

# FRANKELY SPEAKING

Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies • August 2016



## Inside

Israel at the Frankel Center	2
Jack Jacobs: Leaning to the Left	3
Introducing the Frankel Institute Fellows	4
A Summer of Scholarship	8
Repairing the World	10
Mazel Tov!	11
Save the Date	12

U-M student Keren Leshem at Masada, Israel  
(photo by Eden Shulruff)



JEAN & SAMUEL FRANKEL  
CENTER FOR JUDAIC STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

202 South Thayer Street, Suite 2111  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1608  
JudaicStudies@umich.edu  
(734) 763-9047

# Israel at the Frankel Center

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



Photo by D.C. Goings

In our obsession with Israeli political conflict, we Americans so often forget the variety of cultures and societies that coexist within the state. This year the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies will be exploring the diversity of societies, cultures, and histories of Israel. I hope this year will help us better understand and appreciate the variety of the human experience in Israel.

For as long as the state has existed, Israel has been a major focus of the world's attention. But it does seem that recently this focus has become a true obsession, particularly on college campuses. Ann Arbor is no exception. Michigan's Central Student Government regularly debates the notion of censuring Israel, as though it were the most important issue to the Michigan student body. In front of the synagogue I attend, just a few blocks down Washtenaw from campus, antisemitic protesters assemble every Sabbath holding hateful signs against Israel. Professional scholarly organizations to which I belong have their meetings hijacked by zealots who insist that the organization discard its scholarly mission to instead "commit itself to monitoring Israeli actions."

But at the Frankel Institute, we will be modeling the type of informed

discussion that the subject of Israel deserves. I am sure that we will be discussing conflict. But we will also be discussing literature and performance, migration and diaspora, architecture and city planning.

---

**"The U-M campus and the wider community will have the opportunity to learn from some of the leading scholars of Israeli culture and society, as well as from some more junior scholars conducting cutting-edge research that transcends the polemical approaches we hear so often about Israel."**

---

Our public symposia will deal with multiple communities of Israel. The first symposium will look at Arabs, Jews, and Arab Jews, exploring Israel's entangled identities. Other public events will focus on the relationship between Israel and the Jewish diaspora; the variety of Israeli literary traditions from Arabic to Yiddish; and life in the

*yishuv* (Palestine during the Mandate period). The U-M campus and the wider community will have the opportunity to learn from some of the leading scholars of Israeli culture and society, as well as from some more junior scholars conducting cutting-edge research that transcends the polemical approaches we hear so often about Israel.

I am personally looking forward to engaging in these discussions. Israel is a place that is dear to me in so many ways. Like other things I love, Israel evokes in me a variety of emotions at different times: pride, warmth, excitement, and familiarity; but also anger, frustration, embarrassment, and disappointment. I feel exasperation when it is unfairly attacked or bullied by mean-spirited or naïve activists. I feel defensive when its foundations are questioned. I feel betrayed when its leadership acts against what I view as the country's ideals. I am most energized, though, when the State of Israel is treated neither as a "colonial settler state" nor as a "light unto the nations," but rather as diverse groups of people struggling to make the most of their lives. ■

# Jack Jacobs: Leaning to the Left

**D**oes Judaism mix with socialism? Jack Jacobs, who will serve as the 2016–17 Louis and Helen Padnos Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies, explains why the answer is yes.

**FRANKLY SPEAKING:** How did you become interested in this subject?

**JACOBS:** I became interested in Jews and socialism as a result of my family background. My parents survived World War II in Europe, and arrived in the United States in 1949. When I was a child, my family and I lived in a working class neighborhood in the Bronx where there were a number of Jewish leftists. My mother had, in prewar Poland, been a member of SKIF, the children's movement associated with the Jewish Workers' Bund. She urged me to enroll in a school which was affiliated with the Workmen's Circle. Later, my mother began to work for the Bundist summer camp, Camp Hemshekh. I became acquainted with a number of the leading figures in the Workmen's Circle and in the Bund at an early age, and enjoyed debating political matters with them, and attempting to understand how and why they had arrived at their affiliations. These debates took place while our country was being rocked by the student movement, the anti-war movement, the civil rights movement, and the women's movement. My academic interests grew out of the world in which I was born and raised.

**FS:** Why is your research important?

**JACOBS:** The topic of Jews and socialism is an important one both because it helps us to understand the

evolution of Jewish political opinion in the modern era, and because it has contemporary resonance. The candidacy of Bernie Sanders has led a number of commentators to discuss the links that existed between Jews and socialist movements in earlier generations. The recent controversy in the British Labour Party over the alleged antisemitism of several prominent members of that party suggests that the question of the relationship of Jews to the left remains a lightning rod.

**FS:** What do you want people to learn from your lectures?

**JACOBS:** My public lecture in Ann Arbor will be on the Frankfurt School on Israel. I hope to demonstrate that among the influential thinkers associated with the Frankfurt School, those with the deepest knowledge of the Jewish religion were those who had the deepest critiques of the Jewish state. I chose this theme because there will be a distinguished group of scholars at the Frankel Institute next year who will be focused on matters related to Israel, and I am eager to engage in a dialogue with these scholars.

My public lecture in Grand Rapids will present my understanding of why there were so many Jews associated with leftist movements at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries, and why this is less common today. I am hoping that this talk, which will take place immediately after our presidential election, will be of interest to a wide audience.



**FS:** If you had the chance to meet a historical figure, who would it be and why?

**JACOBS:** I would like nothing better than to meet a figure like Rosa Luxemburg—whose life and work I studied over an extended period of time—to debate with her the positions she took, and to probe whether she agrees or disagrees with the things I have written about her relationship to her Jewish family background.

*Jack Jacobs is professor of political science at John Jay College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. ■*

## 2016 Padnos Lectures

### "The Frankfurt School on Israel"

Sep. 27, 4 pm  
202 S. Thayer St., Ste. 2022  
Ann Arbor, MI

### "Jews and the Left Reconsidered"

Nov. 13, 10 am  
Temple Emanuel, 1715 E. Fulton  
Grand Rapids, MI

# Introducing the 2016–17

Israel is headed to Ann Arbor this fall, when scholars at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies will conduct research around the theme “Israeli Histories, Societies, and Cultures: Comparative Approaches.” The fellows will present lectures, symposia, and other events to the public and will be led by head fellow Shachar Pinsker.

“I hope that the interaction between the fellows will create an atmosphere of mutual learning and intense, open, and meaningful dialogue,” said Pinsker. “I am confident that the commonalities emerging from the various research projects of the fellows will chart new ways to study and understand the histories, cultures, and societies of Israel and the *yishuv* in comparative ways, and will point to the future of this field.”

We are thrilled to welcome our new fellows.



## Naomi Brenner, Ohio State University

### *“Best-Sellers and the Boundaries of Hebrew Literature”*

Brenner is associate professor of Hebrew and Jewish culture at Ohio State University. Her work focuses on issues of multilingualism and translation in modern Jewish literature and culture. Her book, *Lingering Bilingualism: Modern Hebrew and Yiddish Literatures in Contact*, was published this year. She has also published articles in a variety of different journals on translation, Jewish women’s writing, and intersections between Hebrew and Yiddish. Brenner’s newest project examines popularity and celebrity in Hebrew and Yiddish literatures. ■



## Liora Halperin, University of Colorado-Boulder

### *“Memories of Violence: The First Aliyah and its After-Images”*

Halperin is an assistant professor of history and Jewish Studies and the endowed professor of Israel/Palestine studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder. She specializes in the history of Palestine in the years before Israeli statehood, with a particular interest in Jewish cultural history, collective memory, the politics of language, and the evolution of Jewish-Arab relations. Her book, *Babel in Zion: Jews, Language, and Nationalism in Palestine, 1920–1948*, received the 2015 Shapiro Award for Best Book in Israel Studies. She received her PhD in history from UCLA and has held teaching appointments at Yale and Princeton. ■



## Mostafa Hussein, Brandeis University

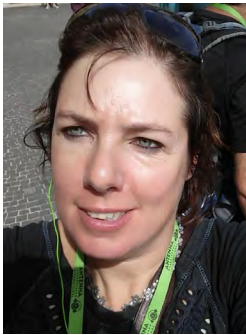
### *“The Refraction of Arabo-Islamic Civilization in Hebrew and Israeli Cultures”*

Hussein received his BA and MA in Hebrew language and literature at Al-Azhar University in Cairo, and an additional MA degree in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University. His scholarly interests center on Judeo-Islamic relations in modern times as they are manifested in the intellectual literary corpus of both sides. Currently, he is working on exploring Jewish intellectuals’ contributions to Arabo-Islamic civilization in the late Ottoman period through Mandate Palestine and during the early years of the State of Israel. ■

# Frankel Institute Fellows

“ My project deals with the highly ambivalent place that the first Jewish agricultural colonies in Palestine in the late 19th century occupied in Zionist history and memory over the course of much of the 20th century. ”

– Liora Halperin



**Noah Hysler-Rubin, Bezalel Academy for Arts and Design**

*“Planning Palestine: A Comprehensive Approach for the Study of Israel’s Urban History”*

Hysler-Rubin is a geographer who teaches at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design. She received her PhD from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and has taught at various institutions in Israel and at Queen Mary, University of London. She is also a practicing town planner, writing reports for UNESCO regarding the state of conservation of the Old City of Jerusalem, and participating in the preparation of urban master plans. Her main research interests include the history and theory of modern town planning, the origins of the Israeli city, cultural aspects of urban heritage, and minority urban communities. ■



**Lior Libman, State University of New York-Binghamton**

*“Jews in a Harness’: The Socialist-Zionist Labor Movement and Hasidism”*

Libman is assistant professor of Israel studies at the State University of New York at Binghamton. She received her PhD in Hebrew literature from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she also earned her BA in history and MA in cultural studies. Libman’s research focuses on the literature and cultural history of the kibbutz and socialist Zionism. In her forthcoming book, *State of Shock: The Kibbutz Traumatized, 1948–1954*, she examines the kibbutz and its imagery in the formative years of Israeli statehood. She is also a co-editor of the forthcoming volume *Visioning Israel-Palestine: Encounters at the Cultural Boundaries of Conflict*. ■



**Aviad Moreno, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev**

*“From Morocco, in Another Way: Aliyah and Other Jewish Migrations from Northern Morocco, 1860–2010”*

Moreno earned his PhD in Middle Eastern studies from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and just completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Department of Jewish History at Tel Aviv University. His research straddles the fields of Jewish and Israel studies, Middle Eastern studies, and global migration, and he serves as a scientific development director, in charge of developing surveys at the Historical Jewish Press (JPress) digitization project. He is also the author of *Europe from Morocco: the Minutes of the Leadership of Tangier’s Jewish Community (the Junta), 1860–1864*. ■

## 2016–17 Frankel Institute Fellows (continued)



Photo by Leisa Thompson

### **Shachar Pinsker, University of Michigan**

#### *“A Silent Language? Yiddish in Israeli Literature”*

Pinsker is associate professor of Hebrew literature and culture at the University of Michigan, and this year’s head fellow. He is the author of the award-winning *Literary Passports: The Making of Modernist Hebrew Fiction in Europe*, editor of *Women’s Hebrew Poetry on American Shores*, and co-editor of *Hebrew, Gender, and Modernity*. He has published numerous articles dealing with Hebrew, Jewish, and Israeli literature and culture. His forthcoming book is *A Rich Brew: Urban Cafés and Modern Jewish Culture*; he is also editing a volume of Yiddish Israeli stories and a book on the place of Yiddish in Israeli literature. ■



### **Bryan Roby, University of Manchester**

#### *“Blackness and the Double-Consciousness of Arab Jews: A Comparative History of the Mizrahi and African American Experience”*

Roby received his PhD in Middle Eastern studies from the University of Manchester. He completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at New York University and recently published a book, *The Mizrahi Era of Rebellion: Israel’s Forgotten Civil Rights Struggle 1948–1966*. His current research focuses on connections made between the African-American community and Mizrahi Jews in the fight for social equality and rights during the 1960s and 1970s. He has lectured on Israeli and Middle Eastern history throughout Europe, England, Israel, and the United States. ■



### **Gavin Schaffer, University of Birmingham**

#### *“Where Is Home? Aliyah and British Jews since 1967”*

Schaffer is professor of modern history and director of postgraduate studies at the University of Birmingham in the UK, and is a specialist in race and immigration history. He earned his BA and MPhil from the University of Birmingham, and his PhD in history from the University of Southampton. His many published works include *The Vision of a Nation: Making Multiculturalism on British Television*, and *Racial Science and British Society 1930–62*. His present research focuses on constructions of Jewish and Irish history in postwar Britain. ■

“ I hope to spark a conversation concerning the place of Mizrahi Jews within the global community of color and publish a peer-reviewed article regarding the comparative history of the experience of migration among the African American community, from the South to the North, and the Mizrahi community, from their countries of origin to the State of Israel. ”

– Brian Roby

“ My research seeks to strike a new balance between common politically oriented accounts on the immigration of Jews from Muslim lands to Israel, and the more socially oriented global perspectives on migration. ”

– Aviad Moreno



**Rachel Seelig, University of Chicago**

*“Motherless Tongues: German-Hebrew Literary Exchange”*

Since receiving her PhD from the University of Chicago, Seelig has served as the Ray D. Wolfe Postdoctoral Fellow in Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto and as a Mandel Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her forthcoming monograph is *Strangers in Berlin: Modern Jewish Literature between East and West, 1919–1933*, and her articles on 20th-century German-Jewish, Yiddish, and Hebrew poetry have appeared in publications such as *Prooftexts* and *The Jewish Quarterly Review*. She is currently co-editing a volume entitled *The German-Hebrew Dialogue: Studies of Encounter and Exchange*. ■



**Shayna Zamkanei, University of Chicago**

*“The Arabized Jewish Diaspora”*

Zamkanei earned a PhD in the Department of Political Science at the University of Chicago. She also holds MA degrees from Chicago and the University of Windsor, and a BA from McGill University. Her research and teaching interests cover many areas, including Sephardic/Mizrahi Studies, diaspora, religion and politics, and gender. Her current research project explores the emergence of diaspora among Jews from Arab countries. Zamkanei has also worked as a research associate for the Jerusalem Old City Initiative, and is a contributor to *Ha'aretz*, *The Forward*, and the *Jerusalem Post*. ■



**Yael Zerubavel, Rutgers University**

*“Biblical Reenactments: The Performance of Antiquity in Modern Israeli Culture”*

Zerubavel is founding director of the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life and professor of Jewish Studies and history at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. She is a leading scholar in the study of Israeli national memory and culture, and has published extensively on national myths, cultural representations of war and trauma, and space and symbolic landscapes. Zerubavel authored the award-winning *Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the Making of Israeli National Tradition*. She is currently working on two books: *Desert in the Promised Land: Nationalism, Politics, and Symbolic Landscapes*, and *Biblical Reenactments: The Performance of Antiquity in Modern Israeli Culture*. ■

# A Summer of Scholarship

## Stanley Frankel Summer Travel Fellowship



Photo by Leisa Thompson

### Sam Shuman

Conducting research in Antwerp, Belgium, and participating in a language program in Flemish at the University of Antwerp

*"Funding from the Frankel Center has permitted me to live in Antwerp's Hasidic neighborhood, to immerse myself in its local moral economy, and to continue my ethnographic fieldwork and historical research."*

## Brandt Graduate Fellowship Challenge Account



### Shira Schwartz

Participating in a co-working program in Detroit, modeled after the yeshiva

*"I thought, what if we had an academic co-working space, much like a yeshiva, that would re-frame the sociality of academic research? . . . This is how the idea for Detroit City Study was born."*

## Weingast Family Fund



### Alyssa Hofwegen

Internship at the Haifa Municipal Department of Community Social Work through the University of Haifa School of Social Work

*"Interning in Haifa has strengthened my professional competency as a global social worker to develop new skills that will inform my practice in future social work settings."*



### Nia Willis

Attending global seminar in Israel on how athletics can facilitate peace between Arabs and Jews

*"My overseas experience has helped me realize how much I have a passion for social justice issues and traveling, and how I would love to shape my career around these two passions."*



### John Mathews

Studying Gaga movement, Batsheva Dance Company, Tel Aviv

*"As a dancer, making connections is an extremely important part of my career, so meeting all of these incredible dancers from all over the world in Israel has been an incredible opportunity."*



### Noie Porat

Studying Gaga movement, Batsheva Dance Company, Tel Aviv

*"I have enjoyed working closely with the Batsheva dancers, allowing me to further explore and understand this fascinating movement language."*



Israel, New York, Italy, Belgium, Detroit. These are just a few of the places where U-M students are learning this summer, thanks to our generous donors.

## Marshall Weinberg Fund for Graduate Studies



**Deborah Forger**

Participating and presenting at the 6th Enoch Seminar Nangeroni Meeting, Italy

*"Over the past year, I have been working with the other co-chairs of this meeting, including Gabriele Boccaccini, to organize and gather together an international group of specialists on a topic directly related to my dissertation."*



**Dory Fox**

Studying Yiddish at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York

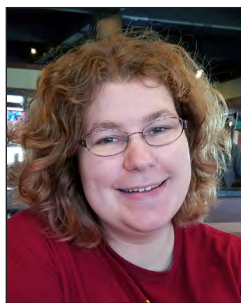
*"This program has helped me further develop my hold on the multilingual aspect of Jewish American literature."*



**Michail Kitsos**

Attending the Nishma program at The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York

*"This is a unique opportunity to study rabbinic texts in a hevruata and to improve my modern Hebrew language skills."*



**Hannah Rousel**

Attending the Nishma program at The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York

*"By allowing me to study Talmud and Hebrew deeply this summer, Nishma is bettering two of the essential skills for my graduate work."*

## Marshall Weinberg Prize



Photo by Leisa Thompson

**Yaakov Herskovitz**

"Upon completing my dissertation, I plan to pursue an academic appointment and continue my research of bilingual Jewish literature."

## Simeon Brinberg Outstanding Masters Student

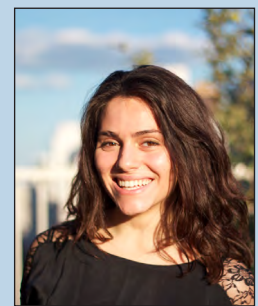


Photo by Luna Anna Archey

**Kelly Onickel**

"I am currently the cantorial soloist at Temple Emanu-El in Oak Park, MI. I plan to stay there and work towards becoming an ordained/certified cantor. . . . My education at U-M has already helped me in my profession and I am sure it will help in the years to come."

## Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award



**Polina Fradkin**

"In the future I hope to continue my education, learn many more languages, learn to play the Portuguese guitar, learn Morse code, learn to swing dance, never stop having adventures, and hopefully make a small difference in the world."

# Repairing the World

**This Judaic Studies alumnus fights hate crimes, upholds religious freedom, and secures fair treatment for all.**

## Job responsibilities:

“I am one of three registered lobbyists for ADL and I help coordinate the League’s involvement in congressional and executive branch initiatives. I have the domestic portfolios—hate crime, church-state, First Amendment, counterterrorism, religious freedom, LGBT rights, police and criminal justice reform, and state legislative initiatives. I also track ADL’s involvement in Supreme Court cases.”

## Notable Projects:

“The Obama Administration has made unprecedented progress in expanding anti-bullying programs. And the Administration has done fantastic work in outreach and training on its new enforcement powers under the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 (HCPA), the most important federal hate crime enforcement law in 40 years. We are now working to institutionalize these initiatives, including efforts to address antisemitism and anti-Israel intimidation and harassment on college campuses. In addition, we are working to address backlash crimes against Muslims, Arabs, Sikhs, and South Asians following the terrorist attacks in Paris in November and in San Bernardino in December. These crimes have continued to occur at a disturbing rate, exacerbated by the nasty rhetoric and the appeals to prejudice and bigotry that have emerged in the 2016 election campaign. I am really proud that ADL is helping to lead efforts to combat this bigotry and Islamophobia.

“My other significant focus has been on the intersection between religious liberty and equality, especially LGBT equality. ADL has been a staunch defender of religious freedom and church-state separation. But in recent years, we have seen opponents of LGBT equality and same-sex marriage argue that their religious beliefs should exempt them from anti-discrimination laws protecting the LGBT communities. I have been deeply involved in working with other ADL colleagues to help us find the proper balance between religious liberty and equality facing these tough issues.”

## Career Highlights:

“I am ADL’s point person on federal and state response to bullying and bias-motivated crimes—two subjects I wish I knew less about. Since 1990, I have chaired the hate crime coalition of religious, civil rights, law enforcement, education, and civic organizations in Washington that promotes improved federal response to hate violence. This coalition worked for 13 years to pass the HCPA. A highlight of my career was when Congress finally approved the HCPA in 2009 and President Obama signed it into law. I received the Department of Justice’s 2015 Meritorious Public Service Award for my work in building coalitions to help pass the HCPA and to prevent and address hate crimes.”



**Name:** Michael Lieberman

**Title:** Washington Counsel for the Anti-Defamation League

**Education:** BA in Judaic Studies and International Relations, U-M, 1978; JD, Duke University School of Law, 1981

## How the Frankel Center helped shape his career:

“I came from a pretty traditional home and I was a regional leader in the Young Judaea youth movement growing up in Ohio. That, plus my Judaic Studies academic background at Michigan, definitely helped shape my career and my work aspirations. Working with ADL combines so many of my interests; it’s very Jewish, but the League’s broader mission, ‘to secure justice and fair treatment for all,’ is in the finest traditions of *tikkun olam*.”

## Advice to students who are considering studying Judaic Studies:

“I would definitely encourage students to major in Judaic Studies, or take courses in the department. And I hope that many Frankel students would consider using that background to launch careers in Jewish communal services. In a way, I still feel the way I did as a Young Judaea leader in high school—as an activist deeply involved in meaningful work for the Jewish community. It’s fantastic to be able to continue to learn and teach on issues that I care deeply about while building coalitions that can amplify our own significant voice.” ■

# MAZEL TOV!

## Graduate Students

**Yaakov Herskovitz** was awarded a fellowship for the Sweetland Dissertation Writing Institute. He also organized a panel at the ACLA on “Lingualism in Modern Jewish literature,” where he presented a paper, “Thou Shall Write No Yiddish—Aharon Reuveni and the Language of Palestine.”

**Sarah Garibova** was awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the Association for Jewish Studies.

## Faculty

In May, **Maya Barzilai** presented “Prophetic Decomposition: Mizrahi Poetry and Ezekiel’s Visions” at “Prophetic Imaginings: Aesthetics, Ethics, Hermeneutics,” a conference held at Stanford University. She also presented a paper, “Hebrew-German Monolingualism: Lingual Contradictions in Novels by S. Y. Agnon and Leah Goldberg,” at the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Convention.

**Todd Endelman** recently lectured on “Why ‘Jew’ King Matters” at the University of Colorado Boulder.

**Hussein Fancy** received the American Academy in Rome’s 2016–17 Rome Prize. He was also awarded the Andrew Mellon Mediterranean Regional Research Fellowship from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

**Jonathan Freedman** received the Undergraduate Teaching Award from students of U-M’s English department.

**Karla Goldman’s** article, “Early American Judaism: New Forms of Religious Expression,” appeared in the book *By Dawn’s Early Light: Jewish Contributions to American Culture from the Nation’s Founding to the Civil War*.

In June, **Caroline Helton** performed a program of music by Italian Jewish composers at “Intersezioni/Intersections,” an international conference for Italian scholars, in Florence, Italy.

**Deborah Dash Moore** was appointed editor-in-chief of the Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization. In March, she delivered the Samuel and Dorothy Frankel Memorial Lecture at Wesleyan and spoke on “The Liberating Lens: Jewish American Photographers Picture Modernity” at the Weissman Museum at the University of Minnesota. Her article, “Remaking Ourselves at Home,” appeared in the April issue of *American Jewish History*, which was devoted to a reconsideration of her first book, *At Home in America: Second Generation New York Jews* (1981).

In March, **Rachel Neis** co-organized, along with past fellow **Max Strassfeld**, “Talmud, Interrupted: Queering the Study of an Ancient Jewish ‘Classic,’” a U-M Institute for Research on Women & Gender’s Feminist Research Seminar.

**Eileen Pollack’s** latest book is *A Perfect Life*.

**Jeffrey Veidlinger** was elected a fellow of the American Academy for Jewish Research. A paperback edition of his book, *In the Shadow of the Shtetl: Small-Town Jewish Life in Soviet Ukraine*, was published by Indiana University Press. He presented on the panel “A Forgotten Genocide: The Pogroms in Ukraine, 1918–1919,” at the Center for Jewish History in New York.

**Rebecca Wollenberg** was appointed assistant professor of Judaic Studies at U-M, and received the Regional Scholar Award from the Society of Biblical Literature. She was also awarded a 2016 Special Initiatives Grant from the American Academy of Jewish Research for the colloquium series “Beyond the Book: Thinking Biblically without the Bible.”

**Geneviève Zubrzycki** has been appointed as a senior fellow for the Michigan Society of Fellows.

## Visiting Faculty

**Shelley Perlove** recently spoke on “Rembrandt’s *Visitation* in the Detroit Institute of Arts; Joseph as Judaism” at the Detroit Institute of Arts. She was also nominated for U-M’s Golden Apple Award.

## Past Fellows

**Marc Caplan** has been appointed the Horace W. Goldsmith Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies at Yale University for the 2016–17 academic year.

**Jennifer Glaser’s** latest book is *Borrowed Voices: Writing and Racial Ventriloquism in the Jewish American Imagination*.

**Miriamne Krummel’s** article, “Staging Encounters: The Touch of the Medieval Other,” appeared in the spring issue of *Postmedieval*. In May, she participated in a roundtable at the 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, “Jewish Women in Medieval England: Unearthing the Records.”

**Kathy Lavezzo** was awarded an Arts and Humanities Initiative Grant from the University of Iowa and a Summer Collaborative Grant from the Digital Bridges for Humanistic Inquiry. Her article, “Building Antisemitism in Bede,” appeared in *Imagining the Jew in Anglo-Saxon Literature and Culture*.

**Tatjana Lichtenstein’s** new book is *Zionists in Interwar Czechoslovakia: Minority Nationalism*

and the Politics of Belonging. Her article, “‘It Is Not My Fault That You Are Jewish!’ Jews, Czechs, and the Memory of the Holocaust in Film, 1949–2009,” was published in the June issue of *Dapim: Studies on the Holocaust*.

**Jessica Marglin** received the 2016–17 Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome. Her article, “A New Language of Equality: Jews and the State in Nineteenth-Century Morocco,” appeared in the *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*.

This fall, **Ariel Evan Mayse** will be visiting assistant professor of modern Jewish thought and director of Jewish Studies at Hebrew College.

**Barry Trachtenberg** is the new Michael and Deborah K. Rubin Presidential Chair of Jewish History at Wake Forest University.

## Alumni

**Aura Ahuvia** has been appointed as rabbi of Congregation Shir Tikvah in Troy, Michigan.

**Nick Block** was awarded the Gerald Westheimer Career Development Fellowship from the Leo Baeck Institute. His article, “On Nathan Birnbaum’s Messianism and Translating the Jewish Other,” appeared in *The Leo Baeck Institute Year Book 60*.

**Beth Dwoskin’s** article, “The Surprising Yiddishkeit of Nat King Cole,” was published in the *Forward*.

This fall, **Polina Fradkin** will be a Fulbright Scholar at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

**Joshua Friedman** was awarded the Berman Foundation Early Career Fellowship from the Association for Jewish Studies. Beginning September, he will be the Aresty Visiting Scholar at the Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers.

This fall, **Moshe Kornfeld** will be starting a postdoctoral fellowship at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Ann Kreps** was appointed assistant professor of religious studies at the University of Oregon.

**Erica Lehrer’s** new book is *Curatorial Dreams: Critics Imagine Exhibitions*. Her article, “Public Pedagogy and Transnational, Transcultural Museums,” appeared in the book *Poland and Polin: New Interpretations in Polish-Jewish Studies*.

**Adam Soclof** is the new director of marketing and communications for the New York-based Jewish Education Project.

## University of Michigan Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

202 S. Thayer Street, Suite 2111  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1608  
(734) 763-9047  
JudaicStudies@umich.edu

### Executive Committee

Jeffrey Veidlinger, Director  
Karla Goldman  
Julian Levinson  
Rachel Neis

### Newsletter Credits

Editor: Yaffa Klugerman  
Designer: Debbie Read  
Copyeditor: Ruth Gretzinger  
Printer: Allegra • Print • Mail • Marketing

### The Regents of the University of Michigan

Michael J. Behm, Grand Blanc  
Mark J. Bernstein, Ann Arbor  
Laurence B. Deitch, Bloomfield Hills  
Shauna Ryder Diggs, Grosse Pointe  
Denise Ilitch, Bingham Farms  
Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor  
Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park  
Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor  
Mark S. Schlissel (*ex officio*)

### Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies

#### Steering Committee

Anne Curzan  
Karla Goldman  
Julian Levinson  
Rachel Neis  
Sidonie Smith  
Ronald Suny  
Jeffrey Veidlinger

#### Academic Advisory Board

Robert B. Alter  
*University of California-Berkeley*  
Miriam Bodian  
*University of Texas-Austin*  
Jonathan Boyarin  
*Cornell University*  
Richard Cohen  
*Hebrew University*  
Calvin Goldscheider  
*Brown University*  
Galit Hasan-Rokem  
*Hebrew University*  
Deborah Lipstadt  
*Emory University*  
Peter Machinist  
*Harvard Divinity School*  
Derek J. Penslar  
*University of Oxford and  
University of Toronto*  
Ray Scheindlin  
*Jewish Theological Seminary*  
Jeffrey Shandler  
*Rutgers University*  
James Young  
*University of Massachusetts-Amherst*  
Steven Zipperstein  
*Stanford University*

---

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Permit No. 144

---

## Save the Date!

### TUESDAY TALKS

4 pm • 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022

September 13: Jacqueline Osherow, University of Utah, **"A Reading of Jewish Poems: Alhambra, Eremitaggio, the Krishna Temple."**

September 20: Yael Zerubavel, Rutgers University, **"The Return to the Bible and the Performance of the Past in Israeli Culture."**

September 27: Jack Jacobs, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York, **"The Frankfurt School on Israel."**

### WIESENECK SYMPOSIUM

October 20, 2–6 pm • Michigan League Koessler Room, 911 N. University Ave.  
**"Arabs, Jews, and 'Arab-Jews': Israel's Entangled Identities"**

For more information about our events,  
visit [lsa.umich.edu/judaic](http://lsa.umich.edu/judaic) or check us out on



The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, (734) 763-0235, TTY (734) 647-1388, [institutional.equity@umich.edu](mailto:institutional.equity@umich.edu). For other University of Michigan information, call (734) 764-1817.