Nine Students Win ASSJ Travel Grants

Three students initially won travel grants to attend the AJS meeting in San Diego.

- **Taylor Winfield**, Princeton University, "Negotiating Questions of 21st Century Judaism: Determining Community Boundaries"
- **David Manchester**, Brandeis University, "Communal Engagement with Organizations on Twitter: An Exploration of Groups on the Margins"
- **Matty Lichtenstein**, University of California-Berkeley, "The Politics of Religious Education"

Nine additional travel grant recipients were also funded:

- **Rachel Bernstein**, Brandeis University, "Distinctive Community, Universal Values: How Jewish Millennials Think about Jewish Identity"
- **Isaac Bleaman**, New York University, "'The Simple Believeth Every Word': Hasidic Counterpublic Discourse and the Yiddish Newspaper Hoax"
- **Matthew Brookner**, Brandeis University, "Perceptions of Jewishness and Philanthropic Practice"
- **Agnes Keleman**, Central European University (in Budapest), "Coping with Communism: A Comparative Study of Jewish Leadership in Hungary and Romania"
- **Gad Marcus**, New York University, "Doing Lishmah: Art for Art's Sake and Torah Lishmah"
- **Cara Rock-Singer**, Columbia University, "Kohenet's Spiritual Materials: Altars, Archaeology, and 'Sacred Clutter Busting'"
- **Ellie Shapiro**, Graduate Theological Union, "Performing 'Jewishness' in Polish Small Towns"
- **Sam Shuman**, University of Michigan, "Circulated Secrets: Rescaling Interiority in Antwerp's Hasidic Enclave Economy"
- **Dina Shvetsov**, Brandeis University, "Arab Voices in the Israeli Constitutional Debate"

These travel grants were funded by generous contributions from Steven M. Cohen, Judit Liwerant, Charles Kadushin, Jonathan Sama, Deborah Dash Moore, Riv-Ellen Prell, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Sylvia Barack Fishman, Barry Chiswick, Len Saxe, Mort Weinfeld, and The Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation.
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Our Website: www.assj.org
Our Facebook Page: Click Here

Upcoming Conferences

• American Jewish Historical Society, TBA
• American Sociological Association, Montreal, August 12-15, 2017
• ASSJ at the Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, December 18-20, 2016
• Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, Toronto, May 28-30, 2017
• Association for the Sociology of Religion, Montreal, August 13-14, 2017
• Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture, Boston, Feb. 24-25, 2017
• Australian Association for Jewish Studies, Sydney, February 12-13, 2017
• Institute for Israel Studies, TBA
• Israeli Sociological Society, Tel Aviv, January 30-31, 2017
• Network for Research in Jewish Education, TBA
• Society for the Anthropology of Religion, New Orleans, May 15-17, 2017
• Southern Jewish Historical Society, TBA
• Western Jewish Studies Association, Claremont, CA, March 26-27, 2017
• World Union of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, August 6-10, 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 2016 volume to be published in February 2017 has a special section on Pew's “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 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 in the past year.

While the list price for the 2016 volume will be $189, ASSJ members and others ordering through Arnie Dashefsky, can take advantage of the bulk rate price of $81.95.

Arnold.Dashefsky@uconn.edu

The first three issues of the Year Book (2012-2014) have almost 17,000 chapter downloads from the Springer website. Thanks to all of our authors!
Arnold Dashefsky  
*University of Connecticut*

**Publications**

**Panel Organizer and Consultant**


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Steve Gold  
*Michigan State University*

**Article**
- International Students in the United States? (Photo Essay) *Society* (6) 1-8, August 2016,

**Book Chapter**

**Book Reviews**

**Paper Presentations**
- Discussant, Migrating Intellectuals: Who gets to be an “Elite Migrant?” Migration without Boundaries: An Interdisciplinary
Graduate Student Conference on Migration at Michigan State University, October 22, 2016

Harriet Hartman
Rowan University


Ariela Keysar
Trinity College

Promotion
● Ariela was promoted to Research Professor in the Public Policy and Law Program at Trinity.

Publications
● Book Review: Changing Faith: The Dynamics and Consequences of Americans'


Invited Lecture

Presentations at Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, 2016
● Atheism and Nonreligion: Definitions and Global Trends, Ariela Keysar.
● "I don't know enough": Religious and Political Illiteracy Among Millennials, Thea Piltzecker and Ariela Keysar.

International Conference
● Young Adults and Religion in a Global Perspective, YARG, Annual Seminar, November 24-27, Turku, Finland
Barry Kosmin
Trinity College

Publications

External Courses taught
- "Sociological and Psychological Explanations of Antisemitism," ISGAP Summer Institute on Curriculum Development in Antisemitism Studies, St. Antony's College, Oxford University, UK, August, 2016
- "Secularism and Religion-State Relations around the World," RS-628, Fall semester 2016, Hartford Seminary

Lectures
- "Israel on the College campus," Religion Department, Connecticut College, October 18, 2016
- "Why the Jewish Leaders' Survey can be an asset for building community resilience," The 2nd European Jewish Communities Summit, Barcelona, Spain, November 14, 2016.

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz
Jewish Federations of North America

- "The Structure of Political Divisions among American Jews." [link](http://rdcu.be/lGbi)
- "The Challenges of Local Jewish Community Studies: An Introduction." [link](http://rdcu.be/mWjV)
Judit Bokser Liwerant  
*Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*

**Publications**


**Scientific Editorial Articles**


**Congresses, Symposia, Conferences**

- Third National Colloquium on the History and Balance of Political Science in Mexico, Colegio de Jalisco, September 2016. Key Note Speaker: The Challenges of Political and Social Sciences in a Global Context.
- Experts Workshop on Measuring Anti-Semitism, Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy, ISGAP, París, September. Paper sent: Anti-Semitism and...
related expressions of prejudice in a global world. A view from Latin America.
● Colloquium on History and Memory: Blue Prussian. Session: Memory and Representation of the Holocaust. Paper: Knowing and Representing the Holocaust. MUAC, November 2016.
● International Colloquium on the Social Sciences "Dimensions of the Crisis in Latin America Universidad de Guadalajara, December 2016. Paper: Crisis in Multiple Modernities.

Teaching Activities
● Research Doctoral Seminar: Globalization and Transnationalism. Diaspora and National Space 2016-I
● Research Doctoral Seminar: Towards a Political Sociology for the 21st century-2016-II
● Appointed a Member of the International Advisory Board of the Project International Panel on Existing Violence-Maison des Sciences de L'Homme, Paris; Carnegie Corporation of NY, Cancel Superior de la Formation et de la Recherche Strategique, France (October, 2016).
● Appointed Member of the Council of Scientific Publications, UNAM. (March 2016).

Keren McGinity
Hebrew College and Brandeis University

Teaching
● Recruited and matriculated first cohort of Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement fellows at Hebrew College's Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education.

Presentations
Unique in the literature on Jewish camping, this book provides an in-depth study of a community-based, residential summer camp that serves Jewish children from primarily rural areas. Focused on Camp Ben Frankel (CBF), established in 1950 in southern Illinois, this book focuses on how a pluralist Jewish camp constructs meaningful experiences of Jewish "family" and Judaism for campers and teaches them about Israel. Inspired by models of the earliest camps established for Jewish children in urban areas, CBF's founders worked to create a camp that would appeal to the rural, often isolated Jewish families in its catchment area. Although seemingly on the periphery of American Jewish life, CBF staff and campers are revealed to be deeply entwined with national developments in Jewish culture and practice and, indeed, contributors to shaping them. This research highlights the importance of campers' experiences of traditional elements of the Jewish "family" (an experience increasingly limited to time at camp), as well as the overarching importance of song. Over the years, Judaism becomes constructed as fun, welcoming, and easy for campers, while Israel is presented in ways that are meant to be appropriate for a community camp. In the camp's earliest decades, Israel was framed by "traditional" Zionist discourse; later, as community priorities shifted, the cause of Russian Jews was the focus. Most recently, as Israeli politics have been increasingly viewed as potentially divisive, the camp has adopted an "Israel-lite" approach, focusing on Israel as the Biblical homeland of the Jewish people and a place home to Jews who are similar to American Jews. In sum, this study sheds light on how a small, rural, community camp contributes in significant ways to our understanding of American Jews, their Judaism, and their Zionism.

"Moving the analysis of Jewish summer camps beyond the well-trod campgrounds covered by earlier studies, Serious Fun places the experience of small town Jews at the center. By looking where others have not, Rothenberg offers new insight into how Jewish summer camps create a feeling of family and develop a folk Judaism of their own." - Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University.

"Over the last two decades we have gathered important empirical evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of summer camp in instilling Jewish identities for Jewish youth. The magic of Rothenberg's eloquent and well-written ethnography is that it reveals
the inner workings of how camps actually do it!" - **Randal F. Schnoor**, York University, co-author of *Back to School: Jewish Day School in the Lives of Adult Jews*.

“A wistful and nostalgic academic reflection on Camp Ben Frankel by the author, who is an alumna, that puts this small "Reconformadox" camp in the context of the American Jewish camp experience. A lovely and interesting read.” - **Mara Cohen Ioannides**, President, Midwest Jewish Studies Association.

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**Suzanne Rutland**
*University of Sydney*

- My good news is that the book I co-authored with journalist **Sam Lipski** was co-winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Awards - Australian history. This is very exciting recognition not only of our work, but also the importance of writing about Soviet Jewry:
- I was not able to attend the ceremony since I was in Iasi, Rumania, as part of the Australian expert delegation for the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance meeting there. It was a depressing meeting due to the problem of the right-wing Polish government wanting to legislate against anyone who is considered to have defamed Poland in regard to the events of the Holocaust - with up to three years in prison. Existing legislation is already targeting **Jan Gross** for his study of the Jedwabne pogrom in 1941.

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**Ira Sheskin**
*University of Miami*

**Book**
- **Arnold Dashefsky** and **Ira M. Sheskin**. (Editors) *The American Jewish Year Book*, 2016 (Dordrecht: Springer).

**Publications**
- **Ira Sheskin** “Good Practices in Local Jewish Communities Studies” *Contemporary Jewry*, Volume 36, Number 3 (December 2016) pp. 319-341.
- **Arnold Dashefsky** & **Ira M. Sheskin**. “Orthodox Judaism in the US: Retrospect and Prospect,” in Arnold Dashefsky & Ira M.


Presentations
- “Why All this Attention to 2% of the Electorate?: The Jewish Vote in the Presidential Election,” invited presentation at State University of New York at Binghamton (2016).
- “A Profile of the Miami Jewish Community and Its Relationship to Israel,” for the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico, Miami (2016).
- “A Profile of the Broward Jewish Community and Its Relationship to Israel,” for the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico, Miami (2016).

In Progress
I am currently working on Jewish community studies in Broward, Houston, and Pinellas, Omaha, and Indianapolis.

Jennifer Thompson
California State University, Northridge

Jennifer spent the month of June 2016 in Austria, Italy, and Estonia researching kinds of belonging and pluralism in widely different Jewish communities, including one of the oldest--Rome--and one of the newest, in a manner of speaking--Tallinn. She is grateful for the help ASSJ members provided in making contacts within these communities and is looking forward to further research particularly in Tallinn. Tallinn's Jewish community has been in the process of reformulating itself in the past three decades, in the aftermath of decades of Soviet and German occupation, and with a 90% intermarriage rate. This trip was part of her current research on the relationship between intra- and interreligious pluralism, which she has presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Newport Beach in 2015, and Association for the Sociology of Religion in Seattle and American Academy of Religion in San Antonio in 2016. She also discussed her work on intermarriage on a panel called "Marriage, Partnership, and Conversion" at the Wrestling With Jewish Peoplehood conference put on by the Mordecai M. Kaplan Center for Jewish Peoplehood in Philadelphia in April, 2016.

Recently, she has written and co-written chapters for two edited volumes (both still in progress). One, "Morality in the garden: Applying Jewish ethics," draws on her ethnographic research among Jews and Christians in Iowa who grow food on their congregations' land to donate to food banks. The other, "Expanding 'Never Again': The cosmopolitan parochialism of Los Angeles Jewish mobilization on the genocide in Darfur," is a collaboration with Brie Loskota and Tobin Belzer drawing on ethnographic research and interviews with Jewish World Watch.

Thompson has undertaken several teaching-related projects recently. She
authored an eText (electronic textbook) on applied ethics for use in her Applied Jewish Ethics online course. She is also continuing to develop an online map of Jewish resources in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles (www.mappingthejewishvalley.com) using student ethnographic research. Over 2,000 unique visitors used the map in 2015 to find synagogues, kosher food, Judaica shops, and other Jewish resources in the area. She is also initiating a service-learning project with a Conservative synagogue in the San Fernando Valley in which her ethics students will research and communicate about opportunities for b’nai mitzvah students to do community service and give tzedakah.

Randal Schnoor
York University

- "Approaches to Engaging Interfaith Families: A Toronto Case Study." A paper given at the UJA 'Next' Conference: Mapping the Road to Jewish Engagement (Toronto), December 5, 2016.
- **Schnoor, Randal F.** and **Alex Pomson.** 2016. "Le rôle des écoles juives à temps plein dans la vie des familles: le cas de l'Ontario (Jewish Day Schools in the Lives of Families: An Ontario Case Study)" in Judaïsme et éducation: enjeux et défis pédagogiques. (Eds) Sivane Hirsch, Marie McAndrew et Geneviève Audet (Quebec City, Canada: Presses de l'Université Laval), pp. 203-220.

**Morton Weinfeld**
*McGill University*

- Morton Weinfeld developed and taught a new Sociology course at McGill this fall. "Suspect Minorities in Canada" developed the concept of studying minorities that were not only deemed inferior, or very different, but dangerous to the security and foundations of Canada. The course was very popular, and students were interested and enthusiastic. Case studies included Japanese, Italian and German Canadians, Muslims, First Nations, French in Canada and non-francophones in Quebec, Sikhs, Tamils, Gays, Hippies, and of course, a unit on Jews. Jews have been suspect since the days of Pharaoh in the Bible.

Part of the course focused on debates between the perspectives of radicalization and securitization. I find this notion useful in testing the limits of diversity and dissent in liberal-democratic societies.

My guess is that such a course could work well in American campuses. 🌟
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.

Sklare Award Winners

1992 Sidney Goldstein (Brown, demography)
1993 Seymour Martin Lipset (Hoover Institute and George Mason University, sociology)
1994 Celia Heller (NYU, history)
1995 Daniel Elazar (Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, Temple University, and Bar Ilan University, political science)
1996 Samuel Klausner (University of Pennsylvania, sociology)
1997 Walter Zenner (SUNY at Albany, anthropology)
1998 Bernard Reisman (Brandeis, communal service)
1999 Sergio DellaPergola (Hebrew University, demography)
2000 Charles Liebman (Bar Ilan, political science)
2001 Calvin Goldscheider (Brown, sociology and demography)
2002 Jonathan Sarna (Brandeis, history)
2003 Samuel Heilman (CUNY, sociology)
2004 Egon Mayer (Brooklyn College, sociology)
2005 Elihu Katz (University of Pennsylvania and Hebrew University, communications)
2006 Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan, history)
2007 Barry Chiswick (University of Illinois at Chicago, economics)
2008 Paul Ritterband (Haifa University, sociology)
2009 Charles Kadushin (Brandeis, sociology)
2010 Steven M. Cohen (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion)
2011 Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota, anthropology)
2012 Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University, social psychology)
2013 Morton Weinfeld (McGill University, Sociology)
2014 Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis, Sociology)
2015 Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (NYU, Performance Studies)
2016 Bruce Phillips (HUC/USC)
Every year, the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry presents the Marshall Sklare Award to recognize a senior scholar who has made significant conceptual/theoretical, methodological, public policy, and pedagogical contributions to the field. **We are pleased to announce the winner for 2016: Bruce A. Phillips, Professor of Sociology and Jewish Communal Service at the Los Angeles campus of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion.**

Dr. Phillips was nominated by ten of his colleagues and unanimously approved by the Sklare Award selection committee. As the nominators indicated, his contributions are quantitatively and qualitatively significant. Here are some excerpts from the nomination:

**Conceptual/Theoretical Contributions:** Dr. Phillips's interdisciplinary approach spans sociology, urban studies, history, and geography, bringing together quantitative, qualitative, and novel theoretical approaches to reframe key issues for contemporary Jewry in the US and beyond. He brings together diverse theoretical perspectives to illuminate issues of concern in American Jewish studies such as intermarriage, Jewish education, and the significance of place.

His work on intermarriage has reframed this issue over several decades. He created a typology of intermarried couples (1997), upending collective wisdom that intermarriage could be understood in a simple and straightforward way. His recent work has used the lens of economic rational choice theory to understand intermarried couples' statistically lower rates of participation in Jewish institutional activities as the result of "religious inefficiency." He has also used studies of multiracial Americans as an example of alternative ways in which the American Jewish community could understand children of intermarriage.

His work on Jewish education has demonstrated that adolescents' relationships with each other are key to continuing Jewish engagement, laying the groundwork for the ever-increasing panoply of Jewish educational options for teenagers and young adults today.

Additionally, he has drawn on theory from urban studies to show that Jews' residential patterns cannot be understood in the same way across all large US cities. Rather, he shows that Jews' experiences are intertwined with the lifeways of the cities they inhabit. Meso- and micro-level factors are at least as important as macro-level ones in the contours of Jewish life.

Dr. Phillips is probably the most accomplished social scientist studying West Coast Jewry, and his work serves as an important complement to studies of American Jews that tilt east. His perspective and leadership in this area are crucial to a fuller understanding of American Jewry.
Public Policy Contributions: Dr. Phillips has contributed to public policy not only with the theoretical and analytical contributions mentioned above, but also by conducting basic research, e.g., his service on the National Technical Advisory Committees for the 1990 and 2000 National Jewish Population Surveys, and on local Jewish population surveys in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Denver, Phoenix, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Houston.

Educational/Pedagogical Contributions: Dr. Phillips has been an enthusiastic and generous mentor for emerging scholars, as evidenced by his frequent appearance on conference panels with graduate students and new PhDs. He has taught, mentored, and advised theses for undergraduates at the University of Southern California and students at HUC in the rabbinic program and the School of Jewish Nonprofit Management. He has also done innovative public education, as evidenced by his involvement in the Autry Museum of the American West's 2013-2014 exhibit "Jews in the Los Angeles Mosaic."

Here are just a few of Dr. Phillips' (many) publications:


In my capacity as Vice President of the ASSJ, I share in celebration with all of the officers and the TEN senior and junior scholars who nominated Dr. Phillips for this award. On a personal note, it is a pleasure to see my colleague, mentor, and friend honored with this special award. Mazel tov, Bruce!

*Sarah Benor*
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](http://www.assj.org)

**ASSJ Executive Board**

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**Student representative**
Mijal Bitton, NYU

**Thanks**
Thanks to Barry Chiswick, George Washington University and Randal Schnoor, York University, outgoing Board members.
The first four books were 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
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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.

Book Series Home Page
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 North America, Europe, Australasia, and Israel. While much relevant scholarship about Jewry is published in general social science journals, as well as more narrowly focused periodicals, no single scholarly journal focuses primarily on the social scientific study of Jewry.

Over 550 articles have been published in Contemporary Jewry since its inception. Each year Contemporary Jewry publishes the Marshall Sklare Award lecture and commentary, as well as both special thematic issues and individual articles. This year’s special issues include a focus on Jewish education, guest edited by Ari Kelman, v36(1), and the imminent special issue on Jewish community studies, v36(3). In v36(2) we published our first graphic book review!

See more at www.springer.com/humanities/religious+studies/journal/12397.

A new feature related to Contemporary Jewry is a conversational forum for discussion of any of the articles or topics raised in the publication; all are welcome to add comments and insights at http://COJE.forums.com.

If you have a book you would like reviewed in the journal, please contact Daniel Parmer, the Book Review Editor, parmer@brandeis.edu. If your research institute would like to be profiled in the journal, please contact Helen Kim, Research Editor, kimh2@whitman.edu. If you have an idea for a special issue, want to check out the suitability of your own submission, or are interested in serving on the editorial board, please contact the editor-in-chief, Harriet Hartman, at hartman@rowan.edu.

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(Special Issue: Jewish Education)

• Editor’s Introduction by Harriet Hartman (pages 1-2).
• Comments in Honor of Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett’s Marshall Sklare Award by Samuel Kassow (pages 15-18).
• An Ethnographer in Poland: On Experience as a Mode of Engaging Jewishness by Jeffrey Shandler (pages 19-25).

Introduction to the Special Issue on Jewish Education by Ari Y. Kelman (pages 27-29).
• American Jewish Children’s Thoughts and Feelings About the Jewish State: Laying the Groundwork for a Developmental Approach to Israel Education by Sivan Zakai, Hannah Tobin Cohen (pages 31-54).
• Negotiating Critical Analysis and Collective Belonging: Jewish American Students Write the History of Israel by Jonah Hassenfeld (pages 55-84).
• American Jewry at Risk: "A Time to Act" and the Prioritization of Jewish Education by Jonathan Krasner (pages 85-123).
• Financial Constraints on Intensive Jewish Education: The Interactive Effects of Financial Capacity and Jewish Connections by Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz, Chaim Adler (pages 125-150).
Research Updates
● Helen Kim (pages 151-153).

Book Reviews (Daniel Parmer, Book Review Editor)
● Nelly Las: Jewish Voices in Feminism: Transnational Perspectives by Joyce Antler (pages 155-157).
● Cynthia Kaplan Shamash: The Strangers We Became: Lessons in Exile from One of Iraq's Last Jews by Lital Levy (pages 159-161).

Volume 36, Issue 2, July 2016

Editor's Introduction by Harriet Hartman (pages 167-168)

Original Articles
● "I'll Say a Mi Sheberach for You": Prayer, Healing and Identity Among Liberal American Jews by Gila Silverman (pages 169-185).

Research Updates
● Helen Kim (pages 265-268)

Book Reviews
Introduction to the Book Review Section by Daniel Parmer (pages 269-270).

Volume 36, Issue 3, October 2016 (Special Issue: Jewish Community Studies)

● Editor's Introduction to the Special Issue on Community Studies by Harriet Hartman (pages 285-288).
Original Articles

- Everything You Need to Consider When Deciding to Field a Survey of Jews: Choices in Survey Methods and Their Consequences on Quality by David Dutwin (pages 297-318).
- Good Practices in Local Jewish Community Studies by Ira M. Sheskin (pages 319-341).
- Deficient, If Not Distorted: Jewish Community Studies That Totally Rely upon Known Jewish Households by Steven M. Cohen (pages 343-360).
- 'All Politics is Local': Challenges in the Study of Local Jewish Communities by Janet Krasner Aronson, Matthew Boxer, Leonard Saxe (pages 361-380).
- Jewish Community Studies as Seen Through a Business Lens by Susan J. Levine, Sindey Dranoff (pages 381-393).

Comments on Main Articles

- Jewish Community Population Studies: Where Do We Go From Here? by Jacob B. Ukeles (pages 395-399).
- On Jewish Community Studies by Ron Miller (pages 401-412).
- One Survey Can Make a Difference: Building Connections in New Mexico via Research by Benjamin Kupersmit, Marina Rabinowitz (pages 413-417).
- U.S. Jewish Community Studies: Eight Response Arguments by Sergio DellaPergola (pages 439-446).
- Data Is Not Fate: The Federations’ Role in Interpreting Community Studies by Barry Shrage (pages 453-457).

Book Reviews


On-Line First

- Jewish Women’s KIPPOT: Meanings and Motives by Helana Darwin
- Accentuate the Positive: The Influence of Kurt Lewin’s ‘Bringing Up the Jewish Child’ on Postwar American Jewish Life by Joshua J. Furman.
- The Structure of Political Divisions Among American Jews by Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz.
MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Keren McGinity, Hebrew College and Brandeis University
- A match made in heaven: Married rabbi and minister take 'interfaith' up a notch, JWeekly, Thursday, September 15, 2016.
- Interview about Mary Antin, WGBH/NPR Radio, December 9, 2016.

Steven Cohen, Hebrew Union College, New York
- Can you be Jewish and Liberal? The evidence says: not so easy.
- Which of Our Grandchildren Will Be Jewish in This Age of Intermarriage? The Forward
- Don’t Blame Netanyahu. Blame the Israeli Electorate Haaretz

Ira Sheskin, University of Miami
- Broward Jewish population had declined but still largest in Florida SunSentinel
- Some Jews Choose Trump Judische Allgemeine
- Jewish American community discussed at the UNITED Conference, TV6, Upper Michigan’s Source
- Jewish voters could tip swing states Hillary Clinton’s way, The Hill
- Demographers Weigh In On Jewish Vote In 2016 The Jewish Press

Randal Schnoor, York University

Moshe Kornfield, Washington University
- Who Are You Calling an Anti-Semite? Jewish Debate in Trump’s America. Religion and Politics

Samuel Heilman, Queens College
- Moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem: Trumpwashing That Works Haaretz

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Fellowship Applications

The National Library of Israel is now accepting applications for its 2017-18 Jewish Studies Fellowships. The Fellowship is open to young scholars who hold a non-tenured position, in a university outside Israel and teach courses in Jewish Studies.

Fellows will spend the academic year in Israel pursuing their research while also working with a senior scholar in their field. The Fellowship for 2017/18 will be in the sum of ILS 130,000 with an additional ILS 10,500 per accompanying family member, as well as a modest travel grant.

The submission deadline for the applications is January 31st, 2017.

More information about next year’s Fellowships is available at www.Fellowships.nli.org.il.
Authors and ASSJ members cited below:

**Leonard Saxe**, dir. CMJS/SSRI, Klutznick Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies  
**Janet Krasner Aronson**, Associate Research Scientist  
**Matthew Boxer**, Assistant Research Professor  
**Matthew Brookner**, Graduate Research Associate  
**Fern Chertok**, Research Scientist  
**Shahar Hecht**, Senior Research Associate  
**Annette Koren**, Research Scientist  
**David Manchester**, Graduate Research Associate  
**Daniel Parmer**, Research Associate  
**Theodore Sasson**, Senior Research Scientist CMJS/SSRI, Prof. Jewish Studies Middlebury College  
**Michelle Shain**, Research Associate  
**Graham Wright**, Research Associate

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

**Journal Articles**  

**Institute Reports**  


**CMJS/SSRI Project Update 2016**

- Release of new US Jewish population estimates: Since 2005, SSRI researchers have been collecting data from hundreds of nationally representative surveys to provide one of the most comprehensive, independent sources of data on the US Jewish community. The 2016 release from the American Jewish Population Project provides new population estimates for the continental United States, its states, metropolitan areas, and counties and new data on the political identification and political views of Jewish adults.

**Commentaries**

- **Parmer, D., & Manchester, D.** (2016, October 13). The Jewish vote may swing key undecided counties, study says. *The Conversation*.
News from JPR / Institute for Jewish Policy Research

• Jonathan Boyd
• Donatella Casale
• Richard Goldstein

Publications


Completed commissioned studies


Newspaper articles

• Jonathan Boyd, "We may be better off in the UK," Jewish Chronicle, 5 August 2016.
• Jonathan Boyd, "There really is no place like home," Jewish Chronicle, 2 September 2016.
• Jonathan Boyd, "We all need to look outwards," Jewish Chronicle, 30 September 2016.
• Jonathan Boyd, Numbers aren't the only story," Jewish Chronicle, 28 October 2016.
• Jonathan Boyd, "Hostility is common, but students are not cowed," Jewish Chronicle, 9 December 2016.

Presentations

• L. Daniel Staetsky contributed a paper on the demography of the strictly Orthodox population of the UK at the British Society for Population Studies conference in Leeds in September
• Jonathan Boyd presented a paper on researching antisemitism to the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism seminar in Paris in September
• Richard Goldstein presented JPR's research on the demography of the British Jewish population to the Board of Jewish Child's Day in London in November
• Jonathan Boyd presented JPR's research on the sociology and demography of the elderly Jewish population of the UK to the Board of Jewish Care in London in November
• Jonathan Boyd presented a paper on interpretations of research about antisemitism in Europe at the 'Building Resilient Communities' conference in Barcelona in November, organized by the European Council of Jewish Communities, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the European Jewish Congress
• Jonathan Boyd presented JPR's new research on Jewish schools in the UK to the Board of Deputies of British Jews in London in November
• Jonathan Boyd presented JPR's research on Jewish students in Britain at a seminar to launch the new report in London in December
L. Daniel Staetsky and Jonathan Boyd presented JPR work on the donor base of Jewish Care to the senior staff of Jewish Care in London in December.

New research archive

JPR launched the European Jewish Research Archive, a new open access archive of social research conducted about European Jewish life since 1990. It can be accessed at: http://www.jpr.org.uk/archive. It also contains the complete archive of the Jewish Journal of Sociology.

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**THE POSEN SOCIETY OF FELLOWS**

The Posen Foundation invites applications for the Posen Society of Fellows 2017-2019 cohort of graduate students studying modernization processes in Jewish history, society, and culture.

$20,000 stipend/year for 2 years & summer seminars with preeminent Jewish Studies scholars.

DEADLINE: January 15, 2017
Details, prerequisites and applications at [www.posenfoundation.com](http://www.posenfoundation.com)
Awards announced April 15, 2017
Interfaith Families
Jewish Engagement
Program

Preparing Jewish leaders
for today’s interfaith
world
Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement Program (IFJE) provides clergy, educators, community leaders and outreach practitioners with the knowledge and innovative skills needed to support the growing population of interfaith families, engaging them in Jewish life.

Understanding Today’s Reality

Jewish intermarriage is a reality in the American context. Effective Jewish engagement of interfaith couples and families requires specialized knowledge about the relationship between intermarriage and gender; the influence of culture on interfaith marriage; denominational similarities and differences; and the ability to translate knowledge into action that suits the needs of a wide variety of constituencies.

L’dor V’dor...from Generation to Generation

What we do today — right now — will shape the future of Jewish life in America. Clergy, educators, leaders and practitioners all play key roles in both outreach and engagement of families; success helps to strengthen and enhance Jewish peoplehood, community and values, improving the world from generation to generation.

Skills and Tools: Real-World Application

IFJE students join a dynamic community of online learners from around the country and the world in an interactive virtual classroom with Hebrew College faculty. Theory and practical learning combine to create an educational experience that expands both knowledge and skills.

Students will gain an understanding of how intermarriage and conversion have changed throughout history; uncover myths perpetuated by popular culture and stereotypes; and gain insight on best practices for outreach and engagement — applying what they have learned in class to their professional lives and fieldwork.

Through the program, they will become part of a network of engagement educators similarly dedicated to enabling interfaith families to raise Jewish children as well as receive mentoring from intermarriage experts and outreach professionals.

“I am really enjoying the class so far and the readings are fantastic. In one week we've covered more material on intermarriage than I got in six years of rabbinical school.”

Rabbi Steven Abraham
Beth El Synagogue, Omaha, NE
IFJE’s inaugural graduate student cohort brings an exceptional richness of perspective, demonstrating the program’s broad appeal.

Steven Abraham is the rabbi of Beth El Synagogue, a Conservative congregation in Omaha, NE, where he has helped to reshape its image and approach regarding interfaith families. He earned rabbinic ordination as well as an MA in Jewish Education from JTS.

Cookie Mandell is Director of Congregational Engagement at Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church, VA. With a congregation of over 1650 families, it is the largest Jewish congregation in Virginia, with an estimated 35% interfaith families.

Annie Matan is a Jewish Educator and clergy person in Toronto, Ontario, serving as Jewish Family Life Coordinator at the Miles Nadal JCC in downtown Toronto. She is passionate about spirituality, Jewish education and inclusion.

Alachua Nazarenko is the Director of Programming at the Institute of Southern Jewish Life in Jackson, MS, a region with many intermarried couples and interfaith families.

Lex Rofes of Providence, RI, serves as the Strategic Initiatives Associate at The Institute for the Next Jewish Future where he also co-hosts its Judaism Unbound podcast. He is a second-year rabbinical student through ALEPH: The Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

Lois Rubin is a Jewish educator at Temple Emanuel of Andover, MA, teaching third grade and tutoring b’nai mitzvot students. She attended the URJ’s Schindler Fellowship Program in Interfaith Family Counseling.

Tema Smith is the Director of Community Engagement for Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto’s oldest and one of Canada’s largest synagogues. Within the Jewish Community, she works with racial diversity, racial equality advocacy and engagement of intermarried families.

Becca Weiner is a Judaic Specialist at the Charlotte Jewish Preschool in North Carolina, where she has taught for seven years and where most of her students come from interfaith families.
For more information contact:

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

Two online tracks enrolling now:

- MJEd with IFJE Specialization
  
  Classes begin spring 2017

- IFJE Graduate Certificate
  
  Classes begin fall 2017

hebrewcollege.edu/interfaith-families

Funding for the Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement program was provided through generous support from the Crown Family and the Sy Syms Foundation.

Hebrew College is a recipient of a grant from Avenues to Jewish Engagement for Intermarried Couples and their Families, in honor of 2015 Genesis Prize Laureate Michael Douglas.
The Handbook of Israel: Major Debates serves as an academic compendium for people interested in major discussions and controversies over Israel. It provides innovative, updated and informative knowledge on a range of acute debates. Among other topics, the handbook discusses post-Zionism, militarism, democracy and religion, (in)equality, colonialism, today’s criticism of Israel, Israel-Diaspora relations, and peace programs.

Outstanding scholars face each other with unadulterated, divergent analyses. These historical, political and sociological texts from Israel and elsewhere make up a major reference book within academia and outside academia. About seventy contributions grouped in thirteen thematic sections present controversial and provocative approaches reflecting, from different angles, on the present-day challenges of the State of Israel.

"Usually, social scientists describe and analyze Israel in order to promote their own vision, and often to criticize other perspectives. These two solid and impressive volumes propose much more: they voice the debates that this complex, fascinating and important experience has provoked. The reader gets access to these debates, at the best level, and his or her own level of comprehension benefits from these texts that confront the challenges and trials faced by Israel." Prof. Michel Wieviorka, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris

Eliezer Ben-Rafael is a Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Tel Aviv University, Israel, and Co-Director of the Klal Yisrael Project.

Julius H. Schoeps is a Professor Emeritus of Modern History and Director of the Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies, University of Potsdam, Germany.

Yitzhak Sternberg is a Lecturer at Beit Berl Academic College, Israel.

Olaf Glöckner is a Research Assistant at the Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies, University of Potsdam, Germany.
PART A: CLEAVAGES

Topic I: Israel – West, East, or Global?

Israeli Culture Today: How Jewish? How Israeli? Zohar Shavit and Yaacov Shavit
To What Degree Is Israeli Culture Jewish, and to What Degree Israeli? David Ohana
Hebrew Culture in Israel: Between Europe, the Middle East, and America Uri Ram
Israeli Culture(s) Today: Globalized Archipelago of Isolated Communities Alek D. Epstein
Bauhaus in Israel: De-Constructing a Modernist Vernacular and the Myth of Tel Aviv’s “White City” Ines Sonder
Yam Tikhoniut: Mediterraneanism as a Model for Identity Formation in between Alexandra Nocke

Topic II: A Theocracy?

Religion and State, One and the Same Dov Halbertal
The Haredi-Secular Debate and the Shas Approach Nissim Leon
The Secular State in Rabbinic Thought Shalom Ratzabi
Religion and State in Israel Avi Sagi
The Non-Separation of Religion and State in Israel: Does It Support the Racism and Nationalism Wave? Mordechai Kremnitzer and Amir Fuchs

Topic III: One People? One Nation?

Russian-Speaking Israelis in the Ethno-Social Tapestry of Israel Larissa Remennick
Immigration and Conflict in a Deeply Divided Society: The Encounter between Russian Immigrants and the Palestinian Minority in Israel Majid Al-Haj
“About Miracles”: The Flourishing of the “Torah World” of Yeshivot and Kollelim in Israel Menachem Friedman
The Divided People Revisited Eva Etzioni-Halevy

Topic IV: Ethnic (In)Equality

Inequality in Israel: In the End, Israel Produced Its Own 1% Shlomo Swirski
What Has Become of the Ethnic Devil? Reflections on the Current State of Israeli Ethnicity Alex Weingrod
On the Cultural Distinction between East and West among Israeli Jews Ze’ev Shavit and Ephraim Yuchtman-Yaar
We and the Others: Majority Attitudes toward Non-Jews in Israel Rebeca Raijman and Anastasia Gorodzeisky

Topic V: Social (In)Justice

Social Justice in Israel: Shifting Paradigm Yossi Yonah
Israel’s Socioeconomic Debate: A New Perspective Danny Gutwein
A Short Economic History of Israel Avi Simhon
The Myth of Ethnic Inequality in Israel Steven Plaut

Topic VI: Feminism

Debates within Israeli Feminism Henriette Dahan Kalev
Navigating Gender Inequality in Israel: The Challenges of Feminism Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui
The Schizophrenic Reality of Israeli Women: A Cinematic Perspective, 2014 Orit Kamir
Gender Policy in Family and Society among Palestinian Citizens of Israel: Outside and Inside Influences Khawla Abu-Baker

Topic VII: Discontinuities

“Ladies and Gentlemen, Mahapach”: The 1977 Realignment from a Political Historical Perspective Michal Shamir
The Likud as a Dominant Party and Israel’s Post-1977 Infrastructure Sigal Ben-Rafael Galanti
The 1977 Changeover: The Emergence of a New Discourse among Palestinians in Israel Mohanad Mustafa and Muhammad Amara
The 1977 Paradox: Immediate Crises and Long-Range Economic and Political Restructuring Outcomes of the Changeover Lev Luis Grinberg
Dialectics of Change through Continuity: The 1977 Political Upheaval Revisited Arye Naor

PART B: THE CHALLENGE OF POST-ZIONISM

Topic VIII: Militarism?

Israel: A Militaristic Society? Moshe Lissak
Are Israel’s Media Critical of the IDF and the Security Culture? Yoram Peri
Militarism and Civil-Military Relations in Israel: A New Approach Gabriel Sheffer and Oren Barak
Patterns of Militarism in Israel Baruch Kimmerling

Topic IX: A Democracy?
“Ethnocracy”: The Politics of Judaizing Israel/Palestine Oren Yiftachel
Israeli Democracy: Civic and Ethnonational Components Sammy Smooha
What Kind of Democracy Is Israel? Alain Dieckhoff
From Liberal Democracy to Ethnocracy: Different Conceptions of Israel’s Democracy Benyamin Neuberger
Israel’s Vision: Jewish and Democratic Ruth Gavison
Is Israel a Democracy? Alan Dowty

Topic X: Debating Post-Zionism
Understanding the Divide: Arabs and Jews in Israel As’ad Ghanem
Is Israel a Colonial State? Gershon Shafir
Is There Still a Future for Settlements in Zionist Ideology? Julius H. Schoeps
The Colonialism/Colonization Perspective on Zionism/Israel Yitzhak Sternberg
What Do Those Who Claim Zionism Is Colonialism Overlook? Tuvia Friling
Post-Zionism and Its Moral and Political Ramifications Amal Jamal
The Debate over the “New Historians” in Israel Anita Shapira

Topic XI: Criticism of Israel – A Kind of Antisemitism?
Post-Zionists and Anti-Zionists: The “Otherjews’” Hour Shmuel Trigano
Anti-Zionist Discourse of the Left in Latin America: An Assessment Leonardo Senkman
Europe, Israel, the Jewish Communities, and Growing Antisemitism Olaf Glöckner
Criticism of Israel: A New Antisemitism? Moshe Zimmermann

PART C: ISRAEL OUTWARD

Topic XII: Israel-Diaspora
The Changing Status of Zionism and Israel in Latin American Jewry Judit Bokser Liwerant
Ethnicity and State Policy: Israel in the Discourse of the Jewish Press in the USA during the Past Generation Yosef Gorny
The French State, the Vertical Alliance, and the State of Israel Pierre Birnbaum
French Jewry and the Israelization of Judaism Yossi Shain and Sarah Fainberg
Israel and the Diaspora: Convergent and Divergent Markers Sergio DellaPergola
Israel-Diaspora Relations: “Transmission Belts” of Transnationalism Eliezer Ben-Rafael
Negation of the Diaspora from an Israeli Perspective: The Case of A. B. Yehoshua Gideon Katz

Topic XIII: The Conflict
“They help to weave the veil”: Edgar Salin and the Israel Economic and Sociological Research Project Karin Wilhelm
A Perspective on the Prospects of Settling the Zionist-Palestinian Conflict Mustafa Kabha
Accords or Peace between Israel and the Palestinians Yoel Bin-Nun
The Binational Dilemma Meron Benvenisti
Why Is It So Difficult to Resolve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict by Israeli Jews? A Socio-Psychological Approach Tamir Magal, Daniel Bar-Tal and Eran Halperin
Perspectives of Israeli-Palestinian Peace, 1917–2015 Shlomo Aronson
The Two-State Solution: A Way Out of the Impasse Asher Susser