Message from Steven M. Cohen, President

Over the past several months, a number of developments of interest to ASSJ members have occurred.

We undertook a shift in leadership and management of Contemporary Jewry. After years at the helm of CJ, Samuel Heilman of CUNY transferred the editorship to Harriet Hartman of Rowan University. We also engaged Helen Kim of Whitman College in Washington State as Research Editor, and Daniel Parmer of Brandeis University as Book Review Editor. After many years at the Cohen Center of Brandeis University where CJ benefitted enormously from the fine hand of Deborah Grant as managing editor, we transferred supervision of such activities to people working under Harriet - primarily as a cost-saving measure, but one that so far seems to be working. For proof-positive, please see the first issue of CJ that just appeared under Harriet's editorship.

The ASSJ book series, which Harriet had been editing, is now in the hands of Rela Mintz Geffen of Gratz College, Philadelphia, and we look forward to new monographs in the series.

And, as we see here in this issue of the ASSJ Newsletter, Ira Sheskin of the University of Miami continues his service on our behalf.

Shelly Tenenbaum of Clark University completed her 3-year stint as head of the Association for Jewish Studies Social Science Division, whose responsibilities include helping select and organize papers for presentation at the AJS annual meetings. Bruce Phillips of HUC-JIR, LA has succeeded her.

Bruce in turn, resigned as ASSJ treasurer and has been succeeded by Len Saxe of Brandeis. Meanwhile, Sergio DellaPergola resigned as vice president effective January 1, 2016, and the Board will select a successor, to be named.
Other ASSJ Board transitions took place. We elected new Board members: Helen Kim, Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz of JFNA, and Jennifer Thompson of California State University at Northridge. And we thank Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota), Shawn Landres, and Moshe Kornfeld for their years of exemplary service on the ASSJ Board.

We also are very proud and honored to make this year's Marshall Sklare Award to Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett of NYU and the Polin Museum of Warsaw. Riv-Ellen Prell took the lead in advancing the nomination, and Randal Schnoor of York University, Toronto very ably has handled the Award logistics.

We are also proud and honored to be making a Mandell L. Berman Service Award this year to Barry Shrage of Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropy. Len Saxe advanced the nomination and raised a major gift (major for us!) to support the reception from the Adelson Foundation.

This past June we conducted our first joint conference with the Network for Research in Jewish Education (NRJE). The event was so well-received that we have decided to undertake another one this June at Towson. Ari Kelman of Stanford University chaired last year's conference, and Sylvia Barack Fishman of Brandeis has agreed to chair the NRJE/ASSJ conference in 2016.

For those of us who will be in Jerusalem on Monday, February 1, 2016, we are holding a small gathering of researchers for a day-long consultation on the "partially Jewish." Uzi Rebhun of The Hebrew University in Jerusalem is hosting the meeting.

On behalf of the ASSJ, I extend our heartfelt thanks to all those named above. And I also apologize to several people who I overlooked who have contributed in so many other ways over the past several months.

And, certainly more important than all the work of the ASSJ per se is our teaching, our scholarship, our consulting, and our contributions to public discourse. While we have no reliable measures of our collective activity, my sense is that we constitute an unusually productive and constructive scholarly community. Moreover, we are a community of discourse that has been managing our healthy differences over findings, methods, and policy implications in a constructive fashion. (Although why some very smart and decent people don't automatically agree with my own interpretations of the evidence and policy positions continues to baffle me.)

With all this said, we do face some critical challenges to our association, our profession, and our scholarship.

In brief, perhaps the major challenge to our association is - banal as it may seem - to increase our membership. As should be readily apparent from the report above, we have done a more-than-decent job of expanding conversation and recruiting new talent to fill the various positions that needed filling. However, we have done little to replenish our membership. In the coming weeks and months, we are going to need to reach out to lapsed members, if not new members to expand our ranks.

As for the profession, when I conducted the survey of Jewish studies scholars for the AJS, I learned that we in the social sciences exhibit the oldest age profile. Now, I really have nothing against scholars age 65 and older, but we need to be conscious of recruiting younger scholars both to our field and to the ASSJ.

Last, I call our attention to numerous issues of communal and societal import that continue to merit our attention. We've provided a significant amount of research and other writing bearing upon various matters of Jewish continuity (intermarriage, educational impact, and related themes). But we have only begun to explore American Jews' changing and increasingly complex relationship with Israel. And we have hardly touched matters of poverty or, more broadly, social class, as well
as gender equity and a variety of critical social justice and social welfare concerns. These and other subject areas await our attention, as scholars and thought leaders.

Obviously, I encourage all of us to contribute to this discussion, be it in the ASSJ Newsletter, *CJ*, at our scholarly meetings, public commentary, or informal channels. And I welcome your direct communication: Steve34NYC@AOL.com.

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New Judaic Studies Concentration at Rowan University

[www.rowan.edu/colleges/chss/concentrations/jewishstudies/index.html](http://www.rowan.edu/colleges/chss/concentrations/jewishstudies/index.html)

Harriet Hartman welcomes comments and suggestions

Along with the Rowan news about the Jewish Studies Concentration, there is also a newly established Rowan Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies as of November 2015. Dr. Stephen Hague is the coordinator, sghague@hotmail.com.
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.


In addition, the volume 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.
Strictly Orthodox rising: What the demography of British Jews tells us about the future of the community

By Daniel Staetsky and Jonathan Boyd, Institute for Jewish Policy Research

In this report, we utilize the Census and Jewish communal data to explore how the numerical balance between the 'mainstream' and the strictly Orthodox (haredi) Jewish population is shifting over time, and what the age profiles and total fertility rates of both groups indicate about the future. In particular, we highlight how the haredi population is growing at an extraordinarily fast rate, due to its rare combination of high fertility and low mortality. By contrast, the non-haredi Jewish population is declining, not least due to its below replacement level fertility. We note how these measures, combined with an analysis of population momentum over time, help us to develop a probable picture of a future in which the haredi population will become an increasingly large part of the whole.

JPR's recent report "Britain's Israeli Diaspora: A demographic portrait" by David Graham, details for the first time, an analysis of data about the largest Jewish foreign-born group living in the UK. Using brand new data from the 2011 Census and other sources we demonstrate that for every two Jews leaving the UK for Israel, three Israelis move to the UK. This group is highly diverse and growing. It represents a potential boon to British Jewish society but also a challenge to Israel and its society.

Continuing JPR's effort to increase accessibility to Britain's 2011 Census data, David Graham has written a report entitled "Health and disability in Britain's Jewish population" the fifth in a census series. This edition provides accurate counts of the numbers of Jews in different age bands who suffer from a health condition or disability. Among the data, the report finds that approximately 2,000 Jewish children have some kind of limiting health condition, and that 5,600 Jews of working age are economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability. ☎️
Call for Papers for Upcoming Themed Issue: Special Needs and Inclusion in Jewish Education

Intents to submit requested by January 1, 2016. Intents should be sent to JournalofJEd@aol.com and should include the name of the author(s), author contact information, and a working title. Manuscripts due by June 1, 2016. Manuscripts should be submitted according to the instructions for Authors available at the Journal of Jewish Education website. Specific questions regarding submissions should be directed to JournalofJEd@aol.com.

The editors of the Journal of Jewish Education are interested in receiving papers that address and consider the phenomenon of Special Needs and Inclusion in Jewish Education. The field of Jewish special education is relatively new, and rapidly growing. Children have special educational needs if they have a learning challenge that calls for a special educational provision to be made for them.

We are interested in receiving thoughtful empirical investigations, whether in Special Needs and Inclusion in Jewish Education - that is, oriented to advancing the successful consideration of this subject-or research about this enterprise.

We are interested in papers from a range of disciplinary vantage points, including (but not limited to): the history and development of the field, the sociological consideration of the forces, factors, institutions and dynamics that come into play in advancing or impeding special needs and inclusion in a specific context or from a comparative perspective, investigations about the philosophical bases of the field, analyses of the pedagogical and curricular challenges that arise in the course of teaching and learning within Special Needs and Inclusion, empirical investigations of educational practices in Jewish education intended to engage learners with Special Needs.
Upcoming Conferences

• ASSJ at the Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, December 13-15, 2015
• Australian Association for Jewish Studies, Brisbane, February 14-15, 2016
• Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture, Chapman University, March 18-19, 2016
• Western Jewish Studies Association, Salem, OR, April 17-18, 2016
• Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, Calgary, May 29-June 3, 2016
• Network for Research in Jewish Education and ASSJ, Towson, MD, June 14, 2016
• American Jewish Historical Society, New York, June 19-21, 2016
• Institute for Israel Studies, Israel, June 20-22, 2016
• Association for the Sociology of Religion, Seattle, August 19-21
• American Sociological Association, Seattle, August 20-23, 2016

• Midwest Jewish Studies Association, TBA, 2016
• Religious Research Association, TBA, 2016
• Society for the Anthropology of Religion, No meeting in 2016
• Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, TBA, 2016
• ASSJ at the Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, December 18-20, 2016
• World Union of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, July or August 2017

Conference of the Network for Research in Jewish Education and ASSJ
June 14-16, 2015, Towson University

The NRJE and the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry present The Joint Conference on Jewish Education. The conference will focus on presentations of basic and applied research, as well as practice-based research. To provide a variety of opportunities for engagement and conversation the conference will feature four formats for presentation: Paper, Spotlight Sessions, Roundtable, and Consultation. We invite proposals of individual papers or full panels, and we recognize that the most engaging panels are informed by both research and practice. For more on the submission process and application please click here. Proposals must be received by January 15, 2016. Link to Call for Papers
Sarah Bunin Benor
Hebrew Union College

Sarah’s primary research project is a large-scale study of Hebrew at North American Jewish Summer Camps, with Sharon Avni and Jonathan Krasner. They recently completed their research, which included visits to 36 camps, interviews with 120 adults and 60 children, and a survey of 100 camp directors. Now they're in the process of analyzing data and writing.

Sarah continued to edit the Journal of Jewish Languages (with Ofra Tirosh-Becker), which just published a thematic double issue called "Language Contact and the Development of Modern Hebrew," guest edited by Edit Doron. The Jewish Language Research Website continues to add content, including Swedish and Spanish versions of the Jewish English Lexicon (a French version is in the works), thanks to the collaboration of Joshua Lebenswerd, Evelyn Dean-Olmsted, and Cyril Aslanov.

Academic articles

Reviews

Articles for Non-Academic Audiences

Refereed Conference Presentations
• 12/15 "Hebrew at American Jewish Summer Camps: The Role of Israel and Israelis." Roundtable. Association for Jewish Studies 47, Boston.
• 3/15 "Postvernacular Ladino at Sephardic Adventure Camp." UC Ladino Symposium 4, UCLA.

Invited Academic Conference / Colloquium Presentations
• 9/15 "Ethnolinguistic Infusion: Hebrew at American Jewish Summer Camps." Colloquium, New York University, Linguistics Department.
• 3/15 "Mensch, Bentsh, and Balagan: American Jewish Language and Identity," University of California, Berkeley.
• 2/15 "Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism." Emory University, Tenenbaum Family Lecture in Judaic Studies.

Jewish Language Research Website
Older adults' identification with religious communities has important consequences for health and service delivery. Many older adults find support within their religious communities, and many faith traditions maintain services for older adults. Many faith groups rely on their members to contribute funds and volunteer their time. However, research has shown a weakening of ties between individuals and formal faith communities. Among older Jewish Americans, increasing proportions do not identify with one of the denominations within American Judaism. We compared findings from the Pew 2013 Survey of American Jews with data from the 1990 and 2000/1 National Jewish Population Surveys. Comparisons and potential future trends are discussed, as well as the methodological challenges involved in comparing data from separate surveys.

[1] Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, Philadelphia PA

**Harriet Hartman**


**Presentations**

Bethamie Horowitz
NYU


The book is based on a longitudinal study of three teacher preparation programs: one focused on preparing teachers for Jewish day schools, one focused on Catholic schools and one focused on urban public schools. We followed 10 participants in each of these programs for five years. My article addresses the limitations of "identity" in studying teachers' lives over time. Instead I found agency to be a more useful concept.

Ariela Keysar
Trinity College

**International Research**
- U.S. Principal Investigator, Young adults and religion in a global perspective, YARG, 2015-2018.

**Expert Consultation**

**Publications**

**Presentations**
- "Combating Prejudice on Campus," Guest in Residence, Cornell University, November 19, 2015.

**Webinar**
- "Jewish Identity Constructs," Gratz College, October 18, 2015.
Barry Kosmin
Trinity College

Publication
● Barry A. Kosmin, Szarvas

Expert Consultancy

Conferences
● "Resentment, Anxiety and Careerism: Accounting for Antisemitism in the Academy and Among the Intelligentsia," Anti-Semitism in Comparative Perspective Seminar Series, Columbia Law School, November 11, 2015

Oped
● "Understanding and addressing Anti-Semitism on College Campuses," Noodle.com, 3.25.15

Research Project

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz
● After Pew: Thinking about American Jewish cohesion, assimilation and division. BJPA

Judit Bokser Misses-Liwerant
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
● Member of the Mexican Academy of Science.
● Member of the National Research System.
● Distinguished Visiting Professor, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
● Director and Editor of the Mexican Journal of Political and Social Science, New Epoch.

Publications

Books


Articles and Chapters of Books

“Thinking "Multiples Modernities" from Latin America's Perspectives: complexity, periphery and diversity,” in Multiple Modernities in the Contemporary Scene. A continuation of the Multiple Modernities Research Program, Michael Sussman and Gerhard Preyer (Eds.), Boston and Leiden: Brill, 2015.


“Modernity, Judaism and Multiple Modernities.: complexity, diversity and contradictions.” In Shmuel Noah Eisenstadt, in Marla Planter et al, Modernity and Social Theory, Mexico, Universidad de Guadalajara, (Spanish, forthcoming)

Academic Editorial Articles


International Congresses


Of Special Note for Judit Bokser Misses-Liwerant

The National University Prize for Research in Social Sciences, 2015. (A highly competitive and prestigious award, The Jury highlighted the interdisciplinary convergent research effort between the Social Sciences and Studies in Contemporary Jewry.)

Keren R. McGinity, Brandeis University

I'm delighted to announce that the Love & Tradition Institute, named for the 2004 Sklare Award Winner Egon Mayer, z"l, has recently become a 501c3 organization.

Randal Schnoor, York University


Invited panelist for 'A Symposium on Jewish Life in the Americas.' University of Texas at Austin. Nov 1, 2015. Spoke on 'Studying Canadian Jewish life in comparative perspective' in a panel entitled: 'Jewish Communities and Social Change: The Significance of Jews in Politics and Social Movements.'


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


In Progress

- I am currently working on community studies in Broward, Houston, and Springfield, MA.
If they were not rescued from Egypt. The Jewish community in Egypt in the light of demography. *Et-mol*, 237, 2014, 26-29 (Hebrew).


Que deviendra le peuple juif au XXIe siècle? Le point de vue de la démographie. *Quel avenir pour la pensée juive de langue française? Pardès*, 56,2015, 243-266.


**Conference papers and public presentations:**


Demography of the Jewish Family: Continuities and Discontinuities. Amsterdam, Menasheh Ben Israel Committee for the History and Culture of the Jews in the Netherlands, Symposium on *The Jewish Family*, 2014.


Israel and Diaspora: Demography and Jewish Identification. Sydney, The University of Sydney, Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies, 2015.

Israel and the Palestinian conflict: Demographic Trends and Implications. Melbourne, Monash University, Australian Center for Jewish Civilization, 2015.

Arnold Dashefsky  
*University of Connecticut*

**Publications**

**Presentation/Panel Chair/Organizer**

**Samuel Heilman**  
*CUNY*

- I served a Fulbright senior specialist in Poland for six weeks, based at the University of Wroclaw and lecturing as well at Jagellonian University in Krakow and Warsaw University during the spring term 2015. I gave a series of lectures in South Africa during the summer in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. I completed work on a co-authored book, *A New History of Hasidism*, to be published in 2016. I published a number of op-ed pieces in *Haaretz*, most recently this month.
The Marshall Sklare Award is an annual honor of the Association for the Social 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)

The ASSJ would like to thank Steven M. Cohen, Steven Gold, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Sam Klausner, and Shelly Tenenbaum for their generous donations to Sklare Award.
Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett is University Professor, and Professor of Performance Studies at New York University. She is also affiliated with the Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. In addition, she has been Program Director, Core Exhibition, Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw, Poland.

Trained as a folklorist BKG (as those far and wide call her) is a pioneer not only of the folklore of the Jewish people, with a particular interest in Eastern European Jewry, but vastly expanded the field include emerging areas of performance and food studies, among many others. In addition, she is a distinguished scholar in the area of museum studies, analyzing them and creating their collections. Simply put, Professor Kirshenblatt-Gimblett is one of the central figures in these fields over the last nearly half century. She has helped to fundamentally change the study of Jewish culture by providing models for the study of music, material culture, the digital world, and museums, among many other areas.

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett is a folklorist of Jewish cultures, and has thus made major contributions to the social scientific study of Jewry. Most importantly, by changing what the field of Jewish folklore is and does, she has transformed the study of European, Yiddish, and American Jewish cultures and broadened cultural approaches to the social scientific study of Jewry.

She established her reputation in her work as a scholar of Ashkenaz. She began with linguistics and Yiddish. Her 1977 coauthored book with Lucjan Dobroszycki, *Image Before My Eyes: A Photographic History of Jewish Life in Poland Before the Holocaust*, was widely praised for bringing back to life a complex understanding of Polish Jewry alongside a remarkable text and photographs. She was instrumental in orienting scholarship to pre-Holocaust studies of Polish Jewry. As a Jewish folklorist she has studied subjects in the field-such as linguistics, folk songs, ritual objects, material culture and foodways. However, she has expanded the scope of what Jewish folklore might engage, including tourist productions, museum displays, and the use of new media. Her studies of Jewish performance extend to folk singing and klezmer music, Hasidic Purim plays, and tourist practices in Israel. Her work on Jewish visual and material culture
includes studies in each and every one of these areas she has made major theoretical contributions.

For example, her reflection on two ethnographic studies of Israel youth trips by Harvey Goldberg and Samuel Heilman (The Israel Experience: Studies in Youth Travel and Jewish Identity. Jerusalem: Melton Center, 2002) constitute one of the most important intellectual framings of tourism and "pilgrimage." This work is a touchstone for all subsequent studies of identity tourism, which explore issues of "authenticity" and "re-socialization." She took up similar themes in her outstanding work on the klezmer revival in the United States and Europe, exploring the meaning of innovation and tradition in musical forms. Her profound exploration of how cultures change, and how cultural formulations are applied, reformulated, and reshaped have influenced three generations of scholars.

Kirshenblatt-Gimblett has also explored the intellectual history of Jewish folklore and ethnography in several essays, thereby deeply enriching our understanding of the social scientific study of Jewry. Her research on Max Weinreich's social science scholarship at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in interwar Vilna has been an essential contribution to understanding the key roots of the field. Her essays on the studies that Weinreich undertook on youth in interwar Poland reveal an historical sociology of unparalleled importance. Her introduction to the 1995 reissue of Mark Zborowski and Elizabeth Herzog's Life Is with People (1952), a landmark work of "anthropology at a distance" on Jewish life in pre-Holocaust Eastern Europe, constitutes the definitive study of one of the most important projects undertaken about Jews during this period.

Finally, her work has closely examined the question of how cultural artifacts are exhibited to understand the vast networks of academic and cultural institutions that provide the context for that process. It is in this arena that she raises the questions of Jewish self-representation that appear in her discussions of klezmer, for example. In her landmark book, Destination Cultures: Tourism, Museums, and Heritage, she examines cultural locations as diverse historical and contemporary worlds' fairs and museums where Jews have displayed themselves and been displayed. She demonstrates the complexity of Jewish self-representation in culture, and provides the foundation, along with her other work, for an entirely new approach to the study of Jewish folklore and culture. She has moved this field from collecting and describing to theorizing the very nature of culture as it is embedded in the complexity of historical and social change.

Emblematic of her creativity and innovations as a scholar is her book written with her late father Mayer Kirshenblatt. They Called me Mayer July:
Painted Memories of a Jewish Childhood in Poland Before the Holocaust, which includes his paintings and depicts his memories of life before the War. It was accompanied by an exhibition and a documentary film, "Paint What You Remember."

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett is one of the most significant public scholars in the broader field of Jewish studies, as well as in the field of Jewish folklore and culture. Her most significant recent role has been to design the core exhibition of the Museum of Polish Jewry that opened in the fall of 2014. This enormous undertaking has required her to integrate historical, aesthetic, and social scientific understanding of Polish Jewry and translate it into objects as well as language for the museum’s exhibitions. The importance of this work has been recognized throughout Israel, Europe, and North America.

She continues to consult with the following Jewish museums: Tel Aviv’s Beth Hatefutsoth, Jewish Museum Berlin, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Yeshiva University museum, Jewish Museum, National Museum of American Jewish History, Jewish Museum Vienna, among many others. Her role in translating Jewish scholarship to museums and other cultural venues is a singular contribution for the leading folklorist of Jewish life.

Her work as a scholar and public intellectual of Jewish life has been recognized by a Lifetime Achievement Award of the Foundation for Jewish Culture in 2008. She is the recipient of numerous fellowships, book awards, and other forms of recognition.

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett has helped instruct, advise, and inspire several generations of scholars in North America, Europe, and Israel, involved in Jewish Studies working across the range of social sciences, including not only folkloristics but also anthropology, linguistics, ethnomusicology, and sociology. Her work has been a model of how to think across the boundaries of countries, cultures, and disciplines, including crossing the humanities and social sciences, and to do so collaboratively, incisively, and imaginatively.

Barbara will deliver her paper during the Association for Jewish Studies meeting - Sunday, Dec 3 4:30- 6:30 PM (Sheraton, Back Bay B). The ASSJ Awards Reception will be at 6 PM in Independence East. Please join us! 😊
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 Dashofsky (University of Connecticut, Storrs, Sociology)
2013 Rela Mintz Geffen, Gratz College
2015 Barry Shrage, CJP, Greater Boston’s Jewish Federation

Bill Berman
The 2015 Mandell L. Berman Service Award is being given this year to Barry Shrage, President of Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, the oldest Jewish federation. In an era in search of leaders who can be both visionary and practical, inspiring yet tachlitic, and who have the ability to reach across diverse and divided communities, Barry has been exemplary. In an age of cynicism, where we are overfed a diet of negative information, not just about the Jewish community but about our society's ability to confront contemporary challenges, Barry is an optimist. "Never better," he says, when you encounter him. In part, it's never been better because he is such an extraordinary force for bringing meaning and love to the Jewish community.

It is not by accident that the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry is honoring Barry and doing so with an award named for the distinguished lay leader, Mandell ("Bill") Berman. Bill Berman, throughout his philanthropic career, has dedicated his resources to ensuring that the Jewish community has available the best social scientific evidence for planning Jewish communal life. Barry, his love of text and tradition notwithstanding, has been a professional partner with all of us who study American Jewry. He appreciates that to ensure a vibrant Jewish future, we need to understand the Jewish people and assess how communal institutions add meaning and value to their lives.

The Boston federation, along with being the first federated community, also has the longest history of conducting scientifically-based community studies. Barry has spearheaded the last three of these studies and treats them as the essential materials for thinking about his community and how CJP can contribute to its vibrancy. By training, Barry is a social worker - and, indeed, as he practices communal leadership, his relations with people come first. But, by dint of his work, he's an honorary social scientist - and much of his work is dedicated to understanding Jewish identity, Jewish education and the role that our synagogues and other Jewish institutions play in the lives of contemporary Jews.

Barry will be receiving his award at a ceremony to be held during the Association for Jewish Studies meeting - Monday night at 6:30 PM (Sheraton, Independent East). The event will feature a brief video with tributes to Barry and a cocktails/hors d'oeuvres reception. Please join us! 😊
The ASSJ

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

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We thank Shawn Landres, Riv-Ellen Prell, Moshe Kornfeld, and Bruce Phillips from Hebrew Union College for their service on the Board. ☺
The first book of the series is out (see next page). 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:

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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
In Print

When people discuss food in Israel, their debates ask politically charged questions: Who has the right to falafel? Whose hummus is better? But Yael Raviv’s Falafel Nation moves beyond the simply territorial to divulge the role food plays in the Jewish nation. She ponders the power struggles, moral dilemmas, and religious and ideological affiliations of the different ethnic groups that make up the “Jewish State” and how they relate to the gastronomy of the region. How do we interpret the recent upsurge in the Israeli culinary scene—the transition from ideological asceticism to the current deluge of fine restaurants, gourmet stores, and related publications and media?

Focusing on the period between the 1905 immigration wave and the Six-Day War in 1967, Raviv explores foodways from the field, factory, market, and kitchen to the table. She incorporates the role of women, ethnic groups, and different generations into the story of Zionism and offers new assertions from a secular-foodie perspective on the relationship between Jewish religion and Jewish nationalism. A study of the changes in food practices and in attitudes toward food and cooking, Falafel Nation explains how the change in the relationship between Israelis and their food mirrors the search for a definition of modern Jewish nationalism. Home Page

Yael Raviv is the director of the Umami food and art festival in New York City. She has a PhD in performance studies from New York University and is an adjunct professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health at NYU. Her work has appeared in Women and Performance, Gastronomica, and elsewhere.

Toward an Anthropology of Nation Building and Unbuilding in Israel presents twenty-two original essays offering a critical survey of the anthropology of Israel inspired by Alex Weingrod, emeritus professor and pioneering scholar of Israeli anthropology. In the late 1950s Weingrod’s groundbreaking ethnographic research of Israel’s underpopulated south complicated the dominant social science discourse and government policy of the day by focusing on the ironies inherent in the project of Israeli nation building and on the process of migration prompted by social change.

Drawing from Weingrod’s perspective, this collection considers the gaps, ruptures, and juxtapositions in Israeli society and the cultural categories undergirding and subverting these divisions. Organized into four parts, the volume examines our understanding of Israel as a place of difference, the disruptions and integrations of diaspora, the various permutations of Judaism, and the role of symbol in the national landscape and in Middle Eastern studies considered from a comparative perspective. These essays illuminate the key issues pervading, motivating, and frustrating Israel’s complex ethnoscape. Home Page

Fran Markowitz is a professor of anthropology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel.

Stephen Sharot is a professor emeritus of sociology at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Moshe Shokeid is a professor emeritus of anthropology at Tel Aviv University.

Alex Weingrod is a professor emeritus of anthropology at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
In 2010 approximately 15 percent of all new marriages in the United States were between spouses of different racial, ethnic, or religious backgrounds, raising increasingly relevant questions regarding the multicultural identities of new spouses and their offspring. But while new census categories and a growing body of statistics provide data, they tell us little about the inner workings of day-to-day life for such couples and their children.

_JewAsian_ is a qualitative examination of the intersection of race, religion, and ethnicity in the increasing number of households that are Jewish American and Asian American. Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt's book explores the larger social dimensions of intermarriages to explain how these particular unions reflect not only the identity of married individuals but also the communities to which they belong. Using in-depth interviews with couples and the children of Jewish American and Asian American marriages, Kim and Leavitt's research sheds much-needed light on the everyday lives of these partnerships and how their children negotiate their own identities in the twenty-first century.

Helen Kiyong Kim is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology at Whitman College. Her work has been published in the Journal of Jewish Identities and Forward and has been anthologized in several publications. Noah Samuel Leavitt is an associate dean of students at Whitman College and has served as the advocacy director for the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs. His work has appeared in a wide range of publications including _Contemporary Jewry, Slate, the International Herald Tribune, and Forward_. Home Page

Despite consensus about the importance of multigenerational analysis for studying the long-term impact of immigration, most studies in Israel have focused on the integration of first-generation migrants, neglecting key changes (in economic, social, linguistic, and identity outcomes) that occur intergenerationally. Rebeca Rajman tackles this important but untold story with respect to Jewish South African immigration in Israel. By collecting data from three generational cohorts, Rajman analyzes assimilation from a comparative multigenerational perspective. She also combines both quantitative and qualitative evidence with in-depth interviews and participant observation, thereby providing a rich and more complete picture of the complex process of migrant assimilation.

While the migrant subpopulation of South Africa has not received the attention that immigrant populations from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia have, as English-speaking migrants they are a powerful and significant group. Given the status of English as an international language, this study has important implications for understanding the expected assimilation trajectories of Anglophone immigrants in Israel as well as in other non-English-speaking societies. South African Jews in Israel not only contributes empirical material concerning immigrants in Israeli society but also articulates a theoretical understanding of the social mechanisms underlying the integration of various generations of immigrants into a variety of societal domains. Home Page

Rebeca Rajman is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Haifa, Israel. She is the coauthor of a book published in Israel about the political economy of labor migration in Israel.
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](http://www.springer.com/humanities/religious+studies/journal/12397)

Table of Contents for Contemporary Jewry, Volume 35, Issue 3 (October 2015).

- Editor’s Introduction, Harriet Hartman
- Russian Jewish Immigrants in the United States, Barry R. Chiswick, Nicholas Larsen
- Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism in Iran: The Effects of Identity, Threat, and Political Trust, Rusi Jaspal
- Parochial or Transnational Endeavor? The Attitude to Israel of Adolescents in Australian Jewish Day Schools, Zehavit Gross, Suzanne D. Rutland
- Karaite Stories: Narrating Subjectivity in a Marginal Moshava, Inbal Ester Cicurel
- Deep Blue: Notes on the Jewish Snail Fight, Gadi Sagiv

Report

- Research Updates, Helen Kim

Book Reviews

- Fran Markowitz, Stephen Sharot, and Moshe Shokeid (eds): Toward an Anthropology of Nation Building and Unbuilding in Israel, reviewed by Myron J. Aronoff
- Calvin Goldscheider: Israeli Society in the 21st Century: Immigration, Inequality, and Religious Conflict, reviewed by Bruce A. Phillips
- Adam Ferziger: Beyond Sectarianism: The Realignment of American Orthodox Judaism, reviewed by Moshe Krakowski
- Roberta Rosenthal Kwai: The Myth of the Cultural Jew: Culture and Law in Jewish Tradition, reviewed by Barry A. Kosmin

On-Line First None as of this writing.

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
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, research scientist
Fern Chertok, research scientist
Shira Fishman, research scientist
Shahar Hecht, senior research associate
Annette Koren, research scientist
Theodore Sasson, senior research scientist
CMJS/SSRI, Prof. Jewish Studies
Middlebury College
Michelle Shain, research associate
Graham Wright, research associate

CMJS Publications Fall 2015 (Publications Part 2)

Books

Book Chapters and Dissertations

Institute Reports

Commentaries
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

Helen Kim and Noah Leavitt
Non-white Jews Huffington Post

Jonathan Sarna
Jewish Studies Struggling on Several Fronts The Forward

Keren R. McGinity and Shawn Landres
Big Tent Judaism’s Study About Conservative Rabbis Deserves More Credit on www.ejeiwshphilanthropy.com

Alan Cooperman
Honing In On American Orthodox Jews The Jewish Press

Keren McGinity
"Most millennials with interfaith parents identify as Jews, Brandeis study finds," The Jewish Advocate (Nov. 26, 2015)
"It All Depends on the Man," Jewish Daily Forward (Nov. 14, 2015)
"Find Other Way to Explore Colombian Heritage," Jewish Daily Forward (Sept. 19, 2015)
"Intermarriage is an Opportunity, Not a Threat," Hadassah-Brandeis Institute (July 23, 2015)

Morton Weinfeld
In the days before the recent Canadian federal election I was interviewed four times on national Canadian media. The subject was the Niqabi debate: should a Canadian immigrant Muslim woman who wore the niqab , which covers the face except the eyes, be permitted to take the public oath of citizenship with her face so covered? ( Before the public oath her full facial identity is checked in private....). My answer was yes..... though I suspect most Republican presidential candidates, and perhaps some Democrats and independents, might well disagree....

Sarah Bunin Benor

Sergio DellaPergola
The Jewish People in 2050: 2 very different scenarios ynet


Jack Wertheimer, Steven Bayme and Steven M. Cohen, *After Pew: Thinking about American Jewish cohesion, assimilation and division*


Steven M. Cohen, James Ponet, and Keren R. McGinity, *My Son Won’t Even Break the Glass at his Wedding* Forward

Steven M. Cohen and Joy Levitt. *If You Marry a Jew, You're One of Us*, JTA


Two Jewish Anxieties. AJS Perspectives. Spring 2015.


Jews Still Leaning Democratic, *Jewish Journal*, August 20, 2105


Can Intermarriage Lead to an Increase in the Number of Jews in America Mosaic, November 9, 2015

Conservative Jewry’s numbers plummeting, but core engagement steady JTA, November 10, 2015

Jewish Studies professors are struggling, survey finds JTA

Israel Distress Need Not Lead to Israel Detachment And Lack of Support from Left You Tube

How To Stabilize the Declining Jewish Middle–Or Even Reverse It Forward

Polls Showing Jewish Support for Iran Deal More Credible Forward

Numerous ASSJ Members
Strategic Directions for Jewish Life: A Call to Action

Ira M. Sheskin

Biden Again Expresses Uncertainty About 2016 New York Times
With Polls of U.S. Jews on Iran at Odds, which to Believe? JTA
Dating at 62: A Cautionary Tale Forward
Feds Clarify policy on reparations money inherited from Holocaust survivors Miami Herald
Wasserman Schultz calls Jewish intermarriage a 'problem,' later says she does not oppose it Sun Sentinel
Ignoring the Elephant in the Room www.e-jewishphilanthropy.com
Where are the Jews of Dayton? Dayton Jewish Observer
Could the nuclear deal help Republicans win Florida in 2016? Tampa Bay Times
What's behind South Florida Jewish retirement numbers? Cleveland Jewish News
Republicans woo traditionally Democratic Jewish voters South Florida Sun-Sentinel
Defying Stereotypes, Jewish Life in the South Is Flourishing Forward
Jewish South Growing in Florida, D.C. Area Atlanta Jewish Times
Young Jewish leaders to celebrate Shabbat South Florida Sun-Sentinel


TV Appearance
VIEWPOINT: Syrian Crisis

Radio Appearances
Iran Nuclear Deal Leaves Congress with Plenty to Discuss WIOD 610 Radio Miami
Iran Nuclear Agreement Leaves Many Experts Cautiously Optimistic WIOD 610 Radio Miami
President Obama Warns That Afghanistan Fragile As He Plans to Leave Troops There WIOD 610 Radio Miami
The Department of Hebrew, Biblical & Jewish Studies in the School of Languages and Cultures, at the University of Sydney has just made two new appointments: Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod, whose thesis, "Life under Siege: The Jews of Magdeburg under Nazi Rule", (University of Sydney) has been published in German, has been appointed to the position of Roth Lecturer in Jewish Civilisation, Israel and Holocaust Studies. Dr Gili Kugler, who just completed her PhD at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem has been appointed as the new lecturer in Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew, supported by the Einhorn Fund.

The Department hosted a number of visiting scholars in 2015. In May Professor Sergio DellaPergola was a Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fellow. He gave some guest lectures to our unit on Israel in the Modern Middle East as well as the joint seminar on Perceptions and Experiences of Antisemitism among Jews in Italy with the Department of Italian, 21 May.

In August, Professor Zehavit Gross of the School of Education at Bar Ilan University and honorary research associate with the department visited Sydney as part of the Pratt research project she is conducting with Professor Emerita Suzanne Rutland on Jewish Education in Australia, Asia and the Pacific Region. With Palestinian Human Rights activist, Bassam Eid, she conducted a departmental research seminar on 'Peace Education and Human Rights as a Challenge for Higher Education', 24 August. She also presented with Professor Rutland on "Antisemitism in the Schoolyard: Combating Racial Prejudice Early On" at the Centre for Independent Studies (CIS) on 27 August.

Suzanne Rutland's new book, with Sam Lipski, has had an Israeli/American edition published by Gefen Publishing (Jerusalem). A launch of this edition of the book was held at the Begin Centre in Jerusalem on 7 October 2015, with a prestigious group of speakers. The Australian Ambassador, Dave Sharma, gave the opening address. He was followed by Elyakim Rubenstein, Judge of the Supreme Court; Natan Sharansky, well known Russian activist and later Israeli leader; Professor Rutland and Isi Leibler, who played a leading role in the Australian Campaign for Soviet Jewry, working closely with both Bob Hawke and Malcolm Fraser. Editor of the Jerusalem Post, Steve Linde, wrote a review of the book published on 15 October, stressing that "Let My People Go is a fascinating account of how the small Jewish community of Australia, under the inspirational leadership of Isi Leibler, played an extraordinary part in the exodus of Soviet Jewry a quarter of a century ago."

International Asian Scholars Convention, Adelaide 5-9 July:
Dr Myer Samra, with the Australian Association for Jewish Studies, coordinated three sessions dealing with the history of the Jews in Asia, entitled "Asian Jewish Encounters" as part of this international conference held in Adelaide in July. Dr Samra presented on "The Experience of Benei Menashe Settlers in Israel" and Professor Emerita Suzanne Rutland dealt with the role played by Australian Jewish Leibler in India's full diplomatic recognition of Israel in 1992 and, with Professor Zehavit Gross, examining the education of Jewish children in Beijing today, exploring how the individualized learning style of the Montessori system facilitates the children's learning, particularly of their heritage-language, Hebrew. Other international presenters covering India, the Far East and Baghdadi Jews included Professors Joan Roland, Jonathan Goldstein, Yakov Zlnberg, Spencer Kazimir, and Dr Maisie Meyer, who unfortunately had to leave early due to family ill health.

Publications:

HOPING TO HELP
The Promises and Pitfalls of Global Health Volunteering
BY JUDITH N. LASKER
AN ILR PRESS BOOK | THE CULTURE AND POLITICS OF HEALTH CARE WORK

“The space where international health volunteering and good intentions collide can get very messy. Hoping to Help cleans up the mess. This book should be required reading for anyone interested in volunteering abroad in any capacity, health service or otherwise.”—BRANDON BLACHE-COHEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMIZADE GLOBAL SERVICE-LEARNING

“Hoping to Help makes a clear and new contribution. The issues Judith N. Lasker examines are increasingly pressing for universities across the United States, as the trend toward internationalization is accompanied by unexpected perverse incentives and adverse impacts such as those Lasker raises. This high-quality book will appeal beyond the global health community to study abroad, service learning, and civic engagement programs, as well as church organizations and civic groups.”—ERIC HARTMAN, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

“Hoping to Help has many important implications for potential international volunteers as well as universities, nongovernmental organizations, and religious organizations in particular.”—BENJAMIN LOUGH, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

“Hoping to Help is an important read for anyone interested in global health or participating in a global health experience. Judith N. Lasker does an excellent job of framing the issues tied to global volunteering into a larger historical context that adds a deeper understanding as to how we have evolved to the situation we have today. She looks at the issue from many stakeholder perspectives, including, most important, that of the host community.”—TRICIA TODD, MPH, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

JUDITH N. LASKER is N.E.H. Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Lehigh University. She is coauthor of When Pregnancy Fails, In Search of Parenthood, and Equal Time, Equal Value.
Peruse and enjoy the offerings - historical and contemporary, primary and secondary, - of our free open access, 25000+ strong, online repository for Jewish communal policy documents. Do you have something you’d like to add? Do you want to keep up to date on the latest as the archive transitions from NYU to Stanford? Would you like to donate to support the archive? Please don’t hesitate to contact us at mcwill@stanford.edu.

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Front Cover
Boston Common at Twilight
Childe Hassam, 1885–86.
Oil on canvas. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
From Wikipedia Commons
Honoring this Year’s Marshall Sklare Memorial Award Winner

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, professor at New York University, is a scholar of Performance and Jewish Studies and a museum professional. She was born in Canada during the Second World War to Jewish immigrants from Poland. Professor of Performance Studies at New York University since 1981 (and distinguished University Professor since 2002), she is best known for her interdisciplinary contributions to Jewish studies and to the theory and history of museums, tourism, and heritage. She is currently Program Director of the Core Exhibition for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw.

Her Award Lecture is titled “The Ethnographer in the Museum: Creating POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews.” As the 2015 recipient of the Marshall Sklare award, she will reflect on her experience at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in light of the concerns that animated Sklare’s work. While Poland is no America and Warsaw is no Lakeville, there is hardly an aspect of Marshall Sklare’s work that does not bear on the history of Polish Jews and on Jewish life in Poland today – whether group survival, religion and ethnicity, acculturation, intermarriage, conversion, Israel, living with one’s neighbors, or forms and expression of Jewish identification.

How might Marshall Sklare, grandson of Litvaks from Kovno, approach the history of Polish Jews, ancestors of most Jews living in America today? How might he approach the study of the Jewish community in Poland today? What can the social sciences offer to historians of Polish Jews and to the making of a museum that will be an agent of transformation that can move an entire society forward? She will explore these questions from the vantage point of an ethnographer in the museum responsible for leading the development of a multimedia narrative exhibition dedicated to the 1000 year history of Polish Jews at the heart of POLIN Museum in Warsaw.

Sunday, December 13 4:30-6:00pm Sheraton Backbay B
With Responses from Jeffrey Shandler & Samuel Kassow
Chaired by Riv-Ellen Prell


Featured Sessions

SUNDAY

BEYOND PARENTING AND INTO RETIREMENT: MULTIFACETED ENGAGEMENT IN JEWISH LIFE DURING THE NEXT CHAPTER OF LIFE 10-11:30 Sheraton Commonwealth

DOES FAMILY MATTER? THE ROLE OF PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS IN JEWISH EDUCATION 10-11:30 Sheraton Dalton A/B

THE NUMBERS CONTROVERSY AND AMERICAN JEWRY: DISCERNING THE TRENDS AND THEIR MEANING 11:45-1:15 Sheraton Constitution B

BEYOND FREEDOM SUMMER: COMPLICATING NARRATIVES OF AMERICAN JEWISH INVOLVEMENT IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AT MIDCENTURY 11:45-1:15 Sheraton Fairfax B

THE PITCH OF JEWISH VOICES IN AMERICA 2:30-4:00 Sheraton Backbay B

MIGRATION, RELIEF, AND AID IN THE POSTWAR WORLD: DEFINING A NEW TRANSNATIONAL JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE MISSION 2:30-4:00 Sheraton Berkeley A/B

INTERMARRIAGE AND JEWISH AMERICAN CULTURE 2:30-4:00 Sheraton Clarendon A/B

TEACHING PALESTINE IN THE CONTEXT OF JEWISH STUDIES 4:30-6:00 Sheraton Commonwealth

SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE NONES: UNDERSTANDING SECULAR AND CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF JEWISH IDENTITY 4:30-6:00 Sheraton Dalton A/B

MONDAY

AMERICAN JEWS AND THE LONG 1960s 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Clarendon A/B

CROSSING RELIGIOUS AND GEOGRAPHIC BORDERS 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Dalton A/B

JEWISH COMMUNAL SURVEYS IN POSTWAR AMERICA 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Gardner A

NEW SOCIAL SCIENCE QUESTIONS ABOUT JEWISH LIFE 10:30-12:00 Sheraton Berkeley A/B

PEDAGOGY AND POLITICS OF TEACHING ISRAEL AND PALESTINE ON AMERICAN COLLEGE CAMPUSES 1:15-2:45 Sheraton Constitution A

INTERROGATING IDENTITY: NEW APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF JEWISH ADULTS 1:15-2:45 Sheraton Hampton A/B

THE VIEW ACROSS THE OCEAN: CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH OF AMERICAN JEWRY IN ISRAEL AND OF ISRAEL BY AMERICAN JEWS 3:00-4:00 Sheraton Backbay C

MODERN JEWISH PHILANTHROPY AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF JEWISH LIFE 3:00-4:30 Sheraton Hampton A/B

PHILOSEMITISM AND ANTISEMITISM IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LIFE 3:00-4:30 Sheraton Dalton A/B

"ARAB" JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA 5:00-6:30 Sheraton Clarendon A/B

TRANSNATIONAL JEWISH GIVING TO ZION: COMMUNITY BUILDING, IDENTITY, AND AUTHORITY 5:00-6:30 Sheraton Jefferson

TUESDAY

ORTHODOXY, GENDER, AND THE BODY 8:30-10:00 Constitution B

ANTISEMITISM AND THE UNITED STATES IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Hampton A/B

RELIGION, ZIONISM, AND PEDAGOGY IN ISRAEL AND NORTH AMERICA 12:00-1:30 Sheraton Backbay B

INVENTIONS OF MODERN JEWISH IDENTITY IN THE AMERICAS 12:00-1:30 Sheraton Backbay C

JEWISH BOUNDARIES AND BORDER CROSSINGS IN PROTESTANT AMERICA 12:00-1:30 Sheraton Beacon A
BEYOND PARENTING AND INTO RETIREMENT: MULTIFACETED ENGAGEMENT IN JEWISH LIFE DURING THE NEXT CHAPTER OF LIFE
Sunday 10-11:30 Sheraton Commonwealth
Chair: Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University)
The Emerging Jewish Boomer Landscape
Stuart Himmelfarb (B3/The Jewish Boomer Platform)
The Importance of Israel to American Jewish Adults
Janet Krasner Aronson (Brandeis University)
Building Community, Seeking Meaning, Finding Focus: Patterns and Trends in Adult Jewish Learning during Midlife and Beyond
Lisa D. Grant (HUC–JIR)

Baby Boomers, Public Service and Minority Communities
Sponsor(s): Berman Jewish Policy Archive at NYU Wagner (BJPA), Research Center for Leadership in Action (RCLA), NYU Wagner
Principal Investigator(s): David M. Elcott


DOES FAMILY MATTER? THE ROLE OF PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS IN JEWISH EDUCATION
Sunday 10-11:30 Sheraton Dalton A/B
Chair and Respondent: Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)

The Roles of Grandparents in the Education and Socialization of Young Jews
Jack Wertheimer (The Jewish Theological Seminary)
What Does Life-Course Change in the Jewish Family Look Like? Assumptions Revealed by the Evolution of a Coding Script
Alex Pomson (Rosov Consulting)
If You Stop Going to Hebrew School, You’re Not Allowed to Horseback Ride: How Do Parents Influence Their Children’s Involvement in Religious School?
Ilana Horwitz (Stanford University)


THE NUMBERS CONTROVERSY AND AMERICAN JEWRY: 
DISCERNING THE TRENDS AND THEIR MEANING 
Sunday 11:45-1:15 Sheraton Constitution B
Chair: Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)
Cultures of Enumeration
Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)
The Shrunken Jewish Middle and Its Implications
Steven M. Cohen (HUC–JIR)
Demography Is Not Destiny: Use and Misuse of Population Statistics to Predict the Jewish Future
Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University)

Jewish Community Study of New York 2011. Sponsor(s): UJA-Federation of New York. Principal Investigator(s): Steven M. Cohen, Jacob B. Ukeles, Ron Miller, Pearl Beck, David Dutwin


The Demographic Consequences of U.S. Jewish Population Trends (American Jewish Year Book 1983)
BEYOND FREEDOM SUMMER: COMPLICATING NARRATIVES OF AMERICAN JEWISH INVOLVEMENT IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AT MIDCENTURY Sunday 11:45-1:15
Sheraton Fairfax B
Chair: Judith Ellen Smith (University of Massachusetts Boston)
The Boundaries of Brotherhood and Sisterhood: The Jewish Greek System and Grassroots Civil Rights Efforts in the 1950s
Shira M. Kohn (Center for Jewish History)
Katie Rosenblatt (University of Michigan)
Brooklyn Women Work for Unity: Jewish, Italian, and African American Cooperation in the Brownsville Women’s Non-Partisan Committee for Civic Rights, 1944
Allan Amanik (Brooklyn College, CUNY)
Layers of Bureaucracy: Jewish Name Changing and the Struggle for Civil Rights after World War II
Kirsten L. Fermaglich (Michigan State University)


MIGRATION, RELIEF, AND AID IN THE POSTWAR WORLD: DEFINING A NEW TRANSNATIONAL JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE MISSION

Sunday 2:30-4:00 Sheraton Berkeley A/B
Chair: Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)

A Plea for Heartstrings and Purse Strings: The 1945 Battle for Combined American Jewish Fundraising
Rachel Deblinger (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Homes for the “Hard Core”: The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee’s Efforts to Resettle the Last Jewish Inhabitants of Camp Föhrenwald
Kierra Mikaila Crago-Schneider (Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany)

Anat Mooreville (University of Washington)

Respondent: Natalia Aleksiun (Touro College)


INTERMARRIAGE AND JEWISH AMERICAN CULTURE
Sunday 2:30-4:00 Sheraton Clarendon A/B
Chair and Respondent: Keren R. McGinity (Brandeis University)
“A Grave Experiment”: Intermarriage Plots in the Fiction of Emma Wolf and Bettie Lowenberg
Lori Harrison-Kahan (Boston College)
“A Little More Jewish, Please”: Interracial Intermarriage in the Fiction of Erica Jong and Fran Ross
Eli Bromberg (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
JewAsian: Intermarriage through the Lens of Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Difference
Helen Kim (Whitman College)


FAQ on American Jews - #2 Intermarriage. Sponsor(s): Berman Jewish DataBank@The Jewish Federations of North America. Principal Investigator(s): Ron Miller, Arnold Dasherfky, Ira M. Sheskin, Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz


TEACHING PALESTINE IN THE CONTEXT OF JEWISH STUDIES  
Sunday 4:30-6:00 Sheraton Commonwealth  
Moderator: Aaron J. Hahn Tapper (University of San Francisco)  
Discussant: Aomar Boum (University of California, Los Angeles)  
Oren Kroll-Zeldin (University of San Francisco)  
Shaul Magid (Indiana University)  
Shira Robinson (The George Washington University) 

PEDAGOGY AND POLITICS OF TEACHING ISRAEL AND PALESTINE ON AMERICAN COLLEGE CAMPUSES  
Monday 1:15-2:45 Sheraton Constitution A  
Moderator: David Shneer (University Colorado)  
Discussants: Yael Aronoff (Michigan State University)  
Corinne E. Blackmer (Southern Connecticut State University)  
Michael Brenner (American University)  
Liora Halperin (University of Colorado)  
Dov Waxman (Northeastern University)  

RELIGION, ZIONISM, AND PEDAGOGY IN ISRAEL AND NORTH AMERICA  
12:00-1:30 Sheraton Backbay B  
Chair: Shay Rabineau (Binghamton University)  
A Gift for the State: Commemorating Fallen Heroes in Israeli Children’s Picture Books - Dan Porat (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
How to Teach Politics as Religion: The Case of the Emunah Curriculum - Ilan Fuchs (Hebrew College)  
“They All Lived Happily Ever After”: American Jewish Children’s Narrations of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict - Sivan Zakai (American Jewish University)  
The Impact of Birthright Israel in Comparative Perspective: Evidence from the Pew Survey of US Jews - Rachel Friedberg (Brown University) and Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (Jewish Federations of North America)  
The Teaching of Other Religions in Israeli Education—An Analysis of Textbooks and Classroom Interactions - Michael Gillis (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) 

SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE NONEs: UNDERSTANDING SECULAR AND CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF JEWISH IDENTITY

Sunday 4:30-6:00 Sheraton Dalton A/B
Chair: Alan Mintz (The Jewish Theological Seminary)
A New Form of Identity? The Trend towards Secularity and Secularism among Jewish American College Students

Barry A. Kosmin (Trinity College)

Raquel Magidin de Kramer, Daniel Parmer, and Elizabeth Tighe (Brandeis University)
Becoming Jewish Adults: The Jewish Identity Work of Emerging Adults

Rachel Bernstein (Brandeis University)


AMERICAN JEWS AND THE LONG 1960s
Monday 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Clarendon A/B
Chair: Melissa R. Klapper (Rowan University)
Son of Madmen: Biographical/Autobiographical Reflections on Jews in Advertising
Alan T. Levenson (University of Oklahoma)
World of Our Fathers and World of Our Sons: New York Intellectuals and Student Radicalism
Ronnie Avital Grinberg (University of Oklahoma)
Not Playing Indian: Race and the Terrain of Identity in Jewish Educational Summer Camps in the 1960s and 1970s
Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)


CROSSING RELIGIOUS AND GEOGRAPHIC BORDERS
Monday 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Dalton A/B
Chair: Daniel Parmer (Brandeis University)
Intermarriage, but Not Interfaith: The Latest Generations Redefine the Acceptable Jewish Family of the Twenty-First Century
Samuel Richardson (University of Virginia)
Changing Communities or Changing Identities? A Comparative Perspective on Latin American Jewish Immigrants in the United States
Laura Limonick (SUNY College at Old Westbury)
In Good Times and Bad: The Experience of Shliḥim at American Overnight Camps during a Time of Crisis
Amy L. Sales and Nicole Samuel (Brandeis University)
Obviousness: Conversion, Passing, and the Surprising Benefit of Phenotypic Dissimilarity
Adam L. Horowitz (Stanford University)


JEWISH COMMUNAL SURVEYS IN POSTWAR AMERICA
Monday 8:30-10:00 Gardner A
Chair: Kirsten L. Fermaglich (Michigan State University)
Surveying Liberalism: Jewish Politics in the Age of Heightened Jewish Diversity
Max D. Baumgarten (University of California, Los Angeles)
The Janowsky Survey and the Postwar Purpose of the Jewish Community Center
Avigail S. Oren (Carnegie Mellon University)
Jewish Communal Surveys at the American Jewish Historical Society
Susan Woodland (American Jewish Historical Society)
Respondent: Lila Corwin Berman (Temple University)

NEW SOCIAL SCIENCE QUESTIONS ABOUT JEWISH LIFE
Monday 10:30-12:00 Berkeley A/B
Chair: Rela Mintz Geffen (Gratz College)
Subcultural Diversity in American Cold War Culture: The Case of the Soviet Jewry Movement
Shaul Keiner (Vanderbilt University)
The Twentieth-Century Encounter of Judaism with “Eastern Spiritualities”:
Challenges, Assets, and Everything in between
Mira Neshama Niculescu (L’École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)
Why Postcolonial Papua New Guineans Think They Are Jews—And What It Means for Jewish Studies
Eric Silverman (Wheelock College)
American Judaism: The Interplay of Natural and Intentional Communities
Michael S. Berger (Emory University)

Check Out The:
JQSB
Jewish Question Survey Bank

The Jewish Survey Question Bank (JSQB) is an online database of survey questions used in Jewish social research. Recent years have seen an increasing number of social scientific surveys of the Jewish population, including studies of the Jewish population, program evaluation, public opinion, and more. 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.
INTERROGATING IDENTITY: NEW APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF JEWISH ADULTS
Monday 1:15-2:45 Sheraton Hampton A/B
Chair: Debra Renee Kaufman (Northeastern University)
Traditional Jews: “Nones” on Religion
Ari Y. Kelman (Stanford University)
Under Construction: The Social Life of Jewish Identity
Tobin Belzer (University of Southern California)
At the Nexus of Multiple Identities: Young Adult Adoptees, Jewishness, and Birth Heritage
Jennifer Sartori (Northeastern University) and
Jayne K. Guberman (Adoption and Jewish Identity Project)


THE VIEW ACROSS THE OCEAN: CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH OF AMERICAN JEWRY IN ISRAEL AND OF ISRAEL BY AMERICAN JEWS

Monday 3:00-4:00 Sheraton Backbay C
Chair: Pamela S. Nadell (American University)

Israeli Jargon: Lost in Transliteration?
Nadav G. Molchadsky (University of California, Los Angeles)
David Barak-Gorodetsky (University of Haifa)
Henrietta Szold: American Zionism in Palestine
Vardit Garber (University of Haifa)

The Past Is a Foreign Country? Archival Gazes of Jewish Studies across the Atlantic
Jason Lustig (University of California, Los Angeles)
Nationalism in a Magidic Key: Eastern European Propagandists and the Dissemination of Zionism in America during World War I
Judah Mark Bernstein (New York University)
The Struggle at America’s Zionist/Anti-Zionist “Front Line”: American Jewish Groups and the Organization of Arab Students, 1953–1977
Geoffrey Phillip Levin (New York University)

Respondent: Zohar Segev (University of Haifa)


MODERN JEWISH PHILANTHROPY AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF JEWISH LIFE

Monday 3:00-4:30 Sheraton Hampton A/B

Chair: Noam F. Pianko (University of Washington)

1969: The Year That Rocked the Jewish Philanthropic World
Lila Corwin Berman (Temple University)

Jewish Philanthropy in the New Gilded Age
Moshe Kornfeld (University of Colorado)

Ethnography between Heritage and Inheritance: Working toward a Political Economy of Postvernacular Yiddish Language and Culture in the United States
Joshua Benjamin Friedman (University of Michigan)

Global Jewish Philanthropy and the Arts in Israel: From the State's Early Years to Today
Galeet Dardashti (Rutgers University)

The Emergence of American Jewish Communal Philanthropy and of American Municipal Reform: The View from Cincinnati
Karla Goldman (University of Michigan)

Respondent: Ari Y. Kelman (Stanford University)

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PHILOSEMITISM AND ANTISEMITISM IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LIFE Monday 3:00-4:30 Sheraton Dalton A/B
Chair: Nancy Sinkoff (Rutgers University)
Microaggressions, “Jokes,” and BDS: US Jews’ Perceptions of and Experiences with Antisemitism
Matthew E. Boxer and Matthew Brookner (Brandeis University)
Israel, American Jews, and Evangelicals
Bruce A. Phillips (HUC–JIR)
Antisemitism and Party Politics in Post-Communist Hungary
Csaba Nikolenyi (Concordia University)
Respondent: Jody Myers (California State University, Northridge)

ANTISEMITISM AND THE UNITED STATES IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
Tuesday 8:30-10:00 Sheraton Hampton A/B
Chair: Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)
Explanations for Varying Levels of Antisemitism in American Jewish Communities
Ira Martin Sheskin (University of Miami)
Campus Antisemitism in the United States and United Kingdom
Ariela Keysar (Trinity College)
The Discourse of Global Contemporary Antisemitism: The Implications of US Foreign Policy
Charles A. Small (Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy)


"ARAB" JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA
Monday 5:00-6:30 Sheraton Clarendon A/B
Chair: Nadia Donna Malinovich (Université de Picardie / Sciences Po)
The New York Syrian Jewish Community as a Diaspora Social Group
Mijal Bitton (New York University)
Syrian Jewish Religious Modernities in Mexico City
Evelyn Dean-Olmsted (University of Puerto Rico)
Sambusak Sundays: A Failed Ritual or a Preservation Commitment?
Norma Baumei Joseph (Concordia University)
Conceptualizing the Dislocation of Jews from the Middle East and North Africa
Shayna Zamkanei (University of Chicago)


TRANSNATIONAL JEWISH GIVING TO ZION: COMMUNITY BUILDING, IDENTITY, AND AUTHORITY
Monday 5:00-6:30 Sheraton Jefferson
Chair: Natan Aridan (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
Cornering the Market on American Jewish Giving to Israel: The History of the Committee for the Control and Authorization of Campaigns
Eric Fleisch (Brandeis University)
The Shadar-Host Economy in Early Modern Italy
David Joshua Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)
Gift Giving, Nationalism, and the Organization of Jewish American-Israel Relations
Dan Lainer-Vos (University of Southern California)


ORTHODOXY, GENDER, AND THE BODY
Tuesday 8:30-10:00 Constitution B
Chair: Jody Myers (California State University, Northridge)
Religious Defection and the Transformation of Bodily Practices
Lynn R. Davidman (University of Kansas)
Rid Yourself of Frigidity and Impotence: The Empowering Sexual Hygiene of Esther Jungreis’s Orthodoxy
Matthew Williams (Stanford University)
Hishtadlut and Bitaḥon: Haredi Women Negotiate Bodily Autonomy and Divine Intervention
Michal Raucher (University of Cincinnati)
Serving God with My Naked Body
Cara Rock-Singer (Columbia University)


INVENTIONS OF MODERN JEWISH IDENTITY IN THE AMERICAS
Tuesday 12:00-1:30 Sheraton Backbay C
Chair: Beth S. Wenger (University of Pennsylvania)
Horace Kallen’s Cold War: A Secular Jewish Opposition to Communism and Catholicism
David Weinfeld (Queens College, CUNY)
Yugntruf’s Mameloshn: Yiddish, Youth, and Identity Politics in 1960s–1970s America
Sandra Fox (New York University)
“Where There Is Not Even a Shadow of Prejudice”: European Jewish Immigrants and Brazilian National Identity, 1945–1955
Michael Rom (Yale University)
Forgetting and Remembering: American Jews and the Changing History of Zionism
Rachael Kamel (Temple University)


