

## *A note from the director...*

**It is my honor to be the new director of Jewish Studies at Arizona State University.**



*Hava Tirosh-Samuelsan*  
*Director, Jewish Studies*

After three decades in existence, Jewish Studies has begun a new phase with an expanded faculty, additional staff and new leadership. A proposal for the creation of a center, which will combine research, instruction and community outreach, is currently being reviewed for approval.

As a research facility, the planned Center for Jewish Studies will generate new scholarship through research conferences, symposia and workshops, external grants and collaboration with scholars at other universities. The center will work with other academic units at Arizona State University to advance mutual intellectual interests and offer a new model for the integration of a Jewish perspective into diverse academic disciplines and discourses.

Undergraduate and graduate instruction will remain a primary focus of Jewish Studies. At present, Jewish Studies offers a certificate, but I plan to upgrade the curricular offerings to a full-fledged bachelor's degree in Jewish Studies. The requirements for a major in Jewish Studies will include a primary language (Hebrew and/or Yiddish), several survey courses on Jewish civilization and specialization in two of three available tracks: history and society; religion and thought; and modern and contemporary Judaism. To ensure the full integration of Jewish Studies, it will be recommended that students enroll in Jewish Studies in addition to another major. Strong emphasis will be placed on students' exchange programs with universities abroad, especially in Israel.

The proposed center will implement ASU's commitment to social embeddedness by conducting a rigorous outreach program and serving as an intellectual resource to Jewish life in metropolitan Phoenix. It will coordinate philanthropic efforts in the Jewish community, locally and nationally, and will offer opportunities for non-degree, interested students to engage in life-long learning. The center will work with Jewish schools in metropolitan Phoenix and recruit top-level students to ASU who currently prefer to go to The University of Arizona or to schools outside of Arizona.

While addressing all aspects of Jewish civilization, the Center for Jewish Studies plans to include specializations in a few areas: Judaism and Science; Judaism and Environmentalism; Judaism and Diaspora Studies; Judaism, Liberalism and Democracy; and Judaism and the Arts. These areas have been chosen because they cohere with the strength of the existing faculty, they represent areas in which there is a need or room for innovation and they reflect the intellectual vision and social commitments of ASU. Conferences, grants and research projects will focus on these select areas.

Jewish Studies at ASU already has a superb faculty, excellent library resources, and existing infrastructure for faculty support and community outreach. The Jewish Studies staff includes a newly appointed assistant director Ilene Singer, who brings extensive administrative experience and knowledge of the Jewish community in Phoenix, and Dawn Beeson who has been with the program for six years. Ilene will focus on grants and external projects, public events and community outreach. Dawn will be responsible for all publicity and communication needs, daily operations and courses. With the help of the staff, teaching faculty, bibliographer and the community in metropolitan Phoenix, Jewish Studies is poised to become a nationally and internationally known unit at ASU.

*Hava Tirosh-Samuelsan*  
*Irving & Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism*

**Jewish Studies at Arizona State University is inherently interdisciplinary.** Members of the faculty hold appointments in other academic units such as the Department of History; Department of Religious Studies; Department of Political Science; School of International Letters and Cultures; Film and Media Studies program; Department of Dance; Barrett, The Honors College; and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Jewish Studies faculty includes tenured and tenure track professors as well as contract faculty: fellows, lecturers and faculty associates. Two faculty members teach at ASU at the West campus, but will offer courses on the Tempe campus on a regular basis. The faculty exhibits a vast range of research interests and expertise, and its research and teaching cover the Jewish experience in Europe, the Middle East, the United States and Latin America.

#### DIRECTOR OF JEWISH STUDIES

**Hava Tirosh-Samuelsen** (Ph.D., Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1978) is the Irving and Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism, professor of history and is also affiliated with the Department of Religious Studies and Department of Philosophy. Tirosh-Samuelsen specializes in Jewish intellectual history, Judaism and ecology, religion and science and feminist philosophy. She is the author of *Between Worlds: The Life and Thought of Rabbi David ben Judah Messer Leon* (1991), awarded by the Hebrew University for the best work in Jewish history published in 1991, and *Happiness in Premodern Judaism: Virtue, Knowledge, and Well-Being* (2003). In addition to articles and book chapters, she is also the editor of *Judaism and Ecology: Created World and Revealed Word* (2002); *Women and Gender in Jewish Philosophy* (2004); and co-editor (with Christian Wiese) of *The Legacy of Hans Jonas: Judaism and the Phenomenon of Life* (2008). Tirosh-Samuelsen is the Principle Investigator of the Templeton Research Lectures (2006-2009) on "Facing the Challenges of Transhumanism: Religion, Science, and Technology" and is the co-editor (with Giuseppe Veltri) of the book series, *Studies in Jewish History and Culture*, for Brill Academic Publishers.

#### TENURE & TENURE TRACK FACULTY

**Ron Amit** (Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 2004) is an assistant professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Science at ASU at the West campus. He specializes in political philosophy, ethics in the public sphere and Zionism. He is currently working on a book titled *The Political in Political Economy* and another project, "Deliberation and Political Inquiry during the Oslo Peace Process and its Aftermath." His essays and reviews appeared in *European Journal of Political Theory*; *History of Political Thought*; *Polity*; *Philosophy and Social Criticism*; and *Journal of Critical Realism*.

**Madelaine Adelman** (Ph.D., Duke University, 1997) is an associate professor in the School of Justice & Social Inquiry, and is affiliated with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies and Women and Gender Studies. She specializes in political and legal anthropology, socio-legal studies, gender violence, the Middle East

and U.S. She researches violence against women and her book *Battering States: the Politics of Domestic Violence in Israel* is at press. She has contributed book chapters or essays to *Women, Violence and the Media* (forthcoming); *Blackwell Companion to Gender Studies* (2005); *Domestic Violence at the Margins: Reading on Race, Class, Gender and Culture* (2005); and *The Military and Militarism in Israeli Society* (1999). Her essays have appeared in *Journal of Poverty: Innovations on Social, Political & Economic Inequalities*; *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*; *Journal of Education and Social Work*; *American Ethnologist* and *Violence against Women: An Interdisciplinary and International Journal*. She is the co-editor (with Miriam Elman) of *Jerusalem across the Disciplines* (forthcoming).

**Stephen Batalden** (Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 1975) is a professor of history and director of the Melikian Center: Russian, Eurasian & East European Studies. He specializes in the cultures of the Balkans and the former Soviet state and the relationship between religious minorities, including Jews. His authored and edited books include *Sowing the Word: The Cultural Impact of British and Foreign Bible Society, 1804-2004* (2004); *The Newly Independent States of Eurasia: Handbook of Former Soviet Republic* (1993); *Seeking God: The Recovery of Religious Identity in Orthodox Russia, Ukraine, and Georgia* (1993); and *Catherine II's Greek Prelate: Eugenius Voulgaris in Russia, 1771-1806* (1987). He has received numerous federal grants and contracts that foster partnership with academic institutions in Russia, the former Soviet Union and Balkan states and to teach languages of those regions.

**Adam B. Cohen** (Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 2000) is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology. He specializes in psychology and religion, and comparative studies of Jews, Protestants, and Catholics in America. His essays appeared in *Journal of Personality*; *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*; *Behaviour Research and Therapy*; *Social Justice Research*; *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*; *Personality and Psychology Review*; *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*; *Journal of Psychology of Religion*; and *European Journal of Social Psychology*. He received grants from the John Templeton Foundation to study the effects of faith, the nature of God, and community on health and well-being, and from the Fetzer Institute for a comparative study of Jews and African-American Christians.

**David William Foster** (Ph.D., University of Washington, 1964) is Regents' Professor of Spanish, Humanities, and Women's Studies. Foster specializes in Latin American culture, Spanish literature, and queer theory. He is the author of over 40 books and editor of nearly 30 books in English or Spanish. Among his authored books are *Urban Photography in Argentina: Nine Artists of the Post-Dictatorship Era* (2007); *Mexico City in Contemporary Mexican Cinema* (2002); *Gender and Society in Contemporary Brazilian Cinema* (1999); *Buenos Aires: Perspectives on the City and Cultural Production* (1998); and *Sexual Textualities: Essays on Queer/ing Latin American Writing* (1997). His edited volumes include *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture* (2003); *Spanish Literature: 1700 to the Present* (2000); and *Spanish Literature: From Origins to 1700* (2000). He has held several editorial positions and has done over 25 literary translations.

**Rachel G. Fuchs** (Ph.D., Indiana University, 1980) is Distinguished Foundation Professor and Professor of History specializing in French history, including the history of French Jewry, with a focus on social history, history of the family, and women's history. Her books include: *Contested Paternity: Constructing Families in Modern France* (2008); *Gender and Poverty in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (2005); *Women in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (2005); *Gender and Politics of Social Reform in France, 1870-1914* (1995); and *Poor and Pregnant in Paris: Strategies for Survival in the Nineteenth Century* (1992). She has received several prestigious grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is active in numerous academic organizations. She was the president of Society for French Historical Studies and serves on various executive and editorial boards.

**Joel David Gereboff** (Ph.D., Brown University, 1977) is an associate professor and chair of Religious Studies, and the previous interim director of Jewish Studies. He specializes in rabbinic Judaism, Judaism and bioethics, and Judaism in America. He is the author of *Rabbi Tarfon: The Tradition, The Man, and Early Rabbinic Judaism* (1979) and contributed essays to *Handbook of Religion and the Emotions* (2008), *Key Texts in American Jewish Life* (2003), *Crisis and Reaction: The Hero in Jewish History* (1995); and *Jewish Sects, Movements and Political Parties* (1992). Other essays appeared in the *Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry*; *Semia*; and *Religious Studies Review*.

**Daniel D. Gilfillan** (Ph.D., University of Oregon, 2000) is an associate professor in the School of International Letters and Cultures who specializes in German Studies and information literacy. He studies the contribution of Jews to modern German culture, especially sound culture in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup>

century. His book, *Pieces of Sound: German Experimental Radio* will be published by University of Minnesota Press and he contributed essays to *From Samizdat to Tamizdat: Independent Media Before and After 1989* (forthcoming) and *RE-INVENTING RADIO: Zur Theorie und Praxis der Radiokunst* (2008). His essays and book reviews appeared in *Seminar: Journal of Germanic Studies*; *Modern Austrian Literature*; *EME: Explorations in Media Ecology*; *German Studies Review*; and *German Quarterly*.

**Yoav Gortzak** (Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 2005) is an assistant professor at the Department of Political Science who specializes in international security, with a focus on the Middle East. His papers appeared in *Journal of Strategic Studies*; *Security Studies*; and *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. He is preparing manuscript titled, *Indispensable Allies: Indigenous Forces and Counterinsurgency* for publication and several essays on the viability of the Palestinian State and the future of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Most recently he received a grant from the Institute for Humanities Research at ASU (with Arie Saposnik) to study the interplay of religion, violence and politics in the Middle East.

**Anna Holian** (Ph.D., University of Chicago, 2005) is an assistant professor of History who specializes in modern Germany, genocide studies, and migration history. She focuses on the interplay between Jews and non-Jews among displaced persons after World War II and the recovery of cultural and institution life in Europe after the Holocaust. She is working on a book manuscript, *Between National Socialism and Soviet Communism: Displaced Persons in Postwar Germany*, and her essays and book reviews appeared in *Contemporary European History* and *Journal of International Migration and Integration*. She received grants from United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, German Academic Exchange Service and German Historical Institute.

**Naomi M. Jackson** (Ph.D., New York University, 1997) is an associate professor at the Department of Dance who studies contemporary dance cultures, with a focus on Jews and modern dance. She is the author of *Converging Movements: Modern Dance and Jewish Culture at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y* (2002) and the editor of *Right to Dance: Dancing for Rights* (2004). She has contributed essays to the *Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes against Unity* (2004); *The Responsive Body: A Language of Contemporary Dance* (2002); *Dancing Bodies, Living Histories: New Writings about Dance and Culture* (2000); *Dancing Texts: Intertextuality in Interpretation* (1999); and *Dance in the Netherlands 1600-2000: New Directions in Historical and Methodological Research*. Her essays appeared in journals such as *Dance Research Journal*; *Dance Connection*; and *Create*.

**David Kader** (J.D. University of Washington, 1972; L.L.M. University of London, 1974) is Professor of Law who specializes in constitutional law, religion and the constitution, law and genocide. A second-generation Holocaust survivor, he is deeply involved in education about the Holocaust on local, national and international levels. He has been the editor of *Jurimetrics: The Journal of Law, Science and Technology*; *Arizona State Law Forum*; *Washington Law Review*; and the author of *Law Poems: An Anthology* (2007). His essays on various constitutional issues have been published in the *Arizona State Law Journal*; *The Defender*; *Journal of Law and Religion*; *Hastings International & Comparative Law Review*; *Missouri Law Review*; and *Iowa Advocate*. He has taught in various international institutions, including Sarajevo University in Bosnia Herzegovina, Cambridge University in England and Wuhan University in China.

**Martin Beck Matustik** (Ph.D., Fordham University, 1991) is the Lincoln Professor of Applied Ethics at ASU at the West campus. He specializes in continental philosophy of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, critical theory, social and political philosophy with a special interest in post-Holocaust philosophy and ethics, including the philosophy of Levinas. He is the author of *Radical Evil and Scarcity of Hope: Postsecular Meditations* (2008); *Jürgen Habermas: A Philosophical-Political Profile* (2001); *Specters of Liberations: Great Refusals in the New World Order* (1998); *Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel* (1993) among others. He is the co-editor of *Kierkegaard in Post/Modernity* (with Merold Westphal) and *Calvin O. Schrag and the Task of Philosophy after Postmodernity* (with William L. McBride). He is the general series co-editor of *New Critical Theory*, a book-series at Rowman & Littlefield.

**Norbert M. Samuelson** (Ph.D., Indiana University, 1970) is Harold and Jean Grossman Chair of Jewish Studies and professor of religious studies. He specializes in Jewish philosophy, Judaism and science, and 20<sup>th</sup> century philosophy. He is the author and editor of 12 books and over 200 articles. Among his authored books are: *Science and the Jewish Faith: The Death and Renewal of Jewish Philosophy* (2008); *Jewish Philosophy: An Historical Introduction* (2003); *Revelation and the God of Israel* (2002); *Judaism and the Doctrine of Creation* (1994); and *The First Seven Days: A Philosophical Commentary on the Creation of Genesis* (1992). His edited volumes include *Studies in Jewish Philosophy: Collected Essays of the Academy for Jewish Philosophy, 1980-1985* (1987); *Proceedings of the Academy for Jewish Philosophy* (1990); and *The Legacy of Franz Rosenzweig: Collected Essays* (2004) a co-edited volume (with Luc Anckaert and Martin Brassler). Samuelson is the founder and organizer of the Academy of Jewish Philosophy and a central figure in the international dialogue of science and religion. Most recently he was elected Senior Fellow of Metanexus Institute (2007-08).

**Arieh Bruce Saposnik** (Ph.D., New York University, 2002) is Jess Schwartz Assistant Professor of Hebrew Culture, specializing in modern Jewish history and culture, the history of Zionism, and European nationalism. He is the author of *Becoming Hebrew: the Creation of Hebrew National Culture in Ottoman Palestine* (2008) and the editor of *imaginNATION: The Cultural Praxis of Zionism* (forthcoming). He contributed chapters to *Erasing Public Memory: Race, Aesthetics, and Cultural Memory* (2007); *New Jewish Time—Jewish Culture in a Secular Age—An Encyclopedic View* (2007). His essays and book reviews appeared in *The Historical Journal*; *Jewish Quarterly Review*; *Jewish Social Studies*; *Journal of Israeli History*; *AJS Review* and *Europe-Asia Studies*. He has written textbooks and other teaching materials for teaching about the Holocaust, published by Yad Vashem International School for Holocaust Education in Israel. Most recently, he received (together with Yoav Gortzak) a grant from the Institute for Humanities Research at ASU to study the interplay of religion, violence and politics in the Middle East.

**David Schildkret** (Ph.D., Indiana University, 1985) is a professor of music and choral program chair at the School of Music. He is conductor of the ASU Chamber Singers and Choral Union (College-Community Symphonic Chorus). He has a deep interest in the history of Jewish music and the contribution of Jews to music as composers, performers and music writers. Prior to joining ASU he was Dean of the School of Music at Salem College in Winston-Salem North Carolina; Director of Choral Activities at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky; and assistant professor of music at the University of Rochester. His essays have appeared in *Antiphon, the Newsletter of the Society for Seventeenth Century Music*; *Choral Journal*; *Bach*; and *Eighteenth Century Life*. He has given many lectures, workshops and public presentations, and is the founding editor of the *The Choral Scholar*, an on-line publication of the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

**Mark von Hagen** (Ph.D., Stanford University, 1985) is chair of the Department of History, and specializes in Russian and Ukrainian histories with a special interest in the relationships between Jews, Russians, Poles and Ukrainians in the modern period. He is the author of *War in European Borderland: Occupations and Occupation Plans in Galicia and Ukraine, 1914-1914* (2007) and *Soldiers in the Proletarian Dictatorship: The Red Army and the Soviet Socialist State* (1990). He co-edited several volumes: with Karen Barkey he co-edited *After Empire: Multiethnic Societies and Nation Building: the Soviet Union and the Russian, Ottoman, and Habsburg Empires* (1997); with Catherine Evtuov, Boris Gasparov and Alexander Ospovat he co-edited *Kazan, Moscow, St. Petersburg: Multiple Faces of the Russian Empire* (1997); with

Andreas Kappeler, Frank Sysyn, and Zenon Kout he co-edited *Culture, Nation and Identity: The Ukrainian-Russian Encounter (1600-1945)* (2003); and with Jane Bubank and Anatoly Remnev he co-edited *Russian Empire, Space, People Power, 1700-1930* (2007). He received prestigious grants from the Ford Foundation, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Social Science Research Council and Fulbright-Hays/International Research and Exchanges.

**Marjorie S. Zatz** (Ph.D., Indiana University, 1982) is professor and director of the School of Justice & Social Inquiry and an affiliate professor with the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice; Women and Gender Studies; African and African American Studies; and Asian Pacific American Studies. She specializes in criminology and criminal justice and has written on law and crime in Israeli society. She is the author of *Producing Legality: Law and Socialism in Cuba* (1994) and the editor of *Images of Color, Images of Crime* (2003 [1998; 2002]), and *Making Law: The State, the Law, and Structural Contradictions* (1993). She contributed book chapters to *The Many Colors of Crime* (2006); *New Directions in the Study of Gender, Offending and Victimization* (2005); *Crime Control and Social Justice: The Delicate Balance* (2003); *The Changing Borders of Juvenile Justice* (2000); and *Making Law: The State, the Law, and Structural Contradictions* (1993) among others. Her essays appeared in *Justice Quarterly*; *Criminology*; *Free Inquiry in Creative Sociology*; *Law and Society Review*; *Social and Legal Studies: An International Journal*; *The Journal of the Legal Profession*; *Social Justice*; and *The Review of Comparative Law* among other peer-reviewed journals. She has held several administrative positions at ASU: Vice Provost for Academic Personnel, Interim Vice President and Executive Vice Provost of ASU at the West campus and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

#### LECTURERS, FELLOWS & FACULTY ASSOCIATES

**Don C. Benjamin** (Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University, 1981) teaches biblical and ancient Near Eastern studies. His publications include: *Social World of Ancient Israel: 1250-587 BCE* (Hendrickson); *Old Testament Parallels: Laws and Stories from the Ancient Near East* (Paulist Press); and *Old Testament Story: An Introduction* (Fortress Press). He is currently working on *Stones and Stories: An Introduction to Archeology & the Bible* (Fortress Press). He offers courses at Barrett, The Honors College at ASU and the Department of Religious Studies.

**Robert Fine** (Ph.D., New York University, 1977) is a sociologist and senior lecturer in the School of Social and Family Dynamics and Department of Religious Studies, specializing in American Jewish identity in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, social problems and aspects of human aggression, interpersonal and family conflict, family violence, organizational conflict, ethnic and racial rivalries, and issues of sexual identity. He has taught

at Miami University, John State College, Manhattan Community College and University of Vermont, in addition to holding a private mental health counseling and family mediation practice.

**Rabbi Barton Lee** (Dh.L. Hebrew Union College, 1997, Rabbinic Ordination, 1970) has been the executive director of Hillel Jewish Student Center at ASU since 1972 and a faculty associate in religious studies since 1989. Rabbi Lee teaches courses on American Judaism and "Introduction to Judaism." His essays on Jewish theology, ethics and practice have been published in *The American Rabbi*; the *CCAR Journal*; *Shima*; *Religious Studies Review*; and *Pastoral Services*.

**Marcie Lee** (Master of Jewish Communal Service, Hebrew Union College, 1975; Master of Social Work, Arizona State University, 1979; and Honorary Doctorate, Hebrew Union College, 2003) teaches a course on women in Judaism at ASU. A professional Jewish educator, she has offered instruction, consulting services and leadership in various institutions throughout metropolitan Phoenix, including Hillel Jewish Student Center, the Bureau of Jewish Education and Florence Melton Adult Mini-School of Hebrew University.

**David Pickus** (Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1995) is a faculty fellow at Barrett, The Honors College. He specializes in European intellectual history with a focus on Jewish intellectuals in Germany and Poland. He is the author of *Dying with an Enlightening Fall: Poland in the Eyes of German Intellectuals, 1764-1800* (2000) and his essays appeared in *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*; *Jewish Studies Quarterly*; *Nietzsche-Studien*; *Fifteenth-Century Studies*; and *Selected Papers of the Consortium on Revolutionary Europe, 1750-1850*. He has been the director and faculty of the Honors study abroad program in China, Athens, Rome, Dubrovnik, Romania and Central Europe, Tunis and Paris.

**Michael S. Moore** (Ph.D. Drew University, 1988) is a senior pastor of Lincoln Heights Christian Church, President of Arizona Research Center for the Ancient Near East and a faculty associate in the Department of Religious Studies. He specializes in study of the Bible and the ancient Near East and has published widely. Among his books *Faith Under Pressure: A Study of Biblical Leaders in Conflict* (2003); *The Book of Ruth* (2000); *Reconciliation: A Study of Biblical Families in Conflict* (1994) and *The Balaam Traditions: Their Character and Development* (1990). His many essays and reviews have been published in *The Bible Today*; *Bulletin of Biblical Research*; *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*; *Hebrew Studies*; *Review of Biblical Literature*; *Revue Biblique*; *Interpretation: Journal of Biblical Literature*; *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*; *Theologische Zeitschrift*; and *Vetus Testamentum*.

**Rabbi Albert Plotkin** (Dh.L., Hebrew Union College, 1967; Rabbinic Ordination, Hebrew Union College, 1948) is Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Israel in Phoenix. In 1977 he was instrumental in creating the Jewish Studies program at ASU. Rabbi Plotkin published *Through the Years: My Favorite Sermons* (2008) and has been honored by many community and professional groups in Phoenix and around the country for his outstanding civic activities. He was given the National Award for Brotherhood by the National Conference and Christian and Jews. He was honored with the rank of lieutenant colonel by the National Civil Air Patrol for his 15 years of service on the National Chaplain Committee. Since his retirement in 1992 he has served as “visiting rabbi” in several rural Arizona communities offering them leadership and advice.

**Michael W. Rubinoff** (Ph.D., University of Denver, 1978) is a lecturer in Film and Media Studies. He specializes in 20<sup>th</sup> century American media and culture, and the relationship between media and politics. He is currently working on the first historical biography of Sigmund Romberg (1887-1951) and teaches courses on Jews in film and American popular culture. He published *Principle or Pragmatism: Interest Groups, PACS and Campaign Contributions in 1984* (1985) and his essays and book reviews appeared in *Western States Jewish History*; *Journal of American History*; *German Studies Review*; *The History Teacher*; *The Historian*; *German Studies Review*; *Commonsense*; *Election Politics*; and *Policy Review*. He plays a leading role in the Arizona Higher Education Holocaust Initiative, sponsored by a large federal grant to prepare high school teachers to incorporate the study of the Holocaust into the curriculum of public schools in Arizona.

**Judith Shemer** (M.A., Bar Ilan University, 2000) is an experienced Hebrew instructor. She has taught at Hebrew College in Newton Center, Mass.. Hebrew Coordinator and Teacher, and History Instructor at Jess Schwartz Jewish Community High School in Phoenix. She will be teaching several Hebrew language courses.

**VISITING PROFESSORS**

**Haim Avni** is Professor Emeritus of Contemporary Jewish History at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is also Academic Director of the Central Zionist Archives. He headed the Institute of Contemporary Jewry (1981-82; 1991-94), served as Academic Chairman of the International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization (1997-98) and as Co-Director (with Professor Judit Boxer-Liwerant) of the Judaic Studies Program at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City (1982-1997).

Professor Avni's scholarship focuses on Spain, Latin America, contemporary Jewry, Holocaust, Zionism

and modern Jewish history. He is the author of many books; among them: *Argentina and the Jews, a History of Jewish Migration* (1991; published in Spanish and Hebrew); *Emancipation and Jewish Education* (1985); *Spain, The Jews and Franco* (1982; published also in Spanish and Hebrew); *Argentina: The Promised Land – Baron de Hirsch's Colonization Project in Argentina* (1973 in Hebrew); *Argentine Jewry: Its Socio-Political Status and Organization Patterns* (1972, in Hebrew). His forthcoming volume is “Clients,” *Prostitutes and White Slavers in Argentina and in Israel* (2008). In addition to ASU, Professor Avni has held Visiting Professorships at the University of Maryland; University of Washington; Brandeis University; Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City; and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris.

Professor Avni will offer a mini-course on Jews in Latin America for the general public in March 2009. The course will be held at the University Club of Phoenix located near ASU at the Downtown Phoenix campus.

**Françoise Mirquet** (Ph.D., University of Louvain, Belgium, 2007) is Albert Plotkin Visiting Professor for 2008-09, specializing in biblical studies. She is currently an invited lecturer at the University of Louvain and has been a research assistant at Harvard Divinity School. Her essays appeared in *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*; *Review Théologique de Louvain*; *Colloquium Biblicum Lovaniense*; *Sémiotique et Bible*; *Études Théologique et Religieuses*; *Society of Biblical Literature*; and *European Association of Biblical Studies* among others. She has received grants and fellowship from *Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique* and *Belgian American Educational Foundation*.

**2008 BOOKS FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**



**BIBLIOGRAPHER, ASU LIBRARIES**

**Rachel Leket-Mor** (M.A. in Information Resources and Library Science, 2007) is the Bibliographer for Religious Studies, Philosophy, Jewish Studies, Global Studies at ASU Libraries. She has published essays on Jewish translation history in *Target: An International Journal on Translation Studies, Olam Katan* (Small World), *A Journal of Children's Literature Study*, and *Association of Jewish Libraries Newsletter* and has developed various public programs related to Jewish Studies at Hayden library. She manages an informational blog for faculty and students about new titles and services available at ASU libraries. Most recently she has been elected Vice President of the Association of Jewish Libraries.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Ilene Singer** (B.S. in Education, The Ohio State University, and certificate in accounting from University of Pittsburgh) is the newly appointed assistant director of Jewish Studies. Prior to joining ASU staff she was the executive director of Temple Chai in Scottsdale. In that capacity she oversaw the financial operation for an annual budget of \$4 million, supervised a staff of 12 people and managed public events and educational programs for the synagogue.

**Dawn Beeson** (B.S. in Design, concentration in graphic design, Arizona State University, 2001) has been administrative assistant for Jewish Studies since 2002. Her responsibilities have included design of promotional materials, office management, faculty, student and community support.

**2008 AWARDS FACULTY GRANTS**

**ARIEH SAPOSNIK, Jess Schwartz Assistant Professor of Modern Hebrew Culture, and YOAV GORTZAK, assistant professor of political science** received a \$45,000 grant from the **Institute of Humanities Research (IHR) Fellows Program** for a project entitled “**Religion, Politics and Violence.**” Their research will expand the understandings of “religion” and “conflict” as distinctive concepts and the meaning of “religious conflict.” The project seeks to understand the changing relationship between “sacred” and “profane” as categories that shape contemporary political, social, cultural and military conflict and the interface between them. Professors Saposnik and Gortzak “hope to shed new light on the shapes that religion, conflict, and religious conflict have taken, and develop a cross-disciplinary theoretical and empirical framework to study the role of religion in the intensity, duration, and severity of violent, political conflicts.” The project begins with Israel and the Israeli-Arab conflict as a first case-study and will later apply that theoretical and empirical model to other areas governed by religious conflict, such as Ireland, Indonesia, Tibet and India-Pakistan.

*The IHR ASU Fellows Program provides funding for two research teams to engage in a year of research related to an annual theme — the 2008-09 theme is “Humanities and Political Conflict” — to share their research and produce a strong application for a large external grant.*

**MARTIN BECK MATUŠTIK**  
*Radical Evil and Scarcity of Hope: Postsecular Meditations*  
Indiana University Press (May 2008)

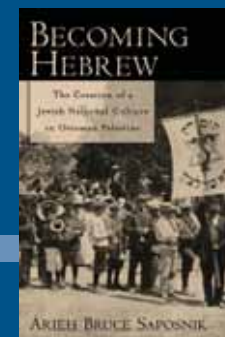
**DON C. BENJAMIN**  
*Stones and Stories: An Introduction to Archeology & the Bible*  
Fortress Press (November 2008)

**RACHEL G. FUCHS**  
*Contested Paternity: Constructing Families in Modern France*  
Johns Hopkins University Press (June 2008)

**HAVA TIROSH-SAMUELSON**  
*The Legacy of Hans Jonas: Judaism and the Phenomenon of Life*  
Brill (June 2008)

**NORBERT M. SAMUELSON**  
*Jewish Faith and Modern Science: On the Death and Rebirth of Jewish Philosophy*  
Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. (October 2008)

**ARIEH BRUCE SAPOSNIK**  
*Becoming Hebrew: the Creation of Hebrew National Culture in Ottoman Palestine*  
Oxford University Press (October 2008)



## FALL 2008 PROGRAMS

AUGUST 16 | *Public Lecture* | SHAI CHERRY, PH.D.

JUDAISM, CREATION, AND EVOLUTION: JEWISH RESPONSES TO SCIENCE

12:30 P.M. at Har Zion Congregation | 6140 E. Thunderbird Rd., Scottsdale

Co-sponsored by Har Zion Congregation

AUGUST 17-18 | *Organizational Meeting* | INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON JUDAISM AND SCIENCE

Establishment of the first International Society of Judaism and Science. Twenty scholars including physicists, medical researchers, psychologists, theologians and ethicists are involved. Organizers: **Norbert Samuelson** and **Rabbi Elliot Dorff** (American Jewish University).

Sponsored by the Harold & Jean Grossman Chair in Jewish Studies, with support from the Irving & Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism and the Department of Religious Studies

AUGUST - DECEMBER | *Discussion Group* | LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: JEWISH LITERATURE

Explore the best in contemporary and classic Jewish literature, and gain deeper insight into Jewish culture. Meet once per month, August through December. For information and online registration visit <http://asu.edu/lib/events/>

NOVEMBER 9 | *Women's Symposium* | WOMEN OF THE BOOK - IN THE JEWISH TRADITION OF LEARNING AND GROWING

This fourth annual women's symposium will take place at the Ina Levine Jewish Community Campus, Scottsdale. Advance registration required; invitations will be mailed.

Sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education, Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center and ASU Jewish Studies, in cooperation with Brandeis University National Women's Committee, National Council of Jewish Women and Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation.

NOVEMBER 16-17 | *Research Conference* | STARS OF DAVID: JEWS IN AMERICAN CINEMA

A conference on the contribution of Jews to the film industry as producers, actors and writers. Leading historians of film and cinema, film critics and cultural studies scholars will present original papers. The opening program will include a public screening of the classic film *His People* and discussion by the keynote speaker, Lester Friedman. Organizers: **Hava Tirosh-Samuelson** and **Daniel Bernardi** (Film & Media Studies)

Co-sponsored by Film & Media Studies

NOVEMBER 18 | *Public Lecture* | MEIR SHALEV

This leading Israeli author will speak on "Writing about Love in a War Zone." | <http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/shalev>

7 P.M. at Temple Emanuel | 5801 S. Rural Rd., Tempe

## SPRING 2008 PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 2 | *Public Lecture* | ECKSTEIN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: DAVID MYERS, UCLA

Public lectures on the meaning of Jewish history and approaches to Jewish historiography. Seating for the lectures is limited.

Campus lecture: 10:30 A.M. at Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403 | ASU at the Tempe Campus

Community lecture: 7 P.M. at Kerr Cultural Center | 6110 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale | R.S.V.P. (480) 727-6906

MARCH 17, 19, 24, 26 | *Mini-course* | HAIM AVNI, HEBREW UNIVERSITY

MINI-COURSE ON THE JEWS OF LATIN AMERICA: FOUR SESSIONS, TWO HOURS EACH, FOLLOWED BY DINNER.

5-7:30 P.M. at the University Club of Phoenix | Tuition \$120; plus books.

Pre-registration required. (480) 727-6906 or send an e-mail to [Jewish-Studies@asu.edu](mailto:Jewish-Studies@asu.edu)

APRIL 29-MAY 1 | *Research Conference* | VIEWING ELIJAH, VIEWING MENDELSSOHN

An international research conference at ASU with leading scholars on Felix Mendelssohn from the U.S., Canada and England. A week of performances, lectures and the conference will culminate with the public performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio, "Elijah." Organizers: **Hava Tirosh-Samuelson**, **David Schildkret** (School of Music) and **Joel Gereboff** (Department of Religious Studies).

Co-sponsored by the School of Music and the Department of Religious Studies.

MAY 19-27 | *Study Tour* | JEWISH BUENOS AIRES

A study tour of Jewish Buenos Aires will be led by professor **David Foster**. Friends of Jewish Studies will visit the major Jewish community in Latin America, and one of the largest communities in the world. Travelers will: meet daily with a prominent Argentine Jewish intellectual, artist, writer, or producer; take full advantage of the immense array of Argentine culture available in Buenos Aires; experience important aspects of general Buenos Aires culture such as tango, overall immigrant culture and the very active arts scene in the city. Space is limited.

To receive additional information about this trip call (480) 727-6906 or send an e-mail to [Jewish-Studies@asu.edu](mailto:Jewish-Studies@asu.edu)

## FALL 2009 PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 5-6 | *Conference* | REVIVAL AND NEW DIRECTIONS?: JEWISH ARTS IN GERMAN-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

An international research conference on revival of Jewish arts in German speaking countries. Leading art historians, cultural historians, writers and theorists from the U.S., Germany and Austria will participate. Organizers: **Hava Tirosh-Samuelson**, **Daniel Gilfillan**, **Naomi Jackson**, **Claudia Mesch** (Art History), and **Volker Benkert** (History).

FOR UP-TO-DATE NEWS & EVENT INFORMATION: <http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/news>

## JUDAICA RESOURCES AT ASU LIBRARIES

RACHEL LEKET-MOR, BIBLIOGRAPHER

The Judaica resources at ASU Libraries support teaching and research relevant to Jewish Studies on all ASU campuses. The collection offers a variety of reference tools, scholarly journals and books in print and electronic formats, microfilms, videos, DVDs and music CDs. These materials cover all areas of Jewish Studies research, with particular focus on the modern era, including areas of specialization such as:

- History • Religious Studies • Yiddish literature • Hebrew Literature • Political Science
- Zionism and Israel Studies • Latin American Judaica •

Collection highlights include the donated Edward and Mae Zipperstein Collection, emphasizing Jewish history, religion and education; the Kehillah (Community) Collection, which is especially strong in local histories of European Jewish communities; a Yizkor Book collection of 250 Holocaust memorial books; the donated Lockard Collection of American and Postcolonial Literature in Hebrew Translation; and the Israeli Popular Literature Collection, a one-of-a-kind collection of rare materials from the 1930s-current. Unique materials are available at the Special Collections department: a 19th Century Yemeni Torah scroll; a complete run of the anti-Dreyfus periodical *PSST...!*; and some facsimiles such as the Rothschild Miscellany.

Bibliographer Rachel Leket-Mor | (480) 965-2618 | [Rachel.Leket-Mor@asu.edu](mailto:Rachel.Leket-Mor@asu.edu)

ASU Libraries Judaica information online:

<http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/libraries>

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: JEWISH LITERATURE, a reading and discussion series, has been made possible through a grant from Nextbook and the American Library Association, and the local support of Jewish Studies at ASU. Explore the best in contemporary and classic Jewish literature, and gain deeper insight into Jewish culture. Meet once per month, August through December. For information and online registration visit <http://asu.edu/lib/events/>



Altertümer der Prager Josefstadt: israelitischer Friedhof, Alt-Neu-Schule und andere Synagogen: mit vierzehn abbildungen David J. Podiebrad. Prague: Druck bei S. Freund, 1862.

## SUPPORTING JEWISH STUDIES

ASU is a state-supported, public university committed to higher education in metropolitan Phoenix. In collaboration with the community at large, ASU seeks to improve the quality of life for the greater Phoenix community. The Friends of Jewish Studies is a network of people in Arizona and nationwide who want to see Jewish Studies thrive at ASU. Contributions to Jewish Studies support:

- ENDED CHAIRS
- VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS
- SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE
- STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS
- FACULTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
- LIBRARY JUDAICA RESOURCES COLLECTION
- FACULTY PUBLICATIONS
- GUEST SPEAKERS
- CONFERENCES
- STUDY ABROAD

GIVE YOUR SUPPORT TODAY.

<http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/support>

## JUDAISM & THE FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE

Jewish Studies seeks to establish a learning community for physicians who are interested in exploring "Judaism and the Frontiers of Science." The group will hold a monthly meeting to study the interface between Judaism and contemporary science and to explore how Jewish values and beliefs apply to challenges posed by the life sciences, medicine and the neurosciences.

For more information contact Professor Hava Tirosh-Samuelson at 480-965-7767.

2008-09 PROGRAMS

SPECIAL PROJECTS & FACULTY ACTIVITY

## NOTES FROM SERBIA, 2008

DAVID PICKUS

The Belgrade Jewish community today is small, but active. A few hundred people regularly take part in programs ranging from traditional religious services (with the Sephardic nusach) to alternative music concerts. Before the Second World War there were some 78,000 Jews in what was then called the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. The Nazis murdered all but 14,000, and at least half of the survivors emigrated soon after the war. Those remaining spent a generation under a communist regime which then, in its turn, split into various national (and nationalist) states: Serbia and Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia and more.

If all this sounds complicated, then you have some idea of how I spent this last academic year. From September of 2007 to June of 2008 I lived in Belgrade, Serbia as a United States government Fulbright scholar. My activities here were many: they included much time spent studying the Serbian language, a stint teaching U.S. history at the University of Belgrade (this is a story in itself), many public lectures and, above all, an effort to understand the complexities of Serbian Jewish history.

In order to summarize some of the results of my research, it is necessary to clarify something about the Jewish communities in the Balkan lands. This is a part of the world where many distinct peoples “smash up” against one another. Most people are familiar with the wars that have occasionally resulted from this process. However, it is essential to realize that violent conflict is only one aspect of the ongoing interaction between Balkan peoples. The Balkan nations have defined themselves in relation to each other, peacefully as well as bloodily, and it requires time and patience to untangle all the strands of the story.

As I see it, one of the more interesting and helpful ways to make sense of the Balkans is to look at the roles Jews have played in it. The Jews never were, and still are not, a national minority, in the sense that they made a claim to a regional state of their own (Zionism is another story).

Rather, they were a minority people, sometimes seen as a welcome part of a larger whole, sometimes seen as unwelcome outsiders.

From this perspective, I can explain my own specific research. I studied the role of philo-Semitism in Serbian life. Philo-Semitism, as a counterpart to anti-Semitism, is the friendship shown by non-Jews toward Judaism and the Jewish people. As I argue it, philo-Semitism has played, and continues to play, a significant and revealing role in modern Serbian life. The reasons for this importance are complex, but—in my opinion, one central fact stands out. The Serbs, at one point or another, have been in conflict with most of their neighbors over territory. And, as the headlines on Kosovo reveal, such conflicts continue to this day. With the Jews, on the other hand, the issue was never territory, but identity. This means that the Jews did not have to be understood as competitors. In differing circumstances they could be seen as allies or friends.

What, then, were these circumstances? What impact did this have on the Jewish community,

and what lessons can we draw from all this for Jewish history in general? Well, I have written up some of my findings in an essay called “Shapes of Serbian Philo-Semitism.” I hope that it will be published this coming year in a Serbian academic journal called *Sociologija*.

More importantly, I hope to keep discussing these issues with friends and colleagues at ASU. While the intricacies of Balkan life may be somewhat remote to us in Arizona, the question of how small and embattled peoples can find peace and friendship in the modern world is too important to ignore.



“A baby always has time for tenderness.”

## IMPROVING HOLOCAUST EDUCATION IN ARIZONA

MICHAEL RUBINOFF

In the fall of 2007, the Arizona Holocaust Institute Initiative was established through a partnership between Arizona State University Jewish Studies, Northern Arizona University’s Martin-Springer Institute and the University of Arizona’s Center for Judaic Studies.

With encouragement from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the initiative facilitates an interdisciplinary and interagency dialogue among faculty, teachers, and Holocaust educators to improve and foster Holocaust education throughout Arizona. Initially, the initiative’s emphasis was on teacher education, but all disciplines and students can gain from the lessons of the Holocaust.

The inaugural meeting took place at ASU on Feb. 1, 2008. Subsequent meetings in Tucson and a summer retreat in Flagstaff have expanded the focus by working with like-minded educators from other higher educational institutions, middle and high schools.

Gretchen McAllister, director of the Martin-Springer Institute, is pleased with the initiative’s first year: “We began this enterprise with three people, myself included. Now we have over 50 persons from a variety of disciplines on our e-mail list and these numbers just keep growing.”

The Bureaus of Jewish Education in Phoenix and Tucson are among the participants. Additionally, faculty from community colleges, private colleges and high schools are actively involved in the initiative.

Aside from bringing Holocaust educators together, the Arizona Holocaust Institute Initiative expects to produce several recommendations for consideration by the state universities, including: the implementation of new courses, adaptations for Holocaust units in existing courses, and improved communication between the colleges of liberal arts and sciences and education on Holocaust curriculum development.

Michael Rubinoff of ASU Film and Media Studies, sees the initiative as a pilot program for other states to follow: “We first got together with this idea through the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum regional summit in October 2007. I have already exchanged e-mails with colleagues in Colorado who seek to do a similar program.”

For more information on the Arizona Holocaust Institute Initiative and ways to participate or contribute to its mission, contact Gretchen McAllister ([Gretchen.McAllister@asu.edu](mailto:Gretchen.McAllister@asu.edu)) and/or Michael Rubinoff ([mrubinoff@asu.edu](mailto:mrubinoff@asu.edu)).

### FACULTY & STUDENTS: PICTURE THIS!

Ready for the fall semester: Jewish Studies presents an online digital gallery containing hundreds of images which represent Jewish civilization from biblical times to the present. Images — indexed and cataloged chronologically and geographically — are available via Blackboard for instructional use by ASU faculty and students only.

We are most grateful to Michael Lowe for his diligence in creating this new resource!

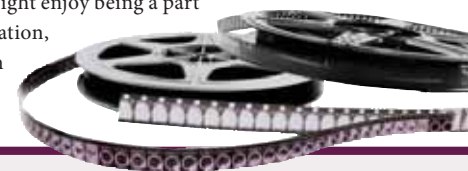
For more information about the gallery or how to gain access, please contact Dawn.Beeson@asu.edu

### PRESERVING THE PAST ON VIDEO

The Arizona Jewish Historical Society is in the beginning stages of a unique and important project: to create complete video histories of 100 individuals in the community. These histories will complement the 200+ audio oral histories already in the archives (<http://www.azjhs.org>).

This project is funded in part by grants from the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix and the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix, with additional support from various additional community organizations, including Jewish Studies, Film and Media Studies and the Department of Religious Studies at ASU.

Filming will begin in September. Individuals who are interested in preserving the history of the Jewish community in Arizona might enjoy being a part of this project. For additional information, please contact the Arizona Jewish Historical Society at (602) 241-7870.



**JEWISH STUDIES CONGRATULATES OUR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 2008-09 ACADEMIC YEAR!**

**JESS SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Casey Enright and Natalie Wilcoxon

**MORRIS & JULIA KERTZER SCHOLARSHIP**

Rachel Malis, Carolyn Moss and Lisa Parisi

**GREAT STUDENTS GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP**

Ana Sprintzik

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*We are grateful for the generosity of the metropolitan Phoenix Jewish community which has enabled Jewish Studies to offer scholarships to outstanding students interested in all facets of Jewish culture.*

**BENJAMIN GOLDBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**CABOT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**

**DESERT FOOTHILLS JEWISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

**GREAT STUDENTS GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP**

**HAROLD ALPERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**MORRIS & JULIA KERTZER SCHOLARSHIP**

**RESEARCH, STUDY & TRAVEL GRANT**

**SEYMOUR H. JACOBS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**Scholarship information and application forms available online at:**

<http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/scholarships> (*undergraduate*)

<http://jewishstudies.clas.asu.edu/gradscholarships> (*graduate*)

# STUDY IN ISRAEL FOR ASU CREDIT!

This is an exciting development for ASU students interested in studying abroad in Israel. Opportunities are available in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Haifa and Be'er Sheva, offering a variety of course subjects for full-time students, with sophomore standing or above.

Students who are interested in learning more about these study abroad programs can visit the ASU Study Abroad Office Web site: <http://ipo.asu.edu/asu>. Click on "Search for Programs" on the left, and select "Israel."

Students may also attend informational sessions each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 3:30 p.m. in the Study Abroad Office located in Tempe Center, suite 150.

To schedule an appointment, contact Michael Girsch, Program Coordinator for Israel:

**MICHAEL.GIRSCH@ASU.EDU**  
**(480) 965-5965**



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