramck, the first American Muslim-majority city. Through a visual exploration of the spaces, peoples, and stories of this community, the students were able to consider how ways of seeing and modes of representation intersect

with narratives of inclusion and belonging across faiths.

Chef Holden Wilson created an annotated tasting menu, which recreated historical recipes that highlighted the culinary changes that took place during different religious movements. “Students had an opportunity to understand the tastes and scents that Song of Songs evokes as akin to divinity and then experience the change in palate opened with new Islamic trade routes. And through all of this, there was this recurrence of the same Abrahamic pantry shared and reconfigured throughout these communities for centuries,” commented Wollenberg. Other events planned for last year, many of which were indefinitely postponed, included a hands-on session with ancient religious artifacts at the university museum, an annotated concert exploring the historical connections between Ottoman music and Klezmer, and a dance workshop.

The series is the student-facing component of an Mcubed project, “Remapping Peoples of the Book: Theorizing Abrahamic Vernaculars.” Mcubed is a research funding program at the University of Michigan that seed funds multi-unit faculty led teams. Faculty from at least two different campus departments come together to request funding on a project that involves collaborative research among the different units.

The goal of the series was to puncture the myth of “pure” and “separate” religious traditions by showing their entanglements at every level, including the sensory. Wollenberg and Moll also wanted to make their research



accessible to those outside of the university, so everyone interested had a chance to make sense of religion in ways that are open and inclusive.

The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization

Crisis and Creativity between World Wars, 1918-1939

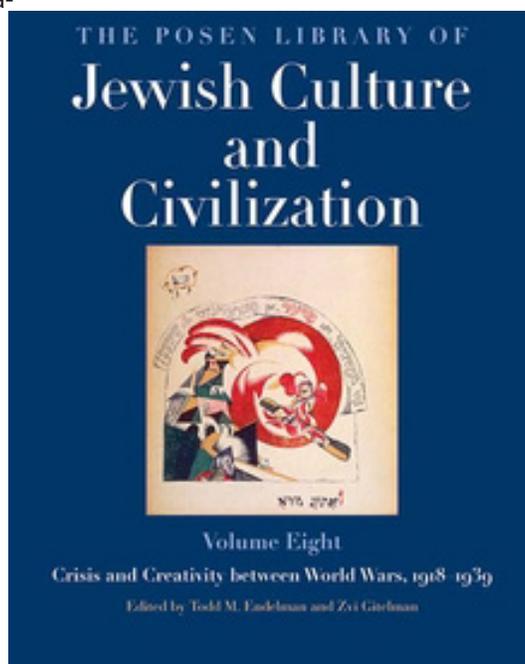
On October 15, University of Michigan Frankel Center for Judaic Studies and Posen Library will be hosting an [online panel via zoom](#) on Crisis and Creativity between World Wars, 1918-1939. The event celebrates the publication of Volume 8 of the Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, a collection of ten volumes of primary sources on Jewish creativity, diversity, and culture, compiled under the directorship of Deborah Dash Moore, the Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. The volume on the interwar period was edited by Frankel Center Professor Emeriti Todd Endelman and Zvi Gitelman, who will be joining Professor Dash Moore for the panel discussion.

Endelman, Gitelman, and Dash Moore will discuss a period in Jewish history that was simultaneously tense and innovative. During these decades, Jews vigorously debated religion, politics, migration, and their relation to the state and to one another. The selections of documents in the volume capture the variety, breadth, and depth of Jewish creativity in those tempestuous years. The texts, translated from many languages, span a wide range of politics, culture, literature, and art.

Philanthropist Felix Posen launched the project more than 15 years ago as an effort to highlight previously unknown or forgotten works of Jewish artists and writers. Dash Moore was appointed editor in 2016. The volumes

are available for purchase online and free as a PDF via [The Posen Digital Library](#). Endelman and Gitelman's volume is the third released and was added to the online library in April.

"The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization tackles an enormous challenge: to make accessible in



English a rich and varied sampling of the many dimensions of Jewish experience from antiquity to the twenty-first century," stated Dash Moore. "Each volume's selections, carefully extracted from longer works, allow a reader to savor a myriad of juxtapositions of sources that often illuminate the familiar through the unfamiliar, or, conversely, introduce what is new and unexpected by placing it in conversation with what is well known. Insofar as any culture is itself a composite of multiple peoples, nations, languages, traditions, and

beliefs, The Posen Library's volume editors have emphasized the heterogeneity of Jewish culture and civilization."

The editorial responsibilities for the volume were divided geographically. Gitelman was responsible for the material from Eastern Europe and Endelman was responsible for the rest

- Latin America, the United States, Western and Central Europe, and Africa. "We decided that Czechoslovakia outside of Prague was in Eastern Europe, but that Prague was in Central Europe," quipped Endelman. "And Hungary was in Central Europe," added Gitelman.

Endelman and Gitelman wrote an extensive introduction to the volume to place the sources in context. Gitelman stated, "It's not as if Jews lived in a vacuum. They were profoundly influenced by their surroundings and many of them deeply engaged in them. One has to appreciate the cultural, political, economic contexts in which all of these arguments and writings played out."

In order to help narrow down what to include in the volume, they decided to only use one piece of art per person. To narrow it down further, they chose to include only the work of Jewish artists' whose work dealt with portraying Jewish life. Gitelman said, "I came to this project from more of a social science perspective. So I'm not as concerned with the writer or the quality of the writing, but more focused on the issues that were raised--Yiddishism, Hebraism, social-

ism, communism, Zionism, all the ideologies and ideas that agitated Jews during this inter-war period.”

They also decided to include large excerpts from the primary texts, rather than short snippets. “That meant a great deal of editing,” said Endelman. “So after, or even before, material had been translated, we cut out a lot of material, but still the final product, rather than a few quotations, was a comprehensible story or essay.”

Another one of the challenges in compiling the volume was working with translators to convey the meaning, beyond a word for word translation, of the text. Translating text written in Germany or Russia before World War II was difficult for some translators because of significant differences in terminology from the 1920s and ‘30s to the present. Endelman noted that the goal of the volume is not only to portray the Jewish artists and writers who lived at the time, but also the age in which they lived. “It is not as if one viewpoint emerges, but I would say many of the essay writers in our period are dealing with the difficulties of being Jewish in inter-war Europe. They wanted to know what the future would be, and offered all kinds of projections, solutions, and alternatives.”

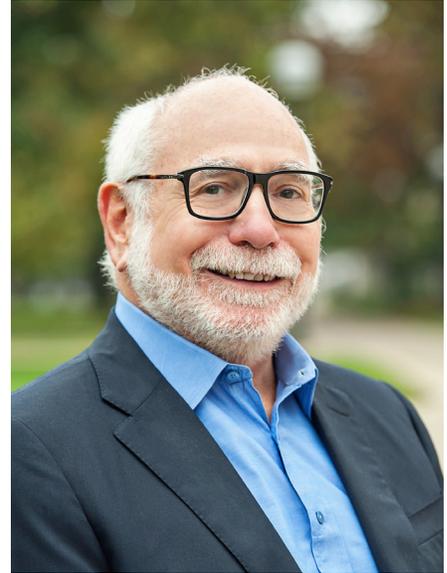
Many of the writers were previously unknown due to a lack of accessibility. Works were translated from more than ten languages, including Hungarian, Croatian, Czech, and Romanian, some for the first time. Some of the authors were famous in their time, but are now

long forgotten. “Nothing dies quicker than a literary reputation,” observed Endelman. “Some of the authors are well known— Franz Kafka, Martin Buber—others, readers will have never heard of before.”

Endelman and Gitelman believe that one of the reasons this period had such a large and varied amount of Jewish viewpoints compared to other eras was the high rate of literacy and density of population. “There is no intellectual diversity in the university today, but in this period there really is. There really are solutions on the total spectrum,” stated Endelman.

The selections in the volume “range from ultra-orthodoxy to communism, from radical assimilation to fierce nationalism,” added Gitelman. “It is inevitable that you look at this 20-year period backwards from the Holocaust and you can see what was destroyed. How vibrant, multifarious, and variegated Jewish life was and how passionate people were about being Jewish, or becoming not Jewish, or becoming more Jewish.”

The volume is principally intended for use by specialists and students, but has illustrations and passages that can be enjoyed by anyone interested in the Jewish authors of this era. “One of the primary goals of this enterprise is to make original material available, largely online, for pedagogical use at a variety of levels,” said Gitelman.



Gabriel Mordoch

Irving M. Hermelin Curator of Judaica

In May of 2019, the University of Michigan installed Gabriel Mordoch as the Irving M. Hermelin Curator of Judaica for the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Mordoch, who has served as a cataloger for the U-M library in Judaica and Western European languages since 2017, came to Michigan after receiving his Ph.D. at The Ohio State University's program on Studies of the Portuguese-Speaking World. His dissertation, "New Christian Discourse and Early Modern Portuguese Oceanic Expansion: The Cases of Garcia da Orta, Fernao Mendes Pinto, Ambrosio Fernandes Brandao, and Pedro de Leon Portocarrero," studies literary texts written by Iberian New Christians in the context of the early modern Portuguese and Spanish oceanic expansion.

Mordoch's library experience is extensive: he has assisted in cataloging, digitizing, and research and reference work at Hebrew University's Oral History Division archives, the National Library of Israel, and The Ohio State University Libraries.

"This enriching work experience sparked my desire to pursue an academic library career," Mordoch commented. "I also must say that interactions with librarians along my way as a student and the support I received from them have had a very positive impact on my academic life. At some point, I realized I wanted to have a positive impact like that on students' academic journeys."

Since becoming the Judaica curator, Mordoch has worked to acquire helpful online resource subscriptions,

such as the film platform JFLIX, Brill's Encyclopedia of Jewish History and Culture Online and A Companion to Medieval and Early Modern Confraternities, the Kotar Reference Library of Israeli publishers, and Jewish-German scholar Victor Klemperer's diaries. Additionally, Mordoch has worked to add Jewish-languages dictionaries, Jewish cookbooks, and newspaper archives, and has expanded the libraries' renowned Irwin M. Alterman Haggadah collection.

"The U-M Library is one of the world's largest academic research libraries.

Like other libraries, it is not just a repository of books, but also a physical and virtual space that allows different kinds of interactions, discoveries, and opportunities," observed Mordoch. "One of my favorite things about working in our library is the opportunity to interact with faculty members, students, library colleagues, and the general public, and collaborate with them on different kinds of projects."

Mordoch initially became interested in Sephardic Studies because of his desire to research his own family history, as one of his grandparents was born and raised in Salonika, Greece. This fall he will be teaching a Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) undergraduate course. "Ladino is the distinctive Jewish language of the Sephardic Jews, like Yiddish is to the Ashkenazic Jews," explained Mordoch. "Besides familiarizing themselves with the language, history, and culture of the Sephardim, students will have the opportunity to learn what constitutes a Jewish language. They will also realize that the formation of any language is a much



more fluid process than we usually conceive."

Mordoch is the second incumbent of the Irving M. Hermelin Curator position, replacing Elliot Gertel, who retired in 2019 after 20 years at the University of Michigan.

Meet the 2020-21 Frankel Institute Fellows



Maya Barzilai

University of Michigan
"Translation Beyond
Zionism: Hebrew-German
Literary Exchanges"

Maya Barzilai is associate professor of Hebrew literature and Jewish culture

at the University of Michigan. She researches modern Hebrew literature in comparative and multilingual contexts, focusing on Hebrew-German literary exchanges and translations in the early to mid-20th century. Her first book, *Golem: Modern Wars and Their Monsters*, published by NYU Press, appeared in 2016 and received the Jordan Schnitzer Book Prize.



Lucia Finotto

University at Albany, SUNY
"The Jewish Translators of
Medieval Sicily" University of
Helsinki

Lucia Finotto is lecturer in Judaic studies at the University at Albany, SUNY. She received her Ph.D. in Near Eastern and Judaic studies from Brandeis University. Her research and publications concentrate on medieval Sephardic Judaism and medieval Islam, with a focus on the Mediterranean and the Jews of the medieval kingdom of Sicily. Her monograph in progress is tentatively titled *Translating Islamic Sciences in Medieval Sicily: Jews, Monarchs, and Mediterranean Intellectual Networks*. Finotto works as a professional translator, and most recently finished translating *Jewish Lybia: Memory and Identity in Text and Image* from English to Italian.



Alessandro Guetta

Institut National des
Langues et Civilisation
Orientales

"A Common Tongue": Jewish
Translation from Hebrew in
Early Modern Italy"

Alessandro Guetta is professor of Jewish Thought at the Institut National des Langues et Civilisation Orientales in Paris.

He studied at the University of Pisa in Italy and obtained his Ph.D. at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris, with a thesis on Elijah Benamozegh's work. Guetta's primary research field is the intellectual history of the Italian Jews, mainly in the early modern and modern periods.



Adriana X. Jacobs

University of Oxford
"Undead Poets Society:
Hebrew Afterlives in
Translation"

Adriana X. Jacobs is associate professor of modern Hebrew literature at the University of Oxford and Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. She has published widely on contemporary Hebrew and Israeli poetry and translation, including articles in *Shofar*, *PMLA*, *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, and *Prooftexts*. Her translations of Hebrew poetry have appeared in *Gulf Coast*, *World Literature Today*, *North American Review*, and *The Ilanot Review*, among others, as well as in the collection *Women's Hebrew Poetry on American Shores: Poems by Anne Kleiman and Annabelle Farmelant*. Jacobs is the author of *Strange Cocktail: Translation and the Making of Modern Hebrew Poetry* and is currently working on a new project on contemporary poetry and crisis. Her translation of Vaan Nguyen's *The Truffle Eye* is forthcoming from Zephyr Press.



Oren Kosansky

Lewis & Clark College
"Judeo-Arabic, Translation,
and the Languages of Jewish
Morocco"

Oren Kosansky is associate professor of anthropology at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon and director of the Rabat Genizah Project, which brings together an international team of community representatives, scholars, archivists, and information technologists to develop a digital archive of Moroccan Jewish documents. His research focuses on the political economy of religious

experience, the cultural politics of national identity, and religious modernity in (post) colonial Morocco. His publications include *Jewish Studies at the Crossroads of Anthropology and History: Authority, Diaspora, Tradition*; "The Real Morocco Itself: Jewish Saint Pilgrimage and the Idea of the Moroccan Nation," in *Jewish Culture and Society in North Africa; Genizot as a Source for Moroccan Jewish History*; and *When Jews Speak Arabic: Dialectology and Difference in Colonial Morocco*.



Roni Masel

New York University
"Disruptive Violence: The
Gothic and the Grotesque in
Hebrew and Yiddish"

Roni Masel's primary research fields are Hebrew and Yiddish literatures. Her interests also include translation studies, the diasporic turn in Jewish studies, history and materiality of the book, and queer and post-colonial theory. Masel is currently working on a book manuscript on anti-Jewish violence in Hebrew and Yiddish. Forgoing a national, ideologized interpretation of violence, and returning instead to overlooked readerly principles of pleasure, anxiety, and disgust, Masel's research formulates a new approach to writing a joint historiography of both literatures. Her work appeared or is forthcoming in *Studies in Yiddish*, *Mikan va-eylakh*, and *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*. Masel's research has been supported by YIVO, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Taub Center for Israel Studies, and Jordan Center for the Study of Russia.



Joshua L. Miller

University of Michigan
"A race in fragments, almost
completely scattered": The
Translational Networks of
Jewish Latin America"

Joshua L. Miller is associate professor of English and Judaic studies and a faculty affiliate in comparative literature, American culture, and Latina/o studies. He is the author of *Accented America:*

The 2020–2021 Frankel Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies will focus on the theme of “Translating Jewish Cultures.” Our fellows will explore the theme of translation across a wide range of time periods and geographic locations, such as ancient and modern biblical translations, medieval translations of science and law, and 20th-century

literary and cultural translations in the Americas, Russia, Europe, and Israel. Critically engaging with the interdisciplinary field of translation studies, this Institute includes scholars who work in the fields of political thought, literary studies, musicology, anthropology, and religious studies.

The Cultural Politics of Multilingual Modernism, editor of the *Cambridge Companion to the American Modernist Novel*, and co-editor of a special issue cluster of *Modernism/modernity Print-Plus* on “Translation and/as Disconnection” and *Languages of Modern Jewish Cultures: Comparative Perspectives*. He is currently completing a literary counter history of US migrant narratives and editing the *Cambridge Companion to 21st Century American Fiction*. He is also working on a comparative study of photography, race, and intermedial narrative from the 1960s to the present.



Alex Moshkin

University of Toronto
“Migration and Translation:
Contemporary Russian-
Israeli Poetry”

Alex Moshkin received his Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of Pennsylvania. Previously, he has been a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council postdoctoral fellow at the Centre for Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto. His research focuses on multilingual Russian-Jewish literature, cinema, and visual art in the late 20th and early 21st century in Israel. His book project, *Russian-Israeli Culture: In Search of Identity*, investigates how Russian-speaking émigrés to Israel created a cultural identity for themselves in sync with the Israeli society. He is also working on an English-language anthology of contemporary Russian-Israeli poetry in Hebrew and Russian.



Anita Norich

University of Michigan
“Translation Matters:
Women’s Prose Writing in
Yiddish”

Anita Norich is Tikva Frymer-Kensky Collegiate Professor Emerita of English and Judaic studies at the University of Michigan. Her most recent book, *A Jewish Refugee in New York*, is a translation of a Yiddish novel by Kadya Molodovsky. She is also the author of

Writing in Tongues: Yiddish Translation in the 20th Century; *Discovering Exile: Yiddish and Jewish American Literature in America During the Holocaust*; *The Homeless Imagination in the Fiction of Israel Joshua Singer*; and served as co-editor of *Languages of Modern Jewish Cultures: Comparative Perspectives*; *Jewish Literatures and Cultures: Context and Intertext*; and *Gender and Text in Modern Hebrew and Yiddish Literatures*. Norich translates Yiddish literature and teaches, lectures, and publishes on a range of topics concerning modern Jewish cultures, Yiddish language and literature, Jewish American literature, and Holocaust literature.



Photo Credit: Christopher Sasaki

Naomi Seidman

University of Toronto
“Freud and/in Yiddish”
Naomi Seidman is the
Chancellor Jackman
Professor of the Arts in the
Department for the Study of
Religion and the Centre for

Diaspora and Transnational Studies at the University of Toronto. Among her awards are the Guggenheim Fellowship and the National Jewish Book Award. Her publications include *Faithful Renderings: Jewish—Christian Difference and the Politics of Difference*; *The Marriage Plot, Or, How Jews Fell in Love with Love, and with Literature*; and *Sarah Schenirer and the Bais Yaakov Movement: A Revolution in the Name of Tradition*.



Yael Sela

The Open University of Israel
“Music, Myth, and Aesthetic
Sensation in Moses Mendels-
sohn’s Translation Enterprise”
Yael Sela received her Ph.D.
from Oxford University and

is assistant professor of Literature and Arts at the Open University of Israel. She has held research fellowships in Berlin, Philadelphia, Oxford, and Jerusalem. Her research interests lie at intersections of the cultural and intellectual history of music and early modern Jewish thought, particularly the

aesthetics and translation of biblical poetry in German Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah). Her current projects focus on aesthetics and orality in Moses Mendelssohn’s translation of Psalms in German translations around 1800. Sela’s publications include book chapters and articles in such journals as *Renaissance Studies*, *The Jewish Quarterly Review*, and *The Musical Quarterly*. She is currently completing two book projects—one focusing on the reception of Mendelssohn’s translation of Psalms in the late 18th century, and the other about the role of aesthetics, biblical poetry, and music in the emergence of German Jewish modernity.



Sasha Senderovich

University of Washington,
Seattle
“Translating the ‘Soviet
Jew’ Between Russia and
America”

Sasha Senderovich is an assistant professor in the department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, and a faculty member at the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. His first book project, *How the Soviet Jew Was Made*, which focuses on Russian-language and Yiddish-language literature and film in the Soviet Union during the first two decades after the Bolshevik Revolution, is currently under review. Together with Harriet Murav, he translated, from the Yiddish, David Bergelson’s novel *Judgment* [Mides-hadin] (Northwestern University Press, 2017). He has also published on Soviet-born American Jewish writers like Gary Shteyngart, Anya Ulinich, Irina Reyn, and David Bezmozgis; his current book project is tentatively titled *Translating the “Soviet Jew” Between Russia and America*. He has published essays on literary, cultural, and political topics in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, the *New York Times*, the *Forward*, *Lilith*, *Jewish Currents*, the *Stranger*, and the *New Republic*.



Anna Elena Torres

University of Chicago, “Utopian Tongues: Jewish Anarchist Translation Practices”

Anna Elena Torres is assistant professor of comparative literature at the University of Chicago. She specializes in Jewish studies, gender studies, and labor history, focusing on the subjects of statelessness, anti-statism, and borderlands literature. Her forthcoming book is titled *The Horizon Blossoms and the Borders Vanish: Anarchism and Yiddish Literature*. This project examines the literary production, language politics, and religious thought of Jewish anarchist movements from 1870 to the present in Moscow, Tel Aviv, London, Buenos Aires, New York City, and elsewhere. Other ongoing

projects include a comparative study of racialization, indigeneity, and colonial education in Puerto Rico and Native American residential schools in the United States. She serves on the International Editorial Board for Manchester University Press’ Contemporary Anarchist Studies Series and has also worked as a muralist, community organizer, and set designer.



Jason M. Zurawski

University of Groningen
“The Reception of the Greek Translation of Hebrew Scriptures in the Hellenistic Diaspora”

Jason Zurawski is a scholar of Jewish literature and

thought during the Hellenistic and early Roman periods. He received his Ph.D. in Second Temple Judaism from the University of Michigan in 2016, after which he was a fellow at the Qumran Institute at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. Much of Zurawski’s research has focused on the diverse notions of Jewish education in the Hellenistic Diaspora, especially as they relate to the forming and reshaping of Jewish identity. He has published and lectured extensively on the topic. His forthcoming monograph, *Jewish Paideia: Education, Enculturation, and the Discourse of Identity in the Hellenistic Diaspora*, will be out in early 2021.

Sarah Kuljian

Student Services Coordinator

Sarah Kuljian recently joined the Frankel Center as the new student services coordinator. In this role, Kuljian will advise students, support faculty, and work with the curriculum committee to create comprehensive Judaic studies course offerings. She will also help recruit prospective students to the program, and arrange internships, study abroad opportunities, and fellowships for Frankel Center students. “I really enjoy working with students, learning about their academic journeys and advising them on how to achieve their goals,” said Kuljian.

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in Spanish and art and art history from Kalamazoo College, Kuljian spent two years teaching English in Spain. Several years later, she spent a summer studying Jewish texts at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. “Studying in the humanities allows one to think critically, challenge one’s peers, enhance communication and writing skills, view things through

a different lens, gain understanding of other cultures, and much more. Studying courses in the humanities allows you to grow, be challenged, and take away transferable skills that will be valuable your entire life.”

Prior to joining the Frankel Center, she advised and supported students as the Jewish Student Life Coordinator for Hillel at Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo for nearly six years. She enjoys working with students to help them gain as much as possible from the college experience, both in and out of the classroom. “The students learned how to manage programs, utilize critical thinking skills, and become team players. They did this all while integrating Jewish values into the programs they planned and



keeping Judaism an integral part of their college careers,” commented Kuljian. “I like to help them figure out ways to incorporate their interests and passions into their academic and extracurricular pursuits.”

Kuljian grew up in Ann Arbor and is excited to rediscover everything the area has to offer, including the beautiful parks and great local coffee spots. She is also excited to make connections with the Frankel Center community and welcomes faculty and students to reach out.

Sharon Rosenberg Safra

Assistant Director of Ramah Day Camp of Greater Washington DC

Bachelor of Arts in Judaic Studies, 1995

Describe your job responsibilities:

I am the Assistant Director of a relatively new Jewish day camp, Ramah Day Camp of Greater Washington DC, so in the off-season, I do everything from recruitment of campers and staff to program planning to camper care — and more! In the summer, I spend most of my time working with our senior team to implement our program, problem-solving when those inevitable “hiccups” arise, and partnering with parents to ensure each camper’s experience is a positive and successful one.

What is the most rewarding part of your work?

There are so many — it’s hard to name just one! I love watching both our campers and madrichim (young adult counselors) grow from the beginning of the summer through the end. Developing strong relationships with our summer staff and watching our campers develop deep friendships with their peers is another plus. And perhaps the most rewarding part is helping to create a joyful and memorable Jewish experience for our summer community.

Tell us about studying at the Frankel Center:

What really propelled me to major in Judaic Studies was the diverse offering of courses. I had an opportunity to study history, sociology, religion, and women’s studies through a Jewish lens. I had not originally set out to pursue this course of study, but the fabulous professors and the ability to

study within various disciplines that all connected to my Jewish heritage was fascinating and impactful.

How did your education prepare you for your current job?

Much of what I studied at U-M gave me a more thorough and critical understanding of how the Jewish community has developed and arrived at this point. Working closely with Jewish families in my current job, as well as in previous ones, and understanding the diverse ways that Jewish practice and study can be meaningful to them is only possible because I have this deep knowledge of our shared history, growth, and progress.

What advice would you give to students who are considering studying Judaic Studies?

The opportunity to connect and engage with fellow students and professors in this intimate setting, while still having all the advantages of being at a large and vibrant university, is really a gift. The Judaic Studies program also gives you the tools to think critically and synthesize information from various fields — skills that will serve a graduate well as a Jewish communal professional or in any other field.



Students

Seventeen students—ten graduates and seven undergraduates— were awarded funding in the 2019–2020 academic year from Judaic Studies to do research, participate in conferences, and study abroad.

Bell Family Fund



Judaic studies minor **Yael Plotnick** attended the iEngage Fellowship at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem during the 2019–2020 winter break. Plotnick commented, “The program as a whole challenged me to think critically about the face of Judaism and Israelism, and about how both are evolving—growing together and apart in different ways.”



Jason Semaya, Judaic studies, history, political science, and Middle Eastern and North African studies major, studied abroad in Prague during the winter 2020 semester, taking classes at Anglo-American University. “I had the opportunity to travel to Theresienstadt, where I was guided through the concentration camp and the ghetto, and Berlin, where I visited the Jewish Museum, the Holocaust memorial, and the Reichstag, among other significant landmarks with relevance to the history of Judaism and the Holocaust in Germany. Overall, the experience was unmatched.”

Brandt Challenge Fellowship



Graduate student of Judaic studies and history, **Cassandra Euphrat Weston** was awarded funding to support her attendance at the 2019 Association for Jewish Studies Conference in San Diego, Calif. Euphrat Weston attended the conference as both a graduate student and the managing editor and development associate of *In geveb*, an open-access

digital Yiddish studies academic journal and blog. “I made and strengthened extremely valuable professional connections that I know will benefit both my work in Yiddish public humanities at *In geveb* and my future historical research,” she said.

Delta Phi Epsilon Scholarships



Judaic studies major **Emily Anfang** was awarded a scholarship for a seven-week immersive Yiddish program through the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass. “Although I could not enjoy the program in person, I am grateful for the seven weeks of online intensive Yiddish classes. It is truly amazing to think that I have completed the equivalent of one whole year of Yiddish in just one summer!”

Frankel Family Graduate Student Aid



Pavel Brunssen, PhD student in Germanic languages and literatures and Judaic studies, received funding to support travel to Germany to work on two projects: a book manuscript on current antisemitism in German soccer fan culture and an edited volume, *Discrimination in Football: Antisemitism and Beyond*. He is co-editing the volume with Stefanie Schüler-Springorum, chair of the *Centre for Research of Antisemitism at the Institute of Technology* in Berlin. “I hope that both book projects will help challenge antisemitism and other forms of discrimination in and beyond sport stadiums in the US and Germany,” stated Brunssen.

Frankel Family Fellowship

Josh Scott, a graduate student in Middle East studies and Judaic studies, was awarded funding to continue his research on messianism as a distinct rhetorical strategy in ancient Judaism that was deployed to create and sustain Jewish identity markers. Scott organized the 2019 Enoch Seminar, which discusses antisemitism in 1st-century CE texts.

Amy and Andrews Horowitz Experience Fund
Kantor Family Israel Family Fund
Wolens Global Experience Fund



Allison Bloomberg studied abroad at Hebrew University in Jerusalem as a fellow of The Nachshon Project. This is a competitive program that allows students to engage and collaborate with other college juniors who are interested in working professionally in the Jewish community. She lived with the cohort in the student village at Hebrew University. “This allowed for our conversations in the classroom and in our seminars to extend beyond into our home. Without this funding, living in the student dorms would not be possible and I would have never had such meaningful conversations with my peers,” commented Bloomberg.

Keywell Graduate Fund

Lauren Benjamin, graduate student in comparative literature, English language and literature, and Judaic studies, received funding to help continue her work on writing her dissertation, *Feral Modernisms*.

Kaufman Friendship Foundation



Graduate student in Anthropology and History **Omri Senderowicz** was awarded funding to support his fieldwork researching the privatization of the Israeli kibbutz. “My research touches on central issues in Israel studies, such as the neoliberalization of Israeli society, transformations of power relations in Israel’s periphery, formation of a new Israeli consumerist middle class culture, and new forms of encounter between Ashkenazim and Mizrahim.”

Jerold & Kathleen Solovy Fund

Graduate student in history and Judaic studies **Shai Zamir** received support to spend the fall 2019 semester researching in Spain at the Archivo Historico Nacional in Madrid. Zamir studies

the social and cultural history of friendship among urban dwellers, New Christians of Jewish origin, and women in early modern Spain, 1500–1700.

Marshall M. Weinberg Endowed Fund for Graduate Students

Graduate student **Sam Shuman** received funding to attend the annual Association for Jewish Studies conference in San Diego, California. He co-organized a roundtable event, “Undisciplined Jews: From Jews in Anthropology to Anthropology in Jewish Studies” with Shira Schwartz, Ph.D.



Graduate student **Dory Fox** also received funding to travel to San Diego for the Association for Jewish Studies conference. Fox organized a panel “Visenshaft Af Yiddish: Science in Translation,” on which she gave a paper considering Israel Joshua

Singer’s novel, *Di Mishpokhe Karnovski*.

Weingast Family Fund

Undergraduates **Maria Mustafa**, **Lindsay Rasmussen**, and **Serena Scholz** traveled to Jordan and Israel during 2020 spring break with the class “EARTH 435: Geologic and Cultural Evolution of the Dead Sea Rift.” “By staying in different Kibbutzim, visiting the eclectic city of Jerusalem, and interacting with our local experts, I was also able to understand how geological and environmental conditions have shaped the development of Jewish people and how modern conditions influence current spatial, cultural, and political issues in the region,” Mustafa said.



Maria Mustafa and Serena Scholz in the Makhtesh Ramon area of the Negev Desert in Israel



The Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies is celebrating the Class of 2020, consisting of 18 minors, eight majors, and two graduate certificate students. These students graduated with a wide range of scholarly focuses in addition to Judaic studies, including political science, cellular and molecular biology, sociology, women's studies, and theatre design and production. Several graduates will be continuing their education in law, medicine, psychology, and social work, while others have already secured employment.

Marie Pattipati received the Outstanding Yiddish Student Award, which is awarded to a student whose classwork and commitment to Yiddish stands out. Yiddish lecturer Elena Luchina nominated Pattipati based on her efforts and creativity shown in class and especially her final project, a children's book on autism.

This year's Marshall Weinberg prize, given annually to an outstanding graduate student who is engaged in writing a dissertation, was awarded to **Sam Shuman**. Shuman's dissertation project, "Cut Out the Middleman: Brokering Belonging in the Diamond Industry," was acclaimed for both its originality and significant contribution to Jewish studies. Frankel Center Director Jeff Veidlinger commented, "Sam's work engages a broader scholarship on long-distance economic networks, global legal pluralism, enclave economies, and the role of religious faith in public life and economic decision-making."

Shira Schwartz graduated with a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Graduate Certificate in Judaic studies. Schwartz will be the Phyllis Backer Professor of Jewish Studies in the Department of Religion at Syracuse University. She

said that the Frankel Center offered her resources and mentors that allowed her to "explore new areas of research, connect ideas across different fields and audiences, and create new frameworks for teaching and learning."

Graduates with degrees in Judaic studies are moving on to an array of diverse career paths, benefiting from the education they received at the Frankel Center.

Katherine Podolak dual-majored in Judaic studies and sociology and will be a Springboard Innovation Fellow at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Hillel. "The Frankel Center gave me the space to explore Judaism in a way I had never experienced before. I truly found the passion for my future career as a Jewish professional because of the Judaic Studies Program," said Podolak.

Judaic Studies minor **Noah Momblanco**, who majored in mechanical engineering, will be joining Narens

Associates in Farmington Hills as a sales engineer and technical liaison. "My coursework for Judaic Studies provides me the context necessary to become an engineer committed to sustainable social development," he stated.

Another Judaic studies minor, **Maya Tinoco**, has accepted an offer to join Macy's Executive Development Program in Merchandising in New York City. Tinoco remarked that her experience at the Frankel Center provided her with the opportunity to learn more about her Jewish heritage.

Dual major in Judaic Studies and Cellular and Molecular Biology **Elizabeth Weisberg** plans to enroll in medical school. She valued the close-knit aspect of the center: "It felt like I had found my home on this campus."

Anjelica Lyman majored in both English and women's studies and minored in Judaic studies. She remarked, "The classes were diverse and I was able to widen my knowledge of the Jewish community because of this. As a Jewish woman, the fact that I was provided such enriching courses about this aspect of my identity, as well as the intersectionality Judaism has with other identities, is endlessly important to me and I am so thankful for this opportunity." Lyman will be enrolling in the Library and Information Science master's degree program at Wayne State University.

To celebrate the graduates, the Frankel Center has published a video of faculty congratulating the students and presenting the Judaic Studies Class of 2020, including remarks from Director Jeff Veidlinger, outgoing Associate Director Maya Barzilai, Outstanding Undergraduate Award winner Will Hearn, and Marshall Weinberg Prize recipient Sam Shuman. The video is available on the Frankel Center's website.

The 2020 graduates join a distinguished group of Frankel Center alumni. We wish them the best of luck!

Class of 2020

Graduate Certificate

Michail Kitsos
Shira Schwartz

Major

Jonathan Grey
Samantha Grosinger
Alex Harris
Will Hearn
Rachel Kahan
Jessica Matz
Katherine Podolak
Elizabeth Weisberg

Minor

Serge Albarian
Felix Auboeck
Ezra Brown
Madeline Daugherty
Janavi Goldblum
Orly Katz
William Katzman
Rachel Levy
Rebecca Lubow
Anjelica Lyman
Rebecca Mendel
Noah Momblanco
Juan (Romeo) Perez
Yael Plotnick
Natalie Rochman
Alison Rosen
Maya Tinoco
Samantha Weiser

Will Hearn Receives the Frankel Center's Outstanding Undergraduate

Every spring, the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies honors a graduate by presenting them with the Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award. Faculty nominate students who have made standout academic achievements and achieved a grade point average of at least 3.8 in Judaic Studies courses.

This year's recipient is Will Hearn. Hearn, from Clio, Michigan, majored in Judaic studies and Middle East Studies, and minored in Religion. Hearn became a Judaic Studies major after taking Professor Rebecca Wollenberg's "Problems with the Bible" class. "I've always had a passion to learn more about the Bible and the historical context in which it was written," explained Hearn. "I've had several Judaic Studies professors encourage me to declare the major as it would open up worlds of opportunities for me, including receiving fellowships to study abroad, learning biblical languages, and immersing myself in the culture and history of the Jewish people."

Hearn impressed several of his teachers with his original thought and commitment to coursework. Professor Deborah Dash Moore praised Hearn as a model student: "Always deeply engaged, he wrote a superb paper on 'Rabbinical Heroes: How Perceptions of Jewish Military Chaplains Shifted from the Civil War to World War II,' taking off from an article published in the *Detroit Jewish News*." Hearn's paper argued that during the Civil War, Jews saw military chaplains as a means for Jews to progress in comparison to Christians, and during World War I as a way of encouraging religious tolerance. Not until

World War II were they seen as war heroes. "This is an original and compelling interpretation drawn from a variety of Jewish newspaper sources," said Dash Moore.

"He was among the most diligent, bright, and hard-working students I have ever had in my 'What is Judaism?' class," remarked Professor Julian Levinson. "He is a clear, systematic thinker, driven by strong curiosity. He demonstrated the ability to absorb an impressive amount of new ideas."

Professor Shachar Pinsker, who taught Hearn in two courses on modern Israeli culture and in an intensive study abroad course in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, also praised him as a hardworking and dedicated student. "What I found most impressive about Will is his uncommon intellectual maturity. He is not afraid to venture into new areas of study and challenge himself, and he performs extremely well."

Hearn has accepted a full-tuition scholarship to Yale University's School of Divinity and will be enrolling in the Master of Divinity program with a Certificate in Educational Leadership and Ministry. "I couldn't have gotten to where I am today without the wisdom of the professors who have taught me or without the guidance from mentors I befriended," said Hearn. "The Frankel Center truly served as a home for me during my undergraduate career. I've met some of my best friends and discovered my future career plans in the halls of this center."



Mazel Tov!

Students

Judaic studies minor **Miriam Saperstein** won a Michael R. Gutterman Award for Poetry from the Hopwood Awards Program, the University of Michigan's renowned writing awards from the College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.

Shira Schwartz graduated with a PhD in Comparative Literature and graduate certificate in Judaic Studies and will join Syracuse University in the Department of Religions as the Phyllis Backer Professor of Jewish Studies.

Faculty

Maya Barzilai was elected as a member of the Faculty Senate and received a dry appointment from the Department of Comparative Literature. She also released three articles: "One Should Finally Learn How to Read This Breath': Paul Celan and the Buber-Rosenzweig Bible," "Foreign Coins in Hebrew Gold: Yaakov Fichman and the Gendered Economics of Translation," and "Spoken Hebrew and Hebrew Modernism: A Revised History."

Sara Blair's book, *How the Other Half Looks: The Lower East Side and the Afterlives of Images* (Princeton University Press) won Honorable Mention for the James Russell Lowell prize of the Modern Language Association.

Caroline Helton released "Songs from a Lost World of Italian Jewish Composers, Vol. III: Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco" via Blue Griffin Recordings with pianist Kathryn Goodson.

Mikhail Krutikov gave a lecture at the International Memorial Society in Moscow titled "Zionism, Judaism and the 'Official' Yiddish Culture in the USSR under Stalin." He also published an article, "Perets Markish and Soviet Yiddish literature," on the Arzamas Academy website.

Devi Mays published "Becoming Illegal: Sephardi Jews in the Opiates Trade" in *Jewish Social Studies*.

Deborah Dash Moore gave lectures at the Mandell Jewish Community Innovation Center, the Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, and the University of Connecticut.

Gabriel Mordoch released "The Victor Perera Papers: The Archive of a Twentieth Century Sephardic-American Writer" in *Judaica Librarianship*.

Rachael Rafael Neis was a featured artist in AJS Perspectives this past winter, in *The Body Issue*. Neis also wrote "All That Is in the Settlement': Humans, Likeness, and Species in the Rabbinic Bestiary," for the *Journal of Jewish Ethics* and gave a talk, "When A Woman Gives Birth to a Raven: Gynecology and Zoology According to the Rabbis," at The Ohio State University in December 2019.

Shachar Pinsky received the 2019 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award in the Jewish Literature and Linguistics Category for his book *A Rich Brew: How Cafés Created Modern Jewish Culture*, given by the Association for Jewish Studies. He was also awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Research Grant for a project on studying feuilletons and published three articles: "We must not assimilate into Israel; we must assimilate Israel into ourselves," "Review of Seeds in the Desert by Mendel Mann, translated and with an introduction by Heather Valencia," and "The Viennese Coffeehouse as a space of Jewish Modernism."

Ruth Tsoffar was promoted to the rank of professor in May of 2020.

Jeffrey Veidlinger delivered a series of lectures at Taras Shevchenko University in Kyiv, and individual lectures at the Kennan Institute/Wilson Center in Washington, DC, and the Valley Beit Midrash in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Rebecca Wollenberg received an individual research grant from the American Academy of Religion and organized the Abrahamic Sensorium Student Experience Series. Wollenberg also published "A King and a Scribe like Moses: The Reception of Deuteronomy 34:10 and a Rabbinic Theory of Collective Biblical Authorship" in *Hebrew Union College Annual* and "The Treasure Hunt for Biblical Origins: or, Why Do We Need to Know Who Said What, When, and to Whom?" in *Maarav*.

Past Frankel Institute Fellows

Joshua Cole, 2014-2015 fellow and current

U-M history professor, received the National Jewish Book Award for his 2019 release *Lethal Provocation: The Constantine Murders and the Politics of French Algeria*.

Kristen Fermaglich, 2015-2016 fellow, was promoted to full professor of history and Judaic studies at Michigan State University, and received the Saul Viener Book Prize from the American Jewish Historical Society for her 2019 release, *A Rosenberg By Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America*.

Marc Herman, 2018-2019 fellow, published "Two Themes in Maimonides' Modifications to His Legal Works" in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Shaul Kelner, 2015-2016 fellow, released three articles: "Foreign Tourists, Domestic Encounters: Human Rights Travel to Soviet Jewish Homes," "People-to-People: Cleveland's Jewish Community and the Exodus of Soviet Jews," and "À la rencontre des juifs de l'autre côté du rideau de fer: récits de voyage de juifs américains et représentation du judaïsme en Union soviétique [Encountering Jews on the other Side of the Iron Curtain: American Jewish Travel Writing and the Representation of Judaism in the Soviet Union]."

Ehud Krinis, 2018-2019 fellow, was awarded a Harry Starr 2020-2021 Fellowship at the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University.

Miriamne Krummel, 2015-2016 fellow, received the 2019 Teaching Literature Book Award from Idaho State University for co-editing *Jews in Medieval England: Teaching Representations of the Other, The New Middle Ages Series*.

Ranen Omer-Sherman, 2012-2013 fellow, received the Award for Outstanding Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity from the College of Arts & Sciences for 2020 at the University of Louisville, and published his article "The Traumatic Quotidian and Jewish Utopian Yearning in Eshkol Nevo's Neuland" in the *Journal of Literature and Belief*.

Juan Manuel Tebes, 2017-2018 fellow, published two articles: "Midian" and "Memories of humiliation, cultures of resentment towards Edom and the formation of ancient Jewish national

Books

Joshua Cole, 2014-2015 Frankel Institute Fellow, *Lethal Provocation: The Constantine Murders and the Politics of French Algeria*, Cornell University Press

Deborah Dash Moore, Frederick G.L. Huetwell Professor of History; Professor, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies; editor in chief of The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization. *Volume 6: Confronting Modernity, 1750-1880*, edited by Elisheva Carlebach, Yale University Press. *Volume 8: Crisis and Creativity between World*

Wars, 1918-1939, co-edited by **Todd M. Endelman** and **Zvi Gitelman**, Yale University Press

Jessica Dubow, 2015-2016 Frankel Institute Fellow, *In Exile: Geography, Philosophy and Judaic Thought*, Bloomsbury Publishing

Brian Horowitz, 2011-2012 Frankel Institute Fellow, *Vladimir Jabotinsky's Russian Years*, Indiana University Press

Mikhail Krutikov, Preston R. Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies; Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures, *Women, Men*

and Books: Issues of Gender in Yiddish Discourse (Studies in Yiddish), Legenda

Ehud Krinis, 2018-2019 Frankel Institute Fellow, *Judah Halevi's Fideistic Scepticism in the Kuzari*, De Gruyter

Erica Lehrer, Alumni, *Różnicowanie narodowego "my": Kuratorskie marzenia (Differentiation of the National "We": Curatorial Dreams?)*, Jagiellonian University Press

Devi Mays, Assistant Professor, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, *Forging Ties, Forging*

Passports: Migration and the Modern Sephardi Diaspora, Stanford University Press

Ariel Mayse, 2015-2016 Frankel Institute Fellow, *Speaking Infinities: God and Language in the Teachings of Rabbi Dov Ber of Mezritsh*, University of Pennsylvania Press and *A New Hasidism: Roots and Branches*, Jewish Publication Society

Ruth Tsoffar, Professor, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, *Life in Citations: Biblical Narratives and Contemporary Hebrew Culture*, Routledge



identity" in *Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies* and *Nations and Nationalism*, respectively. Tebes was also awarded the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (South Africa), STIAS Fellowship, an ERC Advanced Grant MAP project, a research fellowship in global history from the Munich Centre for Global History, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, and funding for organization of the conference The Desert Origins of God from Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung.

Kenneth D. Wald, 2011-2012 fellow, received the National Jewish Book Award for his 2019 book *The Foundations of American Jewish Liberalism*. He also published "The Political Consequences of Trauma: Holocaust Exposure and Emotional Attachment to Israel Among American Jews" in *Contemporary Jewry* and "Religious Traditions in Politics: Judaism" in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*.

Herbert Weisberg, 2011-2012 fellow, published "The Presidential Voting of American Jews" in *American Jewish Year Book 2019*.

Hana Wirth-Nesher, 2010-2011 fellow, published "Beyond English: Language,

Sound and Voice in Jewish American Literature," in *Teaching Jewish American Literature*, issued by The Modern Language Association of America.

Alumni

Beth Dvoskin (MA, 2015) joined the Hatcher Graduate Library staff as a Judaica cataloger. Dvoskin also received a 2020 Translation Fellowship from the Yiddish Book Center and published *Basman Ben-Haim, Rivka. The Thirteenth Hour: Poems*. Translated by Zelda Kahan Newman in *Women in Judaism*.

Jessica Evans (BA, 2008) joined the University of Michigan development team as the Director of Major Gifts, Tri-State Region and Eastern Pennsylvania, based out of New York City.

Zach Goldsmith (BA, 2011) finished his first year as Special Assistant to the Dean and Visiting Assistant Professor, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University.

Gilbert Grant (BA, 1978) released "Epidural gravity flow technique for labor analgesia," in *Regional Anesthesia & Pain Medicine*.

Deborah Gurt (BA, 1994) received a grant

from the Alabama Humanities Foundation for the Jewish Mobile Oral History Project, 2020.

Sara Halpern (MA, 2010) published "The Integration of Jewish Refugees from Shanghai into Post-World War II San Francisco" in *American Jewish History*.

Anne Kreps (MA, 2005) received the Center for Environmental Futures/Andrew Mellon fellowship from the University of Oregon.

Erica Lehrer (MA, 2005) was promoted to full professor at Concordia University, Montreal and won honorable mention for the 2020 Zumkehr Prize for Public Memory for an article she co-wrote with Monika Murzyn-Kupisz, "Making Space for Jewish Culture in Polish Folk and Ethnographic Museums," which was published in *Museum Worlds*. Lehrer also published three articles: "Material Kin: 'Communities of implication' in post-colonial, post-Holocaust Polish ethnographic collections," "Making space for Jewish culture in Polish 'folk' and 'ethnographic' museums: Curating social diversity after ethnic cleansing," and "Arts of Witness or Awkward Objects? Vernacular art as a source base for 'bystander' Holocaust memory in Poland."

Save the Date!

All events will be held live via zoom. Go to lsa.umich.edu/judaic for more information.

TRANSLATING ISRAEL

JESSICA COHEN, HEBREW LITERARY TRANSLATOR

Tuesday, September 22, 12:00 pm

THE BOUNDARIES OF PLURALISM: THE WORLD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S JEWISH STUDENTS FROM 1897 TO 1945

ANDREI S. MARKOVITS & KENNETH GARNER, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Thursday, September 24, 7:00 pm

BETWEEN THE WORLD WARS: GREAT CREATIVITY AND GROWING CRISIS

TODD ENDELMAN & ZVI GITELMAN

Thursday, October 15, 4:00 pm

TRANSLATING THE SACRED WORD

AVIYA KUSHNER, AUTHOR AND LANGUAGE COLUMNIST AT THE FORWARD

Tuesday, October 20, 12:00 pm

THE SCHOLAR AS TRANSLATOR

CHANA KRONFELD, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

Tuesday, November 5, 3:00 pm

30TH DAVID W. BELIN LECTURE IN AMERICAN JEWISH AFFAIRS: "IT CAN HAPPEN HERE": ANTISEMITISM, GENDER, AND THE AMERICAN PAST

PAMELA NADELL, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, November 10, 7:00 pm

JOSEPH BRODSKY COLLEGIATE PROFESSORSHIP IN HISTORY AND JUDAIC STUDIES INAUGURAL LECTURE

PROFESSOR JEFFREY VEIDLINGER, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Thursday, November 19, 4 pm

Executive Committee

Jeffrey Veidlinger, Director

Gabriele Boccaccini

Devi Mays

Ruth Tsoffar

Newsletter Credits

Editor: Kelsey Keeves

Frankel Institute for

Advanced Judaic Studies

Steering Committee

Gabriele Boccaccini

Alexandra Minna Stern

Devi Mays

Peggy McCracken

Helmut Puff

Ruth Tsoffar

Jeffrey Veidlinger

Academic Advisory Board

Lila Corwin Berman, Temple University

Miriam Bodian, University of Texas-Austin

Ross Brann, Cornell University

Richard Cohen, Hebrew University

Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University

Marjorie Lehman, Jewish Theological Seminary

Ranen Omer-Sherman, University of Louisville

Derek Penslar, Harvard University

Michael Swartz, Ohio State University

Beth Wenger, University of Pennsylvania

Yael Zerubavel, Rutgers University

The Regents of the

University of Michigan

Jordan B. Acker, Southfield

Michael J. Behm, Grand Blanc

Mark J. Bernstein, Ann Arbor

Paul W. Brown, Ann Arbor

Shauna Ryder Diggs, Grosse Pointe

Denise Ilitch, Bingham Farms

Ronald Weiser, Ann Arbor

Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor

Mark S. Schlissel (ex officio)