Malaise in the ASSJ  
Message from Steven M. Cohen, President  

In many respects, our field - the scholarly study of contemporary Jewry - is remarkably vibrant and healthy. ASSJ members (and related scholars) continue to produce numerous, significant and illuminating works, often exploring uncharted areas with innovative methods and approaches. The amount and variety of applied social research opportunities continue to grow (it seems) as more communal and philanthropic agencies make social research a staple of their functioning. Journalists regularly turn to social scientists for our work and our comment on the issues of the day. Students are being trained and advancing, even in the face of diminished academic job prospects. Rela Geffen reports continued interest in our book series (Studies of Jews in Society) and Harriet Hartman reports likewise for Contemporary Jewry - although more books for one and more articles for the latter are always welcome! We over-supplied the AJS with paper submissions (several seemingly good ones were turned down for lack of room on the program) and we've expanded our routine of scholarly meetings to include the Network for Research in Jewish Education annual meeting in June as well as panels at other associations that are regularly organized by our members and others throughout the year. The ASSJ Newsletter that Ira creates and produces is a gem to behold. (Time to say: Thank you Rela, Harriet, and Ira.)

So if all is so peachy, what's not to like?

First, we're getting older. Now, that's generally a good thing given the alternative, but I'm not making an individual observation here. Rather, I'm speaking collectively. As my study for the AJS clearly demonstrated, ours is the oldest profession (no, not that way - although some observers do question our scholarly objectivity at times) in the Jewish Studies array. We have proportionately more
scholars over 60 and fewer under 40 than any other major field in Jewish Studies in North America. In (large) part, this age profile reflects the shrinking job market for social scientists generally. In part, it reflects a healthy situation: Far more than other Jewish Studies specialties, social scientists can turn to sources of employment other than academia for research support and employment.

But, aside from the impact of our aging demography, I'm sensing several troubling signs of weakness or lack of enthusiasm in our Association. The list-serve conversation is sparse and sporadic. We've had trouble making administrative tasks happen. Few (no?) people are proposing action initiatives by way of the ASSJ. I'm sure we can cajole some people to take on officers' roles in the next two years, but I don't anticipate a flood of interest.

In 1979, Jimmy Carter's "malaise speech" is thought to have harmed his re-election chances. But, unlike Carter, owing to term limits, I don't stand for re-election. So, I can freely make two observations: 1) I'm concerned about an apparent malaise in our Association. And 2) I welcome discussion of the issue and some ideas of how to revive a spirit of engagement and enthusiasm that I sensed more keenly three to four years ago Steve34NYC@AOL.com.

Table of Contents

Jonathan Sarna. 3
Upcoming Conferences. 4
The American Jewish Year Book. 5
News from Members. 6
ASSJ Sklare Award. 16
ASSJ Berman Award. 17
The ASSJ. 18
ASSJ Book Series. 19
Contemporary Jewry 20
Berman Jewish Data Bank. 22
Berman Jewish Policy Archive. 25
Members in the News. 26
Brandeis Publications. 28
JPR Publications. 29
Obituary. 32
Australia Meeting. 33
Interfaith Families Flyer. 34

Our Website: www.assj.org
Our Facebook Page: Click Here
Jonathan D. Sarna received The Lee Max Friedman Award Medal, which is awarded biennially, of the American Jewish Historical Society on June 20 at its Scholar's Conference. It recognizes distinguished service in the field of American Jewish history, which is broadly defined to include exceptional research, teaching, support for Jewish public history, and publications for both a popular and professional readership.

Professor Sarna is the Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History, Chair of the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program at Brandeis University, and University Professor.

Jonathan Sarna came of age as an historian when the field of American Jewish history itself was changing in important ways, and his work has been foundational in that transformation. He has made remarkable contributions that engaged social history, cultural history, and political history as well. He has worked across critical periods of American and Jewish American history, and his contributions to 19th century history are as important as they are to the 20th century, as are his reflections on the 21st century. He has changed and reformulated the scholarship about Jews, Jewish culture, American Judaism, and Jewish ideas of the last three centuries. The breadth and depth of his work are the true hallmarks of his distinction.

The thirty books that he has authored, co-authored, edited, and co-edited reflect not only the breadth of his historical interests, but the many audiences for whom he writes. American Judaism: A history, that marked the 350th anniversary of Jewish immigration to the United States, was not only widely recognized for its importance, but it was very widely read as well. This powerfully synoptic work offered a three-century history of American Jewish experience that was unique for the extent to which it was grounded in American culture and history. American Jews and Judaism emerge from this work in their full complexity. The book is a contribution to religious history, ethnic history, and to the social sciences as well, all fields and methods on which Sarna drew. It received the National Jewish Book Councils Book of the year, among many other awards and recognition.

Jonathan's important works on Abraham Lincoln published over the last three years have similarly made critical interventions in the history of the Civil War and Lincoln's own life, and have attracted a broad readership, as well. As exciting and far-reaching as his more recent work are, his earliest work remains fundamental to establishing the field of American Jewish history.

Sarna also has been constantly attuned to the value and significance of the place of museums and public history in the study of American Jewry. He led an effort with colleagues to create the permanent exhibition of the National Museum of Jewish History in Philadelphia, and continues as its Chief Historian. His work on Lincoln appeared as an exhibition at the New York Historical Society, and he was one of the key consultants of "Haven and Home, the exhibition marking the 350th anniversary of Jewish immigration" at the Library of Congress, which has traveled to other museums for decades. He chairs the Academic Advisory Board and the Editorial Board of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center for the American Jewish Archives. He has served as President of the Academic Council of the American Jewish Historical Society, and just completed his terms as President of the Association for Jewish Studies.

He is a devoted teacher, adviser, and mentor not only to students at Brandeis, but to students all over the world with interests in American Jewish history. He provides critical intellectual guidance, but mentoring as well.
Jonathan was also a recipient of the Marshall Sklare award and consistently integrates social science research into his work and historicizes the work of social scientists. He is a public intellectual and advocate for scholarly approaches to understanding the issues of Jewish life throughout the world.

**Upcoming Conferences**

- ASSJ at the Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, December 18-20, 2016
- Australian Association for Jewish Studies, Sydney, February 12-13, 2017
- Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture, Boston, Feb. 24-25, 2017
- Western Jewish Studies Association, TBA
- Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, TBA
- Network for Research in Jewish Education, TBA
- American Jewish Historical Society, TBA
- Institute for Israel Studies, TBA
- Association for the Sociology of Religion, Seattle, August 19-21, 2016
- Southern Jewish Historical Society, Natchez, Mississippi, November 4-6, 2016
- Society for the Anthropology of Religion, No meeting in 2016
- World Union of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, July or August 2017

Anyone who knows of a Conference that might be of interest to our members, please send me the name of that Conference and I will include it in the future.
The American Jewish Year Book is published by Springer with the cooperation of The Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry. Edited by Arnold Dashefsky and Ira Sheskin.

Part I of the 2015 volume to be published in December 2016 has a special section on the Pew A Portrait of American Orthodox Jews" with 12 chapters: Orthodox Judaism in the US: Retrospect and Prospect (Arnold Dashefsky and Ira M. Sheskin); A Portrait of American Orthodox Jews: A Further Analysis of the 2013 Survey of US Jews (Pew Research Center); The Looming Orthodox Ascendancy: Policy Implications (Steven Bayme); The Orthodox Paradox: Numbers, Confidence, and Anxiety (Mijal Bitton); Jews: The Ever Dying, Ever Renewing, People (Lynn Davidman); Pew's "Statistical Narrative" of Orthodox Separateness: Limitations and Alternatives (Adam S. Ferziger) Don't Underestimate the Hybridity of America's Orthodox Jews (Sylvia Barack Fishman); What I Learned from the Pew Report on Orthodox Jews in America (Samuel C. Heilman); Re-imaging/imagining Pew's 2016 Portrait of Orthodoxy (Debra R. Kaufman); Missing from the Pew Report: Attention to Gender (Elana Maryles Sztokman); Insights and Questions from the Pew Report on America's Orthodox Jews (Chaim I. Waxman); Response: Pew Research Center (Alan Cooperman, Gregory A. Smith, and Becka A. Alper).

Part II contains chapters on The Jewish Family (Harriet Hartman); American Jews and the Domestic Arena (Miriam Sanua Dalin); American Jews and the International Arena: US-Israel Relations in a Crisis, a Hiccup, or a Healthy Alliance? (Mitchell Bard), United States Jewish Population, 2016 (Ira M. Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky), Canadian Jewish Population, 2016 (Charles Shahar) and World Jewish Population, 2016 (Sergio DellaPergola)

Part III contains up-to-date listings of Jewish Federations, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish social service agencies, national Jewish organizations, Jewish day schools, Jewish overnight camps, Jewish museums, Holocaust museums, Israeli consulates, national Jewish periodicals and broadcast media, local Jewish periodicals, Jewish studies, holocaust and genocide studies programs, Israel studies programs, as well as Jewish social work programs in institutions of higher education, major books, journals, and scholarly articles on the North American Jewish communities, websites and organizations for research on North American Jewry, and major Judaic research and holocaust research libraries. Finally, the volume contains a list of major events in the North American Jewish communities, a list of persons honored by the Jewish and general communities, and obituaries for the past year.

While the list price for the 2016 volume will probably be $300, ASSJ members and others ordering through Arnie Dashefsky, can take advantage of the bulk rate price of $100. Arnold.Dashefsky@uconn.edu

The first three issues of the Year Book (2012-2104) have more than 12,000 chapter downloads from the Springer website. Thanks to all of our authors!
News from Members

Arnold Dashefsky
University of Connecticut

Publications

Panel Chair/Organizer

Sergio DellaPergola
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Articles in journals and collective books:
● Que deviendra le peuple juif au XXIe siècle? Le point de vue de la démographie. Pardès, 56, Quel avenir pour la pensée juive de langue française? 2015, 243-266.
● La demografía de Israel y de Palestina: presente y futuro. Revista Mexicana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales, 60 (224), 2015, 221-250.
● Ebrei di tutto il mondo contatevi. Israele e il libro, Limes, Rivista italiana di geopolitica, 10, 2015, 175-189.
● With S. Grubanov-Boskovic, Two Mediterranean Populations: Israel and Italy Compared, Il Politico, 80, 2-3, 2015, 103-140.
● Massimo Della Pergola family’s during the Shoah: Persecution, resilience, heroism and providence, in Sheskin. Evron-Cassuto

**Conference papers and public presentations:**
- The Future of Comparative and Integrative Study of Jewish Life in the Americas. Austin, TX, The University of Texas, Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies, Symposium *Jewish Life in the Americas*, 2015.
- Marriages of Jews with non-Jews: world overview and first data on frequency in Israel. Tel Aviv, Tel Aviv University, Seminar *Interrmarriage: the mounting wave*, 2015.
- Launching Symposium, Pew survey of Israelis. Tel Aviv, INSS, 2016.
- Immigration and Absorption Committee, Knesset, 2016.

**Other activities:**
- Member of Yad Vashem Committee on the Righteous of the Nations.

**Rachel Ellis**
Institute for Jewish Policy Research

**Dissertation in the Pipeline**
- My dissertation, *Conviction Behind Bars: Religion and Faith among Incarcerated Women*, is a 12-month ethnographic study of religious life in a U.S. state women’s prison. Over the course of one year, for two to four days per week, from two to nine hours per day, I observed religious (Jewish, conservative Protestant, Catholic, and Sunni) and secular voluntary programs in prison as well as informal interactions among inmates, staff, and corrections officers. I amassed nearly 900 single-spaced pages of field notes for just under 500 hours of observation. I demonstrate how, central to many inmates’ daily activities, religion impacts their freedoms and privileges by providing material benefits, social outcomes, and an alternative framework for interpreting incarceration. This research has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Association for the Sociology of Religion, the Religious Research Association, the Louisville Institute, the National Science Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and a 2016-2017 completion fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies.

**Publications / Presentations of Interest**
Calvin Goldscheider
Brown University

A data-based analysis of social life and social problems in contemporary Israel that draws a vivid portrait of a dynamic and rapidly changing society.

This volume illuminates changes in Israeli society over the past generation. Goldscheider identifies three key social changes that have led to the transformation of Israeli society in the twenty-first century: the massive immigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union, the economic shift to a high-tech economy, and the growth of socioeconomic inequalities inside Israel. To deepen his analysis of these developments, Goldscheider focuses on ethnicity, religion, and gender, including the growth of ethnic pluralism in Israel, the strengthening of the Ultra-Orthodox community, the changing nature of religious Zionism and secularism, shifts in family patterns, and new issues and challenges between Palestinians and Arab Israelis given the stalemate in the peace
process and the expansions of Jewish settlements.

Combining demography and social structural analysis, the author draws on the most recent data available from the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics and other sources to offer scholars and students an innovative guide to thinking about the Israel of the future.

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of contemporary Israel, the Middle East, sociology, demography and economic development, as well as policy specialists in these fields. It will serve as a textbook for courses in Israeli history and in the modern Middle East. Click here for more.

David Graham
Institute for Jewish Policy Research

- David Graham is centrally involved in GEN16 in Australia (not under the auspices of JPR). (The Jewish communities of Australia and New Zealand will be running a national Jewish community study in the second half of 2016 called GEN16. It is being run jointly by JCA in Sydney and Monash University in Melbourne and represents only the second time such a nationwide study has been carried out here, the first occasion being GEN08 in 2008. The information will complement the rich data these countries are already in receipt of due to the inclusion of a religion question in their respective national censuses.)

Harriet Hartman
Rowan University


Samuel Heilman
CUNY


Ariela Keysar
Trinity College

Research
- Co-Principal Investigator, The Class of 1995/5755 Longitudinal Study, 2016-2018

Publications

Presentations
Presentations at Religious Research Association Meeting, Atlanta, 2016

- Atheism and Nonreligion: Definitions and Global Trends, Ariela Keysar
- "I think for myself": American Millennials' Religious and Spiritual Life, Ariela Keysar
- Freedom of Choice: Religion and Gender in a Global Perspective, Ariela Keysar, and Thea Piltzecker, Young Adults and Religion in a Global Perspective (YARG)
- "I don't know enough": Religious and Political Illiteracy Among Millennials, Thea Piltzecker, and Ariela Keysar

Helen Kim
Whitman College

Publications:

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz
Jewish Federations of North America


Keren R. McGinity
Brandeis, Hebrew College, Love & Tradition Institute

Appointment
- Named Director of Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement, a new graduate program at Hebrew College
Podcasts
- New Books in Religion, “Marrying Out: Jewish Men, Intermarriage, and Fatherhood”

Webinar
- “Gender Matters: Using A New Lens to Better Understand Intermarriage and Engagement,” Newton, MA, 23 May 2016, Hebrew College

Award
- Merle Orren Scholars Transformation Award, Temple Emanuel, Newton, June 2016

Presentations
- “How Can Educators Best Engage Intermarried Jews and Their Children?” Workshop Leader, National Havurah Committee Summer Institute, Rindge, NH, August 1-7, 2016.

Deborah Dash Moore
University of Michigan

- Taking Stock: Cultures of Enumeration in Contemporary Jewish Life (The Modern Jewish Experience) Michal Kravel-Tovi (Editor), Deborah Dash Moore (Editor)
Jonathan Sarna was appointed University Professor at Brandeis, one of only five in its history. He also was awarded the Lee Max Friedman Award by the American Jewish Historical Society for "distinguished service" to the field and he was selected by the Algemeiner as one of the top 100 people positively influencing Jewish life in 2016. His *Lincoln & The Jews: A History* (with Benjamin Shapell) won the Civil War Roundtable’s Barondess/Lincoln Award. Winner as well as The Lincoln Group of New York’s 2015 Award of Achievement.; and it was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award in American Jewish Studies and for the 2016 Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize. In April, Sarna delivered a major lecture at the celebration of 100 years of Jewish life at Princeton; it can be viewed here:

Additional Accolades
From Brandeis Now
From JTA


Randal Schnoor
York University


Ira Sheskin
University of Miami, Geography and Director of the Jewish Demography Project of the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies

Book

Publications

Presentations
Ira M. Sheskin. The Jewish Vote in 2016 at the Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, University of Miami (2016).

Stuart Schoenfeld, Peter Friedman, Moshe Kornfeld, Patricia Munro, Bruce Phillips, Randall Schnoor, & Ira Sheskin at the Conference on Research in Jewish Education “Emergent Issues in the Education of Urban Jews,” Towson University (2016).

In Progress

I am currently working on community studies in Broward, Houston, and Pinellas, and Omaha.

Gila Silverman
University of Arizona

"To Believe or Not to Believe, that is Not the Question: The Complexity of Jewish Beliefs about God" by Gila Silverman, Kathryn Johnson and Adam Cohen, Psychology of Religion and Spirituality (May 2016).

"I'll Say a Mi Sheberach For You: Prayer, Healing and Identity among Liberal American Jews" by Gila Silverman, Contemporary Jewry, (published Online First, March 2016)

Chaim Waxman
Hadassah Academic College

Chaim I. Waxman is the Chair of the newly-established Department of Behavior Sciences at Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem.

Morton Weinfeld
University of Arizona

Morton Weinfeld is offering a new course at McGill University, called Suspect Minorities in Canada. This is the first Sociology course of its kind in Canada. The course will focus on various minority groups that in recent times have been seen as suspect (not just different or inferior), as dangerous to the security or stability of the polity and the society. Jews have been such a case in point via dual loyalty, etc. The course will also deal with other religious and ethnic groups, such as Japanese in World War Two, French and English, First Nations, Muslims, Tamils, Sikhs, and even LGBTQ, communists, and hippies.
Joëlle Bahloul
Indiana University

I have worked for over forty years on the ethnography of Jews in France, with an early focus on Sephardic immigrants from North Africa. In particular, my research has centered on family and gender, domestic religion, collective memory, migration, post-colonial Jewish diasporic identity in late 20th century Europe. In the past decade, I have also developed ethnographic research on Sephardic Jews in the NYC area. In France, I have recently focused on the completion of a fieldwork project on the historic Jewish quarter in Paris, which will include an ethnographic film.

Here is a sample of my recent, and less recent, publications.

- 2010 "Colonial History, the Jews and Europe," in Anthropology News, S.A.E. column, Vol. 51, no. 9, December, p. 44.

List of recent invited lectures and conference papers:

Lars Dencik & Karl Marosi
Roskilde University (Denmark)

Different Antisemities: on Three Distinct Forms of Antisemitism in Contemporary Europe—with a Special Focus on Sweden
Published as a Position Paper by The Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, Tel Aviv University, 11 June 2016.
ASSJ Sklare Award

The Marshall Sklare Award is an annual honor of the Association for the Scientific Study of Jewry (ASSJ). The ASSJ seeks to recognize "a senior scholar who has made a significant scholarly contribution to the social scientific study of Jewry." In most cases, the recipient has given a scholarly address. In recent years, the honored scholar has presented the address at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies. The award is named in memory of the "founding father of American Jewish sociology" Marshall Sklare (1912-1992), who had been Klutznick Family Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies and Sociology at Brandeis University.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Sidney Goldstein (Brown, demography)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Seymour Martin Lipset (Hoover Institute and George Mason University, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Celia Heller (NYU, history)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Daniel Elazar (Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, Temple University, and Bar Ilan University, political science)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Samuel Klausner (University of Pennsylvania, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Walter Zenner (SUNY at Albany, anthropology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Bernard Reisman (Brandeis, communal service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Sergio DellaPergola (Hebrew University, demography)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Charles Liebman (Bar Ilan, political science)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Calvin Goldscheider (Brown, sociology and demography)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Jonathan Sarna (Brandeis, history)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Samuel Heilman (CUNY, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Egon Mayer (Brooklyn College, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Elihu Katz (University of Pennsylvania and Hebrew University, communications)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan, history)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Barry Chiswick (University of Illinois at Chicago, economics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Paul Ritterband (Haifa University, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Charles Kadushin (Brandeis, sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Steven M. Cohen (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota, anthropology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University, social psychology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Morton Weinfeld (McGill University, Sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis, Sociology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (NYU, Performance Studies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Bruce Phillips (USC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSJ Berman Award

The Mandell L. Berman Service Award is given periodically to a civic or business leader or an academic for a career of distinguished commitment to the social scientific study of Jews either through service or financial support of such research. Named for a great philanthropist and supporter of the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry and various other research entities, the Berman Service Award recognizes the work of leaders in many sectors of the Jewish community whose efforts have advanced the social science of Jewry.

Berman Award Winners

2010 Mandell “Bill” Berman Lifetime Achievement Award
2011 Irene and Eddie Kaplan (Washington, DC)
2012 Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut, Storrs, Sociology)
2013 Rela Mintz Geffen, Gratz College
2015 Barry Shrage, CJP, Greater Boston’s Jewish Federation

Bill Berman
The Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry is a cross-disciplinary organization whose research concerns the Jewish people throughout the world.

The ASSJ encourages and facilitates contact among researchers, supports the dissemination of research, and assists in the cultivation of younger scholars.

The organization's journal, Contemporary Jewry, is issued three times per year. All social science disciplines are represented, including anthropology, demography, economics, geography, history, Jewish education, political science, social psychology, social work, and sociology.

Our members are primarily academics, but also policy analysts, communal professionals and activists, and are engaged in a wide range of scholarly activity, applied research, and the links between them.

www.assj.org

ASSJ Executive Board

President
Steven M. Cohen, HUC-JIR

Vice-president
Sarah Benor, HUC

Treasurer
Leonard Saxe, Brandeis

Secretary
Matthew Boxer, Brandeis

Board members
Barry Chiswick, George Washington University
Sergio DellaPergola, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Helen Kim, Whitman College
Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz, JFNA
Randal Schnoor, York University
Jennifer Thompson, California State University, Northridge

Contemporary Jewry editor
Harriet Hartman, Rowan University

Book Series editor
Rela Geffen, Gratz College

Newsletter editor
Ira Sheskin, University of Miami

Immediate Past President
Harriet Hartman, Rowan University

Israeli representative
Lilach Lev-Ari, Oranim Academic College

European representative
Jonathan Boyd, Institute for Jewish Policy Research

Latin American representative
Judit Liwerant, National Autonomous University of Mexico

Australia-New Zealand representative
David Graham, University of Sydney, Australia

Student representative
Mijal Bitton
ASSJ Book Series

The first four books will be published by the University of Nebraska; all others by Springer. Send all proposals to Rela Geffen, Series editor (rela1@aol.com) (215) 568-0967.

The editorial board includes:
- Regine Azria, L’Ecole des Haute Etudes en Science Sociales, France
- Steven M. Cohen, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
- Calvin Goldscheider, Brown University
- Harriet Hartman, Rowan University
- Samuel Heilman, Queens College
- Debra Kaufman, Northeastern University
- Judith Bokser Liwerant, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College
- Uzi Rebhun, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
- Leonard Saxe, Brandeis University
- Ira Sheskin, University of Miami
- Diane Wolf, University of California at Davis

This series focuses on social scientific studies of Jewry, taking a broad perspective on “social science,” to include anthropology, communications, demography, economics, education, ethnography, geography, history, politics, population, social psychology, and sociology, as well as interdisciplinary studies among these fields or between these fields and a related field. The series is especially interested in publishing works that contribute to the understanding of Jews in society and/or bridge diversities within Jewry or between Jewry and non-Jewry.

In Print:
- Falafel Nation, by Yael Raviv. Home Page
- Toward an Anthropology of Nation Building and Unbuilding in Israel by Fran Markowitz, Stephen Sharot, Moshe Shokeid, and Alex Weingrod Home Page
- JewAsian by Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt Home Page
- South African Jews in Israel by Rebeca Rajman Home Page
Contemporary Jewry

Contemporary Jewry, the journal of the ASSJ since 1975, serves as the single source for the social scientific consideration of world Jewry, its institutions, trends, character, and concerns. In its pages can be found work by leading scholars and important new researchers from around the world. While much relevant scholarship about Jewry is published in general social science journals, as well as more narrowly focused periodicals, no other single scholarly journal focuses primarily on the social scientific study of Jewry. The distinguished editorial board reflects the multi-disciplinary nature of the journal.

www.springer.com/humanities/religious+studies/journal/12397

Table of Contents for Contemporary Jewry, Volume 36, Issue 1

- Editor’s Introduction, Harriet Hartman
- Comments in Honor of Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett’s Marshall Sklare Award, Samuel Kassow
- An Ethnographer in Poland: On Experience as a Mode of Engaging Jewishness, Jeffrey Shandler
- Introduction to the Special Issue on Jewish Education, Ari Kelman
- American Jewish Children's Thoughts and Feelings About the Jewish State: Laying the Groundwork for a Developmental Approach to Israel Education, Sivan Zakai
- Negotiating Critical Analysis and Collective Belonging: Jewish American Students Write the History of Israel, Jonah Hassenfeld
- American Jewry at Risk: "A Time to Act" and the Prioritization of Jewish Education, Jonathan Krasner
- Financial Constraints on Intensive Jewish Education: The Interactive Effects of Financial Capacity and Jewish Connections, Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz

Report

- Research Updates, Helen Kim

Book Reviews

- Nelly Las, Jewish Voices in Feminism: Transnational Perspectives reviewed by Joyce Antler
- Cynthia Kaplan Shamash, The Strangers We Became: Lessons in Exile from one of Iraq's Last Jews reviewed by Vital Levey
- Yael Raviv, Falafel Nation: Cuisine and the Making of National Identity in Israel, reviewed by Jenna Joselit

On-Line First None as of this writing.

- How Distinct Are American Jews, Allan Mazer
- “I'll Say a Mi Sheberach for You”: Prayer, Healing and Identity Among Liberal American Jews, Gila Silverman
Contemporary Jewry is being read!

Full Text Article Requests On-Line

2011: 7,916
2012: 7,060
2013: 7,802
2014: 6,958
Total: 29,736

Editor-in-Chief: Harriet Hartman, Sociology, Rowan University hartman@rowan.edu
Book Review Editor: Daniel Parmer, Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University dparmer@brandeis.edu
Research Editor: Helen Kim, Sociology, Whitman College, kimh2@whitman.edu

Editorial Board:
Richard Alba, CUNY Graduate Center
David Assaf, Tel Aviv University
Joelle Bahioul, Indiana University
Sara Bunin Benor, Hebrew Union College, LA
Yoram Bilu, Hebrew University
Paul Burstein, University of Washington
Barry R. Chiswick, George Washington University
Carmel Chiswick, George Washington University
Steven M. Cohen, Hebrew Union College, NY
Arnold Dashefsky, University of Connecticut, Storrs
Sergio DellaPergola, Hebrew University
Adam Ferziger, Bar-Ilan University
Menachem Friedman, Bar-Ilan University
Rela Mintz Geffen, Gratz College
Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan
Allen Avi Glicksman, Philadelphia Corporation for Aging
Calvin Goldscheider, Brown University
Deborah Grant, Brandeis University
Samuel Heilman, Queens College
William Helmreich, CUNY City College
Charles Kadushin, Brandeis University
Debra Kaufman, Northeastern University
Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University
Ariela Keysar, Trinity College
Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, NYU
Barry Kosmin, Trinity College
Deborah Dash Moore, University of Michigan
Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College, LA
Riv-Ellen Prell, University of Minnesota
Uzi Rebhun, Hebrew University
Jonathan Sarna, Brandeis University
Theodore Sasson, Middlebury College
Leonard Saxe, Brandeis University
William Shaffir, McMaster University
Jeffrey Shandler, Rutgers University
Ira Sheskin, University of Miami
Chaim I. Waxman, Professor Emeritus from Rutgers University
Yaacov Yadgar, Bar-Ilan University
DataBank Celebrates 30th Anniversary

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Berman Jewish DataBank. Established in 1986 as the North American Jewish Data Bank at the City University of New York, the DataBank was also housed and managed at Brandeis University and the University of Connecticut before moving to The Jewish Federations of North America in 2013.

In a DataBank Brief on the anniversary, founding funder Bill Berman said, “I am thrilled that the DataBank has reached its 30th year of operation. What started as a call to preserve local Jewish community studies has been transformed into an important resource for learning about and planning for the North American Jewish community.”

Today, the DataBank holds hundreds of U.S. national, local, comparative and topical studies; Canadian national and local studies; world and U.S. Jewish population reports; and many other resources. We formally collaborate with the Berman Jewish Policy Archive at Stanford University and the University of Connecticut Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life. An oversight committee is helping us devise new policies to guide our continued development.

The current DataBank management wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the six previous directors - Barry Kosmin, Egon Mayer z’l, Jim Schwartz, Mervin Verbit, Leonard Saxe and Arnold Dashefsky - all of whom contributed greatly to the DataBank’s advancement. Today’s DataBank is a reflection of their dedicated service.

New DataBank Holdings and Resources

In the past year, the DataBank has added numerous items to its collection as part of its continuing effort to serve and inform its stakeholders. The DataBank’s new materials include:

- The 2016 American Muslim Poll with comparisons to American Jews, Catholics and Protestants. The poll was sponsored by the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding and overseen by principal investigators Dalia Mogahed and Fouad Pervez.

- Two 2015 polls on the U.S.-Iran nuclear agreement, one conducted by Steven M. Cohen for the Jewish Journal and one conducted by GBA Strategies for J Street.

- Reports on the 2015 U.S. Jewish population (by Ira Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky); Canadian Jewish population (by Charles Shahar) and World Jewish population (by Sergio DellaPergola). Maps from the U.S. and Canadian reports were posted separately. The three reports initially appeared as chapters in the 2015 American Jewish Year Book, published by Springer. The DataBank is pleased to thank Springer for permission to post the reports and make them available to DataBank stakeholders, and the Year Book editors, Arnold Dashefsky and Ira Sheskin, for facilitating the arrangement between Springer and the DataBank.

- The American Jewish Committee’s 2015 Annual Survey of American Jewish Opinion, conducted by GfK Research.

- The 2014 Demographic and Attitudinal Survey of the Jewish Population of New Mexico, commissioned by the Jewish Federation of New Mexico and conducted by Marina Arbetman-Rabinowitz and Benjamin Kupersmit. This is the first-ever Jewish community study in New Mexico.
23 The Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry Vol. 8 Num. 1

- The 2014 Survey of AJS (Association for Jewish Studies) Members, commissioned by the AJS with funding from the American Academy of Jewish Research and conducted by Steven M. Cohen.

- The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington’s 2014 Findings from a Survey of 1000 Jewish Residents in the Greater Washington DC Area.

- The Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey’s 2013 Jewish Community Needs Assessment Study of Southern New Jersey.

- The Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas’ 2013 Dallas Jewish Community Scan.

- Numerous reports on Canadian Jewry prepared by Charles Shahar from the 2011 Canadian Household Survey, including reports on Holocaust survivors, immigrants and language (links to all reports start here). The reports were sponsored by the Jewish Federations of Canada-UIA and various Canadian Jewish Federations.

- Slides decks comparing study results from communities served by small and intermediate size Jewish Federations, prepared by the DataBank. Separate decks focus on social, demographic and economic characteristics, Jewish connections, and human and social service needs.

In addition, the DataBank has added study pages with links to the following:


- A 2013 report on economic insecurity in the Rhode Island Jewish community, commissioned by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island and conducted by the Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University.

New Mission Statement and Operational Policies
In June 2016, the DataBank issued a new mission statement and codified a set of operating policies to help ensure the mission is fulfilled.

The DataBank’s mission statement encapsulates its three core purposes: acquiring, archiving and providing open access to quantitative studies and related materials on North American Jews and Jewish communities; promoting use of its resources by its stakeholders; and encouraging transparency in the public release and reporting of research on North American Jewry.

Promoting transparency in research is new to the DataBank’s mission. The Jewish community utilizes increasingly complex research in its work. As a result, the DataBank endorses the position that publicly released findings should be accompanied by methodological information that allows research consumers to evaluate and assess, to their own standards, the quality of research designs and the data collected through them.

The operating policies focus on five key areas of the DataBank’s activities. They establish guidelines for what studies the DataBank will attempt to collect, explain the DataBank’s support for stakeholders, and provide details about our efforts to promote transparency in research. The operating policies also affirm the DataBank does not engage in advocacy regarding communal policies, program and politics. Lastly, they establish several issues critical to long-term digital
The DataBank is very pleased to thank its oversight committee for their thoughtful guidance in reviewing and revising the mission statement and codifying the operating policies. DataBank staff and oversight committee members will periodically review the mission statement and operating policies to ensure they remain relevant and useful to our stakeholders in a rapidly evolving research environment.

Partnerships and Acknowledgments
The Berman Jewish DataBank @ The Jewish Federations of North America is the central online address for quantitative studies of North American Jewry and information about world Jewish populations. The DataBank is funded through a generous endowment from the Berman Foundation. We extend our gratitude to the commissioning organizations and researchers whose cooperation in providing materials makes our work possible.

Contact the DataBank

DataBank users can contact the DataBank at info@jewish databank.org and can sign up for the DataBank's email list on the bottom of every page of the DataBank website.

From Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz, Ph.D.
Director, Berman Jewish DataBank
Senior Director, Research and Analysis
The Jewish Federations of North America
The Berman Jewish Policy Archive @ Stanford (bjpa.org) offers a vast digital collection of policy-relevant research and analysis on Jewish life to the public, free of charge, with holdings of over 21,000 publications spanning from the year 1900 until today. BJPA’s powerful search functionality allows students, researchers, educators, professionals, and others to access the most relevant content with ease. Prominent within the archive are the complete collections of two journals: *The Journal of Jewish Communal Service* (along with its predecessors) and *Sh’ma: a Journal of Jewish Ideas*. Many documents from the American Jewish Committee (AJC) are also archived, including the near-complete run of the *American Jewish Year Book* prior to 2012. BJPA hosts large collections of material by Daniel Elazar z”l, Leonard Fein z”l, and Charles Liebman z”l.

**BJPA also hosts the Jewish Survey Question Bank (JSQB) at jewishquestions.bjpa.org**, a database of survey questions used in Jewish social research, program evaluations, community studies, and other Jewish communal surveys. Open access to the questions used in this research will increase both quality and comparability of future studies, allowing and encouraging researchers to make use of each other's work.

BJPA produces **monthly Reader’s Guides** on topics such as War & Peace, Israel Education, Shoah Survivors, Conversion, and more. Sign up for our mailing list at bjpa.org, and register for a free user account. Registration is not required to use the archive, but registered users can create a “Bookshelf” of BJPA materials to be saved and shared, or to gather bibliographical information easily, as well as save customized user preferences and upload documents for submission to the archive. We further invite you to submit materials for inclusion on BJPA to bjpa.wagner@nyu.edu. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/bjparchive and on Facebook at facebook.com/bjparchive.
Members in the News

Sam Heilman, CUNY
- Jewish Fundamentalism Is Beginning to Infect Israeli Schools in Haaretz.

Steven Gold, Michigan State University
- The Politicization of Anti-immigrant Sentiment? in Mobilizing Ideas The Center for the Study of Social Movements at the University of Notre Dame

Sergio DellaPergola, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- The Jews, the year 2050: and here is the forecast. Ynet, 20.09.2015.
- Weekly blog in Moked-Unione Informa, issued by Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane-UCEI, Rome.

Sarah Benor, HUC
- Ted Cruz’s linguistic chutzpah

Keren McGinity, Brandeis
- “McGinity is Not A Jewish Name…or is it?” https://mayyimhayyimblog.com/2016/01/06/mcginity-is-not-a-jewish-name/, Mayyim Hayyim, 6 January 2016

Helen Kim, Whitman College
- Lessons Learned from Multicultural Jewish Asian Families
- Finding Common Ground in Interfaith Marriage, New York Times

Steven M. Cohen, HUC-JIR
- Bernie Sanders is simply better for America, for Israel and the world, JTA
- The Shrinking Jewish Middle
- Pew Study of Israel Shows a Nation Fractured Into ‘Tribes’ — Big Split With American Jews

Pew Research Center
- The Gender Gap in Religion Around the World
- Map
- Deep Rifts Among Israeli Jews Are Found in Religion Survey

Steven Cohen, Deborah Dash Moore and Leonard Saxe
- When numbers get serious, Times of Israel, New Jersey Jewish Standard

Ira Sheskin, University of Miami
- Trump breaks with Republican orthodoxy on Israel, Financial Times
- How Jews vote: Getting ready for November election, The Jewish Star
- Bernie Sanders is Jewish. Do Florida voters care?, Miami Herald
- Bernie Sanders’ candidacy is a first for Jews. So why isn’t he talking about it?, The Guardian
Jewish Republicans Face Calls To Dump Donald Trump After Star of David Tweet, The Forward
Jewish voters could tip swing states Hillary Clinton's way, The Hill
Demographers Weigh In On Jewish Vote In 2016, The Jewish Press
Demographics and decisions: projecting the Jewish vote in 2016, www.jns.org
Jews are where the electoral votes are, Cleveland Jewish News
Jewish community in Joplin marks centennial of temple, The Washington Times
Culture Shock over Orthodox Expansion, Asbury Park Press
Joplin Jewish community marks 100th anniversary of temple, The Joplin Globe
Jewish camps take in refugee children, Religion News Service

Sheskin was interviewed on WIOD (610 AM in Miami) on the mass shooting in Tel Aviv and on the ISIS violence in France.
CMJS/SSRI Publications Spring 2016

Books
- **Boxer, M.** (Under contract). *The effects of Jewish community size on Jewish identity: Judaism as a contact sport.* New York: Springer.

Book Chapters

Institute Reports

Reviews of author publications*

Report from JPR / Institute for Jewish Policy Research

Major Publications

Charitable giving among Britain's Jews: Looking to the future

We detail findings about British Jewish giving habits for the first time in eighteen years based on JPR's National Jewish Community Survey (NJCS) 2013 (N=3,763) responses from across the UK.

In this sophisticated analysis of Jewish giving we have attempted to model Jewish giving behaviour in an effort to understand its key determinates. The analysis ultimately focuses on the roles played by age, Jewish identity and income. An effort was also made to measure 'generosity' based on giving according to one's means this being a more equitable assessment of giving habits.

Using regression analysis we found that whilst age is the key independent predictor of charitable generosity, with older respondents tending to be more generous than younger respondents, higher levels of Jewish religiosity and Jewish engagement predicted how likely people were to prioritise Jewish over non-Jewish charities. Finally, we noted the larger a person's income, the greater the overall amount they give to charity, be it to Jewish or general causes.

This study was also focused on looking to the future and we discuss three potential 'giving scenarios' that could play out based major social and demographic changes that are taking place in the British Jewish community which we argue have the potential to significantly impact future Jewish giving trends in the United Kingdom.

Jews in couples: Marriage, intermarriage, cohabitation and divorce in Britain (available on the JPR website from 6 July 2016)

In this comprehensive study, data from JPR's national population survey and two censuses are brought together to paint an intimate, demographic portrait of coupling behaviour among Britain's Jews. The report explores marriage patterns, cohabitation, intermarriage and divorce as well as interrelationships between these statuses. It also draw comparisons within the Jewish population (by religiosity), between different religious and ethnic groups, and international Jewish comparisons.

Cohabitation has been increasing rapidly while marriage has stagnated. Not unrelated, the age at which Jews are marrying for the first time is seven years later than in the 1970s. Such trends may have a greater long term demographic than the perennial concerns raised about intermarriage.

The intermarriage rate is estimated to be 26% for those marrying since 2010. But although this is the highest level to date and is reflective of an upward trend, it has risen by only two percentage points since the 1990s. Moreover, we show that intermarriage in the United States is twice the level of the UK and this has been the case since the 1970s. This suggests that drawing comparisons between the two populations should be made with great caution.

Finally, clear empirical data is presented to demonstrate 'erosional' effect of intermarriage on Jewish identity. Compared with in-married Jews, intermarried Jews produce fewer children, are one-third as likely to raise their children as Jews, are twice as likely to get divorced and at least twice as likely to have intermarried children themselves.
Commissioned Studies

- **Searching for Community: A portrait of undergraduate Jewish students in five UK cities**, Jonathan Boyd, privately commissioned study for the Union of Jewish Students (UJS), June 2016
  A qualitative study examining the identities of Jewish students at ten universities in the United Kingdom, and assessing their levels of interest and engagement in a variety of Jewish activities aimed at their age group. Designed to support UJS strategy going forward.
  A statistical assessment of the current and projected demand for places in the six mainstream Jewish secondary schools (age 11-18) in the Greater London area. There has been considerable concern expressed by Jewish parents in the past year or two about insufficient capacity, leading to several independent initiatives to establish new Jewish schools. This study was designed to assess: (i) whether demand does exceed supply; (ii) if so, why; and (iii) whether the current situation is projected to continue in the future.
- **The prevalence of learning disabilities in the British Jewish population**, Daniel Staetsky, privately commissioned study for Langdon (learning disabilities charity), July 2016.
  A statistical exercise designed to assess how many Jewish children in the UK have mild to moderate learning disabilities for one of the Jewish charities in the UK working in this area.

Consultancy

- **Three-year strategic plan for Yesod, the new European Centre for Jewish Professional Development**, Jonathan Boyd, privately commissioned study for the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe working in cooperation with the JDC and Schusterman Foundation
  A desk-based research exercise designed to bring together several research papers written by the commissioning partners, to determine the strategy for Yesod - a new initiative currently being set up to invest in the professional development of Jewish educators and community development professionals working across Europe.
- **Consultancy research exercise for Limmud International**, Jonathan Boyd, privately commissioned consultancy work for Limmud International.
  Research exercise to measure and assess the views of key stakeholders about a range of issues pertinent to the organisation's strategy going forward.

New Partnership

- JPR has signed a landmark three-year renewable deal with the Board of Deputies of British Jews to take over responsibility for gathering, analysing and reporting on key community statistics, including synagogue membership, Jewish school enrolment and births, marriages and deaths. To manage this work, we have appointed a new researcher to the team, Dr. Donatella Casale, who comes to us with a PhD in Management and Business Administration from the University of Pisa in Italy.

Forthcoming Studies

- **Survey monitor of antisemitic, anti-Zionist and anti-Israel views among the British population**, Jonathan Boyd and Daniel Staetsky
  Following the publication of our 2015 study, Could it happen here? What existing data tell us about contemporary antisemitism in the UK, JPR has been working with the Community Security Trust and Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism to undertake a major study of antisemitic, anti-Zionist and anti-Israel attitudes in the UK population as a whole, and key sub-groups within it. The study, which we will be conducting in the autumn in collaboration with international polling agency Ipsos MORI, is being funded by a number of donors from the Jewish community and the UK government.
Assessing the causes of Jewish migration from Europe, Daniel Staetsky

Using Central Bureau of Statistics Israel data, this new report will look at how many Jews from different European countries have made aliyah in recent years, and make an assessment of the probable causes. We expect to publish it towards the end of 2016.

The identity of Jews in Europe: cross-national comparisons, David Graham

Using quantitative data gathered by JPR and Ipsos MORI for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, we are exploring how Jews from nine different countries in Europe express and understand their Jewish identities. We expect to publish it towards the end of 2016.

The 2016 synagogue membership survey: an assessment of patterns of affiliation among Jews in the UK, Donatella Casale

Part of JPR's new agreement with the Board of Deputies of British Jews, we will be publishing a report in the autumn giving up-to-date counts of how many Jews affiliate to different synagogue movements in the UK, and assessing the reasons for change over time.

Jewish school enrolment in the United Kingdom, from 1960 to the present day, Daniel Staetsky

Part of JPR's new agreement with the Board of Deputies of British Jews, we are working on a new report which will measure the tremendous growth in the numbers of Jews in Jewish schools in both the mainstream and charedi sectors, at primary (ages 4-11) and secondary (age 11-18) levels. We expect to publish it towards the end of 2016.

The European Jewish Research Archive

JPR has received renewed funding from the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe to develop its archive or research reports written about European Jews since 1990. The Archive will be officially launched later this year, but already contains 1,500 items covering 32 different countries in 23 different languages. It is available at: www.jpr.org.uk

Recent Presentations

JDC conference (Budapest, Hungary, November 2015) Exploring the relationship between research and policy (Jonathan Boyd)

Major trends affecting the European landscape and their impact on Jewish communities (Jonathan Boyd)

Limmud UK (Birmingham, UK, December 2015)

Why the future is haredi (Jonathan Boyd)

Is Limmud the answer? (Jonathan Boyd)

How bad is it? What's really going on with antisemitism in Europe? (Jonathan Boyd)

What future for European Jews in the face of rising antisemitism? (Jonathan Boyd)

Ten things you need to know about the future of British Jewish life (Jonathan Boyd)

Matanel Foundation conference (Rome, Italy, April 2016)

Understanding contemporary antisemitism in Europe (Jonathan Boyd)

European Union for Progressive Judaism conference (London, UK, April 2016)

Jewish life in Europe: a contemporary analysis (Jonathan Boyd)

Jewish Agency for Israel conference (Paris, France, June 2016)

European antisemitism - a statistical assessment (Jonathan Boyd)

Articles

JPR's Executive Director now has a monthly column in the Jewish Chronicle, the UK's leading Jewish newspaper, beginning in June 2016. The first article, "Let Jews define what it means to be Jewish," can be downloaded here.
Obituary

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev bows its head in mourning and sends its deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Michael Feige, who was murdered by terrorists in the attack on the Sarona Market in Tel Aviv.

Dr. Michael Feige, 58, was head of the Israel Studies Track in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and a member of the Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. A sociologist and anthropologist, he specialized in Israeli society, collective memory and political myth.

His book Settling in the Hearts: Jewish Fundamentalism in the Occupied Territories won the Shapiro Prize for Best Book from the Association for Israel Studies in 2010.

Prof. Oren Yiftachel, head of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies at BGU: “Michael was a colleague and friend. This is a very sad day. He was one of those who was head and shoulders above the crowd. An amazing person and a very insightful researcher. An anthropologist and sociologist of Israeli society. He was not explicitly political despite researching political subjects. One of his famous research studies was a comparison between Peace Now and the Gush Emunim settlers in his book One Space, Two Places. He has another famous study about Mini Israel, and about what the site says about Israelis. Recently he focused on landscape of memories. He was a very important researcher who delved into sensitive topics and derived interesting insights. He was open and attentive. He was a true democrat, a rare breed in that regard. This is a heavy loss for our university. He had the ability to understand all sides and hence was such a good sociologist and anthropologist.”

He was born in Israel in 1957 and received all three of his degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Sociology.

Feige is survived by his wife Nurit and three daughters.
**PROGRAM GOALS**
Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement (IFJE) enables Jewish professionals of all denominations to acquire the theoretical education and practical skills necessary to provide inclusive and supportive scaffolding for the growing population of interfaith families.

**COURSE OF STUDY**
Students in the program have the option to work toward a certificate in Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement or to specialize in IFJE within a Master of Jewish Education program.

The IFJE seeks to develop the knowledge, skills and expertise of Jewish educators who wish to focus their academic studies and professional growth on the Jewish engagement of interfaith families.

Candidates range from early career educators who are choosing to focus in this area as they begin their professional employment, all the way to experienced clergy, heads of school, and community directors who have interfaith families in their congregations, schools, and communities.

**STUDENT EXPERIENCE**
Students join a dynamic community of online learners from around the country and the world in an interactive virtual classroom with Hebrew College faculty. The program utilizes the Schoology cloud-based learning platform. Weekly classes are asynchronous to accommodate individual schedules, work, and family responsibilities.

In addition to the online component, all students participate in a weeklong residential seminar held in Boston.

---

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**
- Apply by July 15th
- hebrewcollege.edu/apply
- **Merit-based scholarships available** for up to 65% of the cost of tuition

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
Keren R. McGinity, PhD
Director, IFJE Program
Shoolman Graduate School of Education
617-559-8620
kmcginity@hebrewcollege.edu

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**
- Completed application and fee
- Official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate study
- One letter of recommendation
- Two reflective essays
- Interview: by phone or in-person

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**
Total of 15 Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Intermarriage in the Modern American Context (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Models and Methods for Serving Interfaith Families (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biblical, Rabbinic, and Contemporary Perspectives on Intermarriage and Conversion (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faces and Fictions of Intermarriage (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Weeklong Residential Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MJEd candidates are also required to write a publishable thesis and complete field experience.

---

hebrewcollege.edu/interfaith-family
Call for Papers – Australian Association for Jewish Studies

The 29th AAJS Conference, 12-13 February 2017

Narratives and Counter-Narratives: Jews, Nation and Nationhood

2017 is the anniversary of several landmark events in Jewish history. The Balfour Declaration of 1917, the partition plan of 1947 and the Six Day War of 1967 comprise only a few modern examples of events whose legacies demand a re-examination of the concepts and practice of nation and peoplehood in the longue durée of Jewish history. An examination of the narratives and counter narratives in which these concepts are couched provide a compelling framework to examine their importance for understanding the Jewish past and also to delineate and assess their ongoing resonance in and for the present.

Debates as to what constitutes the ‘People Israel’ stretch back to antiquity, with biblical notions of who the Israelites were and what their communal obligations entailed fundamental to their identity and self-understanding. Yet, the Talmudic ideal of Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh (all Israel is responsible for each other) has often been sorely tested by the travails of Jewish history. In times of persecution, the framework of peoplehood has been pushed to its limits, and dissention among Jewry has left indelible marks. Collaboration and betrayal, both real and perceived, have pushed the limits of group identity and cohesion. Yet despite these conflicts, peoplehood has prevailed as a lasting and distinctive component of both ancient and modern Jewish identities.

The theme of AAJS Sydney, Narratives and Counter-Narratives: Jews, Nation and Nationhood invites exploration of notions of the nation, peoplehood, intra-communal conflict and Klal Yisrael from all perspectives, including but not limited to the topics of nationhood and identity, society, literature, art, philosophy, language, religious, ancient and modern connections to the Land and State of Israel, the concept and practice of Klal Yisrael and the experience of peoplehood in extremis, particularly with regard to the period of the Holocaust.

Narratives and Counter-Narratives: Jews, Nation and Nationhood convenes 12-13 February 2017 at the Sydney Jewish Museum, 148 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst NSW 2010. The University of Sydney’s Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies will host the conference in partnership with the Sydney Jewish Museum.

Please submit your paper proposal by Monday 22 August 2016 to Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod: michael.abrahams-sprod@sydney.edu.au, Notice of acceptance will be sent out by 30 September 2016.
Submissions must include the following:

- Postal and email address
- Abstract of the paper to be presented (no more than 250 words)
- Short biographical note (no more than 50 words).

AAJS encourages students engaged in academic research to submit proposals based on their work to the conference committee.

Authors should clearly indicate their student status on their submission. Presenters are also invited to submit written articles for consideration for publication in the Australian Journal for Jewish Studies. Communication about the conference should be sent electronically to Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod and Dr Avril Alba via email: michael.abrahams-sprod@sydney.edu.au and avril.alba@sydney.edu.au.

Conference Committee:
Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod, AAJS President, Conference co-convener
Dr Avril Alba, Conference co-convener
Professor Emerita Suzanne Rutland OAM
Dr Jan Lanicek

As this Conference addresses a small community of scholars, it is imperative that we all support the Association. Thus, it is a requirement that all presenters at this conference must have paid the conference registration fee, which includes the AAJS membership for 2016, by Friday 16 December 2016. Visit www.aajs.org.au for details.