Internationally renowned author David Grossman with local children during his visit to IU, March 7, 2017.
From the Director

Of the many highlights this past year, one in particular stands out. It’s the two-day visit by the celebrated Israeli author David Grossman in March, a visit that brought together so many strands of what makes the Borns Jewish Studies Program (JSP) special.

Let me start with our ability to get Grossman here at all. As the second most famous Israeli author alive today (perhaps he’s now the most famous, but more on that in a moment), David Grossman is in high demand. Our ability to host him would not have been possible without the support of our donors. In particular, Dorit and Gerald Paul have been stalwart supporters of the arts, enabling us to host influential writers and innovative performances in music, theater, and film. Alongside their generosity, we benefited too, from the close relationships we have, not only with central university bodies and institutes, but also from partner programs and departments such as Near Eastern Languages and Culture and the Center for the Study of the Middle East.

Then, there’s the special relationship the Borns JSP has with Grossman through his translator Jessica Cohen. Jessica completed her M.A. at Indiana University (IU) with a focus on translation, and her husband Adam Rovner (now a JS professor at the University of Denver) completed his Ph.D. and his JS minor here. One of the central events during David Grossman’s visit was a wonderful workshop given by Jessica, with the author in attendance, about the task of translating David Grossman’s work. We learned a great deal about translation in general, about the challenges of rendering Hebrew into English, about Grossman’s oeuvre, and the particular wrinkles posed by his most recent book.

Grossman’s visit resonated also because it is part of a high-profile ongoing series organized by Stephen Katz and Dov-Ber Kerler that has brought many major Hebrew and Yiddish writers including, most recently, the young Israeli author Assaf Gavron and Israeli writer and poet Hava Pinhas-Cohen. With the creation of Olamot, our new Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel, under its first director Noam Zadoff (see facing page) the Borns JSP’s partnerships and exchanges with Israeli scholars and cultural figures will only be strengthened in the future.

In a spectacular fashion, Grossman’s visit demonstrated yet again how the Borns JSP program is a meeting place for students, faculty, and members of the wider Jewish community. Alongside several faculty and student workshops, David Grossman’s evening lecture, which he devoted, in part, to the contemporary situation in Israel, but above all to his new book A Horse Walks into a Bar, was an opportunity to speak to the larger community, a reminder of how, unlike most other programs in the university, we are so embedded in the local communities of Bloomington and beyond. If proof were needed, it came the following day. Grossman is not only an acclaimed author for adults, but also a prolific and much-loved children’s writer. Didi Kerler, the Director of Bloomington’s Congregation Beth Shalom religious school, guided children to perform one of Grossman’s stories, in Hebrew, for the author (our cover photo). I am certain that whatever else he remembers from his visit, he will remember this marvelous performance. We felt quite unjustifiably proud a couple of months later when we learned that Grossman had completed his Ph.D. and his JS minor here. One of the central events during David Grossman’s visit was a wonderful workshop given by Jessica, with the author in attendance, about the task of translating David Grossman’s work. We learned a great deal about translation in general, about the challenges of rendering Hebrew into English, about Grossman’s oeuvre, and the particular wrinkles posed by his most recent book.

I wouldn’t be Director of the Borns JSP if I did not point out that to sustain our role as one of the leading sites in the U.S. for Jewish and Israeli culture and scholarship, it is imperative that we add to our endowment. Bob and Sandra Borns’ wonderful million-dollar gift announced on IU Day this year, divided between undergraduate scholarships and the general endowment, was a marvelous boost to our campaign. But, major new initiatives like Olamot cannot succeed without your help. More details within.

Continued on page 5
Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Donate $1 Million to JS at IU

The Borns JSP is proud to announce a $1 million gift from IU alumni Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns. With their spring 2017 gift, Sandra and Bob, in whose honor the JSP is named, continue a lifetime of remarkable generosity and dedication to JS at IU.

The gift, which funds undergraduate scholarships and offers unrestricted support to the Borns JSP, expands upon funding they have given for more than 30 years to support JS students, faculty, research, and programs. Mark Roseman wrote: “Bob and Sandra’s giving hasn’t just been supportive; it’s been utterly transformative.”

“In supporting Jewish Studies with such enduring generosity, Bob and Sandra have had an indelible impact on IU and the College of Arts and Sciences,” said IU President Michael A. McRobbie. “With equal attention to the present and the future, Bob and Sandra’s latest gift is a testament to the visionary nature of their philanthropy and their profound commitment to Jewish studies, life, and culture.”

In 2018-2019, and in each subsequent year, Olamot will host an Israeli scholar or scholars. “We wish to enrich research and teaching at IU by providing faculty and students with the opportunity for exchange and collaboration with outstanding Israeli scholars and thinkers,” Zadoff said. At the same time, the center’s goals are to support Israeli scholars with their research. When they are in residence at IU, they will be able to take advantage of the archives, libraries, and academic exchanges that the Bloomington campus has to offer. In collaboration with and benefiting from the strength of IU Press, the center is launching a unique initiative that will provide English readers access to the latest research from Israel in the humanities and social studies: the translation and publication of two Israeli books per year (that are not currently available in English).

The Borns JSP’s mission is to develop centers of leadership and dialogue that respond to the pressing questions confronting the world in the 21st century. Olamot promises to enrich IUB and foster new Israel-related cultural and intellectual initiatives across campus. In its first year 2017-2018, Professor Zadoff will be reaching out to friends and foundations to support and broaden the activities of Olamot and its vital work.
2017-2018 Upcoming Events

FALL 2017

“Refugees, Art, and Journalism”
Lecture and discussion with cartoonists
Kate Evans and Sarah Glidden
—Supported by The Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in JS
—Co-sponsored by The Department of History, The Department of International Studies, The Center for the Study of Global Change, The Center for the Study of the Middle East, and The Media School; Themester 2017
Monday, September 25 • 6:00 pm
Global & International Studies Building, Room 0001

A Reading of the new musical “THE WAVE”
Written by Or Matias, Musical Director of Broadway’s “Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812” and 2017 Paul Artist-in-Residence; Directed by Chloe T reat
Based on Ron Jones’ famous 1967 social experiment in a Palo Alto high school classroom, this new musical addresses the human urge to exchange autonomy for a feeling of belonging and security. Dorit & Gerald Paul Program in Jewish Culture and the Arts; in partnership with the Department of Theater, Drama, and Modern Dance; Themester 2017
Two readings in the evening on Sunday, October 15 (free)

“Turning Points in Zionist History: From Balfour to the Six-Day War and Beyond”
Joan and Samuel New Institute for the Study of Judaism and the Jews with Borns JSP Professors Judah Cohen, Sarah Imhoff, Shaul Magid, and Noam Zadoff
Sunday, October 22 • 10:00 am–3:30 pm
Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning & Leadership, Chicago
Register by Monday, October 16, at www.spertus.edu/Israel (nominal fee)

“The Influence of the Holocaust on the Work of the Postwar Generation of Writers in Bessarabia”
Authors Talk by Dr. Boris Sandler, noted Yiddish writer and editor of Forverts (1998-2016) Dorit & Gerald Paul Program in Jewish Culture & the Arts
Wednesday, October 25 • 4:00 pm
Walnut Room, Indiana Memorial Union

SPRING 2018

“Werner and Gershom Scholem: Two German Jewish Lives”
A symposium in celebration of the publication of Mirjam Zadoff’s book Werner Scholem: A German Life (University of Pennsylvania Press) and Noam Zadoff’s book Gershom Scholem: From Berlin to Jerusalem and Back (Brandeis University Press) with Professors Steven Ascheim, Michael Brenner, David Biale, Eric Jacobson, Martin Jay, Shaul Magid, Anson Rabinbach, Elliot Wolfson, Mirjam Zadoff, and Noam Zadoff. Professor Hanan Hever, Yale University, will deliver the keynote address. January 25-26, 2018

“Jewish Storytelling: Traditions and Transformations”
Sixth Annual JS Graduate Student Association Conference Keynote lecture by Professor David Shneer, University of Colorado February 8-9, 2018

“What’s in a Name? The Use and Abuse of ‘Abrahamic’ in Interfaith Dialogue”
With featured speaker Professor Carol Bakhos, Department of Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, UCLA Respondents include IU’s Professor Asma Afsaruddin and Dr. Sarah Ifft Decker, and Rev. Charles Dupree of Bloomington’s Trinity Episcopal Church Bill & Frances Julian Program for Intra- and Interfaith Understanding
Tuesday, February 20 • 5:30 pm
Dogwood Room, Indiana Memorial Union

“Fridays at Leyvik House”
Film screening (free) followed by discussion with Boris Sandler
Dorit & Gerald Paul Program in Jewish Culture & the Arts
Thursday, Oct 26 • 7:00 pm
Global & International Studies Building, Room 1128

“24 Days: The True Story of the Ilan Halimi Affair”
Film screening (free) with introduction and a short presentation following the film by Günther Jikeli on hatred and violence against Jews in France today
Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA); Themester 2017
Wednesday, November 8 • 6:00 pm
Global & International Studies Building, Room 0001
I’ll be on sabbatical next year, represented by Judah Cohen. Over the last few years, Judah, a music historian and talented musician in his own right, whose position is divided between the Borns JSP and the Jacobs School of Music, developed our one-of-a-kind undergraduate Jewish Sacred Music program, and has played a crucial role in cementing links with Jewish artists across the U.S., bringing innovative new productions, films, and artists-in-residence to IU each year. I am very grateful to him for stepping in as Interim Director and I know that the program is in great hands.

We Welcome 2017–2018 Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow Sara Ifft Decker

This year Sara Ifft Decker is the Borns JSP’s Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow, teaching “Introduction to Jewish History: From the Bible to Spanish Expulsion” and two spring 2018 courses — one on “Jews and Finance” and a second on “The Jewish Urban Experience.” Her current project stems from her recent dissertation, “Gender, Religious Difference, and the Notarial Economy in Medieval Catalonia, 1250-1350” (Yale, 2017), comparing how Jewish and Christian women negotiated economic life in medieval Catalonia, with a particular focus on Barcelona, Girona, and Vic. Prior to pursuing her Ph.D. at Yale, she completed an M.A. at The Jewish Theological Seminary.

From the Director

Continued from page 2

I’ll be on sabbatical next year, represented by Judah Cohen. Over the last few years, Judah, a music historian and talented musician in his own right, whose position is divided between the Borns JSP and the Jacobs School of Music, developed our one-of-a-kind undergraduate Jewish Sacred Music program, and has played a crucial role in cementing links with Jewish artists across the U.S., bringing innovative new productions, films, and artists-in-residence to IU each year. I am very grateful to him for stepping in as Interim Director and I know that the program is in great hands.

Mark Roseman, Director
Pat M. Glazer Chair in JS and Professor of History
Public Lectures and Events

Edward A. Block Lecture in JS
Marina Rustow, Princeton University, “The Cairo Geniza, the Lost Arabic Archives, and the Problems of Rights in Medieval Egypt”

Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism
Jean Yves Camus, Political Analyst and Associate Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs, “Antisemitism in France in 2016”

Dorit and Gerald Paul Lectures for the Study of Germans and Jews
Dr. Miriam Rürup, Universität Hamburg, “Who Owns History: Dealing with the Past in Postwar Germany”

Dorit and Gerald Paul Programs in Jewish Culture and the Arts
Author Hava Pinhas-Cohen, “Bridging the Divide: An Israeli Poet in Transition — Living Between Extremes”

David Grossman, noted Israeli author, “A Horse Walked into a Bar” (with support across the College and university)

Samuel and Lillian Solotkin Lecture
Professor Leora Auslander, University of Michigan, “The Eruv as a Metaphor for Jewish Home-making,” keynote lecture for JS Graduate Student Association (JSGSA) conference “Dreams of Home: Home and Homeland in the Jewish Imagination”

— Michelle Engert, American University, “Saved: Bob Dylan and Religion”
— Professor Annette Reed, University of Pennsylvania, “Secrecy, Censorship, and the Jewishness of Christian Origins”
— Joshua Rubenstein, Harvard University, “Leon Trotsky and Ilya Ehrenburg: The Heroic and the Tragic,” keynote lecture for conference “Red Biography: The Significance of Communist Life-Histories in Global Perspective” (Lecture sponsored by the Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in JS)
— Dr. Simon Levis Sullam, Università Ca’ Foscari di Venizia, Italy, “The Italian Executioner: Revisiting the Role of Italians During the Holocaust” (with ISCA)

Academic Conferences and Workshops

— On June 14-15, a conference on the topic of “After the Election: Antisemitism and Racism in the United States” took place at the IU Europe Gateway in Berlin. The conference was organized by Mirjam Zadoff and Noam Zadoff with support from the Borns JSP, the College Arts and Humanities Institute (CAHI), the Office for the VP for International Affairs at IU, and the Center for Research on Antisemitism at the Technische Universität Berlin. This conference addressed questions on the emergence of new forms of antisemitism in the U.S.
— “Antisemitism among Refugees: In the Context of Rising Xenophobia and Antisemitism, including in the U.S.” workshop, IU Europe Gateway in Berlin (ISCA)
— “Dreams of Home: Home and Homeland in the Jewish Imagination,” 5th Annual JS Graduate Student Association conference. Keynote speaker: Professor Leora Auslander, University of Michigan. Convened by JSGSA President Sean Sidky and VP Lindsey Pullum-Foulks. Presenters included graduate students from Bowling Green State University, Brandeis University, Emory University, IU (Brian Hillman, Steve Kaplin, Adah Hetko, Sean Sidky, Charles Bonds, and Lindsey Pullum-Foulks), Syracuse University, UCLA, and University of Chicago.
— “Red Biography: The Significance of Communist Life-Histories in Global Perspective” (CAHI workshop supported by the Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in JS). Convened by Professors Mirjam Zadoff and Alex Lichtenstein. Speakers included: Berthold Molden, University of Vienna; Peter Huds, Oakton Community College; Orit Bashkin, University of Chicago; Anupama Rao, Barnard College; Sandra Pujals, University of Puerto Rico; John French, Duke University; and Valeria Navarro-Rosenblatt, University of Wisconsin.
Rich and Poor, Jews and Gentiles: Wealth, Poverty and Class in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries." The fifth Junior Scholars Conference in Jewish History brought together a small transatlantic group of junior scholars to explore questions in 19th- and 20th-century Jewish history. The conference was co-organized by Miriam Rürup, Universität Hamburg; Anne Schenderlein, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Mirjam Zadoff, IU; with support from the Wissenschaftliche Arbeitgemeinschaft des Leo Baeck Institut.

Performing Arts

Our continuing commitment to showcase the arts:

Lou and Sybil Mervis Chair in Jewish Culture and the Arts

Performance by Israeli Sephardic and Mediterranean fusion band Baladino (Lotus World Music and Arts Festival)

Pearl Schwartz Program in Judaism and the Arts

Performance of children’s opera “Brundibar” (produced by The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington and Stages Bloomington)

— “Boris Dorfman” (Yiddish) film screening with filmmaker Uwe von Seltmann (supported by the Alice Field Cohn Chair in Yiddish

Studies, the Department of Germanic Studies, and the Russian and East European Institute)

— “Censored Voices” film screening with discussion led by Professors Shaul Magid and Noam Zadoff

— “Mishehu Laruzy” (Someone to Run With) film screening of adaptation of David Grossman’s best-selling novel (multiple sponsors)

— “The Optimists” film screening (the rescue of Bulgarian Jews during the Holocaust) with filmmaker Jacky Comforty

— “Oriented” film screening of the 2015 Israeli film (InLight Human Rights Documentary Film Festival) at the IU Cinema

Co-sponsored Lectures and Events

— “Art and Refugees Symposium” which included a multi-media performance “Finding Home – Shine the Light,” that made connections between a true story of post-Holocaust migration and the contemporary plight of millions of displaced people. With participation from Deborah Haber, creator and writer of the IU JSP-sponsored musical “Moses Man.”

— “Authors and Interpreters in Memoriam: Péter Esterházy, Imre Kertész, Mihály Szegedy-Maszák”

— Professor Willis Barnstone, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, IU, a discussion of his translation from Hebrew and Greek, Poets of the Bible: From Solomon’s Song of Songs to John’s Revelation (W.W. Norton & Co., 2017)

— Esther Dischereit, author/University of Virginia, “Flowers for Otello: On the Crimes of Jena”

— Dr. Gallia Lindenstrauss, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Avv, “Turkish-Israeli Relations: Back From the Brink?” (with IU Turkish Flagship Program and ISCA)

— “Never Again is Now” film showing with the filmmaker Ryan Cost (The Media School and ISCA)

— “The Return” film screening with filmmaker Adam Zucker (Polish Studies Center)

— Ambassador Dennis Ross, “U.S. Foreign Policy: Challenge in the Middle East” (Helene G. Simon Hillel Center and other co-sponsors)

— “Saul Fia” (Son of Saul) film screening with lead actor Géza Röhrig (multiple sponsors)

— “Thinking with Derrida,” a symposium on his final seminar “The Beast and the Sovereign” with presentations by Peggy McCracken, University of Michigan; Katie Chenoweth, Princeton University; and David Wills, Brown University (IU Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences)
A Collaborative JS Faculty & Graduate Student Community

JS Faculty & Graduate Student Workshops and More

Our faculty and graduate students join in an intellectual community:

— Sarah Benor, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Los Angeles (HUC-JIR), “Hebrew Infusion at American Jewish Summer Camps”
— Michael Brenner, American University, “From Neuland to Altneuland: Israeli Diasporas in Reality and Imagination”
— Stefanie Fischer, Universitït Potsdam, “Economic Trust in the ‘Racial State’: A Case Study from the German Countryside”
— Malachi Hacohen, Duke University, “Jewish European History: The Challenge Ahead”
— Constanze Kolbe, IU Ph.D. candidate, “The Fruits of Trade: The Etrog Trade inside the Adriatic during the Nineteenth Century”
— Professor Paul Nahme, Brown University, “Enchanted Thinking: The Multiple Secularities of Modern Judaism”
— Barry Wimpfheimer, Northwestern University, “The Talmud as Icon”

Book Launches

— Vivian Liska, University of Antwerp, Belgium, German-Jewish Thought and its Afterlife (IU Press, 2016)

Study Groups

— Aramaic Reading Group - led by Nathan Mastnjak
— Graduate Student Colloquium on Antisemitism — led by Günther Jikeli
Spotlight on our Scholarship

**Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism**

by Professor Sarah Imhoff
Assistant Professor of JS and Religious Studies
Director of Graduate Studies (JS)

In American Jewish history, “gender” seems to mean “women.” In the 2010 edited collection *Gender and Jewish History*, for instance, only one of the twenty-one essays focuses on men or masculinity. This gap is not merely a shortcoming of Jewish history: It points to the ways that masculinity has often been invisible. We can see how this played out in American Jewish history when, for example, a Jewish immigration movement’s honorary secretary David Bressler complained that Galveston had not received the desired immigrants. “Had they lived up to the agreement with us, they should have sent in the last four consignments 325 persons (excluding women and children), yet they sent altogether 200 persons, including women and children.” His letter assumed that “persons” was a category that could exclude women and children. “Persons” meant “men.” For Bressler and many others, “persons” and “immigrants” were both categories that were implicitly — even invisibly — masculine. This invisibility suggests that, to see masculinity more clearly, we may have to look in unexpected places.

This story has two strands. The first may seem very familiar to contemporary readers:

And that is what *Masculinity and The Making of American Judaism* does. It explores the history of American Jewish masculinity from some unlikely places: Galveston, Texas, the port through which a Jewish immigration movement sought to send immigrants instead of northeastern cities; Jewish agricultural communities; Jewish converts (and conversions back from) Christianity; the trial of Leo Frank; and Leopold and Loeb’s “crime of the century.”

This story tells us two stories. The first may seem very familiar to contemporary readers:

American Jewish commitments to health and manliness, however, did not always, or primarily, qualify as “muscular.” Many Jews were committed to the development of the healthy body and attachment to the American land. They valorized rationality in religion. But American Jewish men were far less invested in physical strength and ruggedness, spent much less time and energy complaining about women and the “feminization” of religion, and rarely embraced the
Scholarship
Continued from page 9

“barbarian virtues” that Teddy Roosevelt, G. Stanley Hall, and others trumpeted as essential for American men.

In spite of interreligious moves to make American religion, in general, more manly, Jewish norms of masculinity did not directly mirror their Protestant counterparts. The Men and Religion Forward Movement, for instance, took out ads in the sports sections of all the major New York newspapers in 1911 and 1912, where it targeted “Protestant, Catholic and Hebrew churches.”1 The movement itself, which was largely modeled on Protestant revivals, never gained traction in Jewish communities and soon fizzled out even in Christian ones. But when its promoters advertised to “Hebrew churches,” they imagined that the same kind of feminizing problem that they saw in churches also existed in synagogues, and they imagined that the solutions would be the same. Jews, however, did not have quite the same story.

As the Men and Religion Forward Movement hints, some Christians worried about the “feminization” of the church. Jews could have expressed concern about a Jewish version of this feminization as well, and some historians suggest that they did.2 Yet the historical sources suggest that this was a very minor concern for Jewish men, and in fact, talk of feminization was far more a sign of worry about men’s decreasing participation than about women’s participation. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the U.S., women became increasingly visible and even assumed some leadership roles in Reform synagogues especially. A few Reform Jews expressed their uneasiness with women’s changing roles when they lamented what historians have called the “feminization of the synagogue.” By this, they meant, in part, that Jewish women were attending synagogue and participating in synagogue life. But more often than not, rabbis and leaders lamented the perceived “disappearance” of men from services, rather than some kind of invasion of women. In this sense, these laments would be much better characterized as “regret that fewer men attend synagogue,” but such a formulation was, apparently, not as catchy for historians. In the end, the sources suggest that Jewish communities expressed very little concern over women’s increased synagogue participation.3

As this discussion of feminization suggests, rabbis cared about attracting men as men, and thought their manly qualities would fortify their religious communities. In this, they were much like American Christian clergy. In 1912 The New York Times reported on a Republican Club luncheon panel discussion with three Protestant clergy, one Catholic priest, one Farsi, and the Reform rabbi Rudolph Grossman. All of them agreed that religion was not “declining in the United States,” but also that young men would play a critical role in ensuring its continued importance. Grossman was sanguine about the Jewish community: “The young men are more actually loyal to Judaism and things Jewish than formerly. In hamlets throughout the country as they turn into towns new congregations are opening, and the message is preached by trained American men.”4 Fewer young men were traditionally observant, but Jews were embracing the core of Judaism: “righteousness above ritual,” as he explained his (quintessentially Reform and Protestant-friendly) view. Grossman, like his fellow rabbis, cared that men remained active participants in synagogue life, but he expressed no concern about women’s takeover of religious space, neither that it had already happened nor that it might in the future.

Even if synagogues did not worry about the “woman peril” that churches identified, masculinity nevertheless mattered to Jews, in part, because it was connected to their place as Americans. Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism argues that in the early 20th century, American Jewish masculinity looked different from American Protestant masculinity and normative American masculinity more broadly. It drew from an American culture of manhood, but also, at specific points, resisted it. This ideal American Jewish masculinity was a gentler, less aggressive manhood that nevertheless valued a healthy and productive body.

Masculinity touched on all areas of American Jewish life, from immigration projects to theology to crime. Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism shows the intertwined processes of shaping an American Jewish masculinity and claiming Judaism as a good, American religion. But there is much more to be said about the gender of Jewish men, and I hope it will inspire others to take up questions about the relationships of masculinity and religion as social formations, both in the past and the present.

1 Putney, Muscular Christianity, 2.
4 For instance, see Faith Rogow, Gone to Another Meeting (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1993).
Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism

In addition to its sponsorship of annual campus-based courses and public lectures on antisemitism, ISCA is actively engaged in several major research projects on a global scale. Underwritten by an IU President’s International Research Award, ISCA scholars are pursuing research among Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Germany that aims to elucidate problems of antisemitism, Islamism, and integration. Discussion of this project formed the centerpiece of a workshop, “Antisemitism among Refugees in the Context of Rising Xenophobia and Antisemitism,” at IU’s Europe Gateway in Berlin in June. There was also discussion of antisemitism in today’s America. The workshop’s 25 participants included Alvin H. Rosenfeld, Günther Jikeli, and scholars at the University of Potsdam and other German institutions engaged with studying antisemitism. A larger follow-up conference will take place in Berlin in December.

In cooperation with the U.S. Department of State and under the guidance of Günther Jikeli, ISCA’s Justin M. Druck Family Visiting Associate Professor, a number of IU students engaged in a semester-long project, “Best Practices to Combat Antisemitism on Social Media.” It’s widely acknowledged that the internet is the single biggest purveyor of hate messages, including those copiously directed against Jews, but to date, few studies of this phenomenon have been carried out. Our students did intensive research into messages of hatred and incitement and attempted to devise ways to address them effectively. This was a preliminary attempt to investigate this important, but still understudied area, and will continue under Professor Jikeli’s direction in the future.

Another ISCA project of global reach will take place in India in October and November of 2017, when Alvin H. Rosenfeld, ISCA’s Director, will serve as scholar-in-residence and visiting lecturer at universities in Calcutta and New Delhi. He will be working with colleagues at Indian universities to help advance the study of the Holocaust and of antisemitism in that country.

In addition, ISCA scholars presented lectures on antisemitism at universities and other institutions in America, France, Germany, and Israel. And in close cooperation with IU Press, ISCA is engaged in the publication of important new research through the book series “Studies in Antisemitism,” edited by Alvin H. Rosenfeld. We are also especially pleased to announce the publication of the first number of the leading academic journal in the field, Antisemitism Studies, edited by the Canadian scholar Catherine Chatterley and published by IU Press.

Ensure our Future for Years to Come

For information about how to support our campaign, please contact Judah Cohen, Interim Director of Borns JSP (cohenjm@indiana.edu or 812-855-4137) or Travis Paulin, Executive Director of Advancement, College of Arts and Sciences (tpaulin@indiana.edu or 812-855-1876).
The Evil That Surrounds Us: The WWII Memoir of Erna Becker-Kohen, edited by Kevin P. Spicer and Martina Cucchiara. In 1931, Gustav Becker and Erna Kohen married. He was Catholic and she was Jewish. Erna and Gustav had no idea their religious affiliations, which mattered so little to them, would define their marriage under the Nazis. As one of the more than 20,000 German Jews married to an “Aryan” spouse, Erna was initially exempt from the most radical anti-Jewish measures. Through intimate and insightful diary entries, Erna tells her own compelling and horrifying story as she reflects on the great evil of Nazi Germany and the powerful love and courage of her husband, friends, and strangers who risked everything to protect her.

In The Romanian Orthodox Church and the Holocaust by Romanian scholar Ion Popa (Studies in Antisemitism series) he analyzes the church’s relationship with the Jewish community in Romania, with Judaism, and with the state of Israel, as well as the extent to which the church recognizes its part in the persecution and destruction of Romanian Jews. Popa’s highly original analysis illuminates how the church responded to accusations regarding its involvement in the Holocaust, the part it played in butressing the wall of Holocaust denial, and how Holocaust memory has been shaped in Romania today.

Amos Goldberg’s book, Trauma in First Person, addresses diary writing by Jews under Nazi persecution. Goldberg considers the diaries and memoirs of little-known victims and brilliant diarists and contends that only against the background of powerlessness and inner destruction can Jewish responses and resistance during the Holocaust gain their proper meaning.
45 Years at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem

In 1972, IU sent the first official group of students to The Hebrew University in Jerusalem (HUJ). Forty-five years later, hundreds of IU students, especially JS students, have studied at The Rothberg International School at HUJ via IU Overseas Study. Last year, nine IU students, including JS students Maya Guthman, Sydney Holt, Hannah Morris, Talia Plofsky, and Raya Seidman studied for a semester at HUJ. Two students were IU Modern Dance students who participated in the “Jerusalem Dance” program. All of these students were eligible for funding made possible through generous Israel study scholarships endowed by JSP supporters.

Students majoring in JS continue to study abroad more than IU students with other majors. In 2015-2016, 67% of JS graduating majors studied abroad, mostly in Israel. IU had more students than any U.S. college or university participating in The Nachshon Project, an enrichment program available to students studying at The Rothberg International School at HUJ.

In Spring 2018, pre-cantorial student Margo Wagner, a JS major/Jewish Sacred Music student, will be the first IU student to participate in The Rothberg International School (HUJ)/The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance’s “Jerusalem Sounds” program.
Donor Honor Roll
July 25, 2016 – July 21, 2017

Behind each Borns JSP chair, scholarship, and success are generous people. Through their gifts, they have become partners who share the vision of the program.

JSP Endowments – Life/Perpetual Friends
(new endowments in 2016-2017 indicated with *)
Barbara and Joseph Alpert
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– Alice Grunfeld Cohn Yiddish Fund
– Dr. Alice Field Cohn Chair in Yiddish Studies
Betty* and Melvin Cohn
– Melvin and Betty Cohn JS Institute Fund
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– Edward M. Dayan Scholarship in JS Fund
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We are pleased that with the expansion of activities and needs of the Borns JSP, the indispensable JSP’s Advisory Board grew. We are delighted to welcome newest members Roseanne Barr, Debra Barton Grant, Steve Jacobs, Elliott D. Levin, Irwin Levin, Herbert Melrose, Linda Melrose, Doug Rose, Jonathan Shapiro, Greg Silver, Renny Silver, Dr. Myron Weinberger, and Myrna Weinberger.

The Borns JSP benefits from the vision, positive energy, and generosity of an excellent Executive Committee and Advisory Board. These leaders, who are deeply committed to JS at IU, have been essential for the Borns JSP’s success in community relations and fund raising. We are grateful to Andy Mallor, President of the Advisory Board, who works closely with the College of Arts and Sciences Development office.

The advisory board met twice in Indianapolis during the past academic year — on November 13, 2016 and on April 23, 2017. We are most grateful to our members for bringing their passion and experience to the program and our students:

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Congratulations to the 2016 Indiana Jewish History Society’s Hoosier Legends. Of the inaugural group of ten honorees, six are/were members of the Borns JSP Advisory Board: Leonard Goldstein, and the late Dr. Louis Lemberger, Frank Newman, Lawrence Reuben, Helen Schwartz, and Martin Schwartz.
Graduate Student News

Our lively JS graduate student community, led by an engaged JS Graduate Student Association (JSGSA) and its officers, comes together often for dinners, presentations of papers, and peer review.

A new learning option for our graduate students began in spring 2017 with the launching of the JS Graduate Proseminar. This course gives JS graduate students a unique opportunity to spend time with many of the speakers who visit IU, as well as IU faculty, in order to discuss their works-in-progress. Included among the workshop speakers with whom the students met were Constanze Kolbe, Michael Brenner, Paul Nahme, and David Grossman. IU faculty, including Stephen Katz, Mirjam Zadoff, and Jason Mokhtarian, also led sessions on various topics. In addition to these meetings, the proseminar also served as a venue for graduate students to come together to talk about issues of professionalization in the academy, such as giving papers at national conferences, completing doctoral exams and theses, publishing (with the help of Dee Mortensen, Editorial Director of IU Press), and the interview and tenure process.

And moving beyond the IUB campus, with support from a grant from the American Academy of Jewish Research, our JS graduate students are meeting for workshops with their cohorts at Purdue University. On February 26, 2017, at Purdue, the first of these workshops allowed students (with faculty respondents from both programs) to present work that they intend to develop into conference papers, publication submissions, and dissertations. The day-long workshop also included a round-table discussion on opportunities for future collaboration between the two programs. The second of these workshops will take place on the IU Bloomington campus on February 25, 2018.

Ables, Kolbe, and Shubowitz Complete Ph.D.

Three JS Ph.D. minor students — Mollie Ables (Musicology), Constanze Kolbe (History), and Devorah Shubowitz (Anthropology) — completed their Ph.D.s during the 2016-2017 academic year.

In December 2016, Mollie Ables completed her Ph.D. with her dissertation: “Giovanni Legrenzi’s Venetian Career and Musicians’ Networks at Sacred Institutions, 1670-1690.” During her final year of graduate studies, Mollie presented papers at the American Musicological Society conference, and at the Digitorium: University of Alabama Digital Humanities conference.

Constanze Kolbe defended her dissertation, “Trans-Imperial Networks: Jewish Merchant Mobility Across and Beyond the Adriatic Mediterranean in the 19th Century” in spring 2017. This year, she is the 2017-2018 Hazel Cole Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Washington, Seattle. In 2016-17, she co-organized a panel for the AJS conference entitled “A Smuggler Nation? Mediterranean Jews and Contraband Trade in the First World War and Beyond”. She presented a paper at the Fifth Junior Scholars Conference in Jewish History at IU. In April, she was invited to the University of Illinois, Chicago, to participate in a mini-colloquium on mobility in the 19th century Adriatic. She presented part of her dissertation at the conference “Migrations Past and Present: From 19th Century Jewish Migrations to the Current Refugee Crisis” at Columbia University/NYU.

With support from an Association for Feminist Anthropology Dissertation Award and a Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Dissertation Fieldwork grant, Devorah Shubowitz, Ph.D., May 2017, completed her dissertation “Not All Women Bleed When They Have Sex”: Jewish Women’s Negotiation of Male Dominance in their Study of Sacred Texts in New York Egalitarian Communities.
Ph.D. Alumni News

Mohammed Alghbban (2011) is Associate Professor at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. His research interests include Modern Hebrew language, translation studies, JS, figurative language, and cognitive linguistics.

Dan Clasby (2012), Assistant Professor of History at King’s College in Pennsylvania, completed the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies Fellowship program sponsored by Brandeis University. During his weeks in Israel on the program, he conducted research for his book project on postwar Italian-Jewish life and identity.

Two books by Michah Gottlieb, (2003) Associate Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at NYU, are forthcoming: Jewish Protestantism: Translation and The Turn to the Bible in German Judaism (under contract, Oxford University Press), and Reconsidering Moses Mendelssohn: New Perspectives on Enlightenment, Religion, and Politics (University of Maryland Press, co-editor with Charles Manekin, in press).

Barbara Krawcowicz (2013) is spending the next three years as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim. Previously, she taught gender and JS at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw.

Jolanta Mickute (2011), a faculty member at Vytautas Magnus University, spent spring 2016 at Yale, with support from the Hospeh P. Kazickas Fellowship, researching the politics of culture, ethnicity, and gender in interwar Poland, 1918-1939. Her article, “The Vilner Troupe, 1916-1930: A Transformation of Shund Theater – For the Sake of National Politics or High Art?” appeared in volume 22 of Jewish Social Studies. Jolanta recently told an interviewer that “my Ph.D. studies at IU turned out to be a marriage made in heaven.”

In 2015-16, Adam Rovner (2003) Associate Professor, English and Jewish Literature, University of Denver, served as a Lady Davis Fellow in the Department of English at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ). His book, In the Shadow of Zion: Promised Lands Before Israel was published by NYU Press in December 2014 and was favorably reviewed in many outlets, including The Times Literary Supplement (UK). Adam’s short documentary about the Jewish nationalist ideology known as Territorialism, “No Land Without Heaven: Isaac Nachman Steinberg and the Freeland League,” was screened at the Center for Jewish History (Manhattan), the Bibliotheque Medern (Paris), and the Israeli Center for Digital Art (Holon). He recently published an essay in the edited volume What Ifs of Jewish History (Cambridge 2016), as well as general interest articles in The Forward, Jewish Renaissance (UK), and Paper Brigade. He is married to Man Booker International Prize winner Jessica Cohen.

Amy Simon (2015), the inaugural William and Audrey Farber Chair in Holocaust Studies and European Jewish History at Michigan State University, chaired the panel “Postwar Reconstruction: The Meanings and Limits of Rebuilding Jewish Life in Europe” at the AJLS conference, where she also presented “We Have Struck the Enemy with a Hard Blow: Ghetto Diarists’ Perceptions of Allied Rescue.”

Jill Suzanne Smith (2004) is the John S. Osterweis Associate Professor of German at Bowdoin College. She is the author of the book Berlin Coquette: Prostitution and the New German Woman, 1890-1933 (Cornell University Press, 2013). Her research and teaching focus on gender and sexuality, JS, and the city of Berlin from the Wilhelmine era to the present. She is currently working on two book-length studies: one on German-language courtroom dramas — particularly those representing war-crime tribunals — since World War II, and one on representations of Weimar Berlin in contemporary German and American popular culture.

Ben Thorne (2012) is Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Political Science at Wingate University in North Carolina. He teaches courses on Comparative Genocide Studies, the Holocaust, and the History of Jews in East-Central Europe, in addition to Modern European History.

Jaron Kanegson Completes M.A. in JS

With support from a Borns Family Fellowship and the Glazer Family Fellowship Fund, Jaron Kanegson completed the M.A. in JS with her thesis, “The Magic Bowl and the Bavl: Jewish Perspectives on the Body and Fertility in Late Antiquity.” She is now pursuing a Ph.D. in Religious Studies at Brown University.

Our Current M.A. Students

This summer, David Axelrod interned at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. A third year dual JS and History M.A. student, his primary interest is in Soviet policy toward Jews during the Stalin era.

Adah Hetko completed the first year of her master’s degree, and is making plans for her thesis project which will focus on the American klezmer and Yiddish song revival. Supported by an Alice Ginott Cohn, Ph.D. and Theodore Cohn grant-in-aid, this past summer, she began her thesis research at Yiddish-Vokh, a Yiddish-only retreat in Copake, NY, and she studied Intermediate Yiddish with the Steiner Program at NYU, and she studied Intermediate Yiddish with the Steiner Program at NYU, and she studied Intermediate Yiddish with the Steiner Program at NYU, and she studied Intermediate Yiddish with the Steiner Program at NYU, and she studied Intermediate Yiddish with the Steiner Program at NYU.

Steven Kaplin is a second year JS M.A. student. His research focuses on Jewish mysticism, particularly Hasidism.

Morgan Morales, who is pursuing the M.A. in both JS and History, spent her first year at IU studying Yiddish language and developing papers that critically examine German intellectuals and analyze the Israeli state in its earliest years. She is serving as VP of the JSGSA this year. Her thesis will focus on German Jewish families during the Third Reich.

Jordan Sommers is beginning his second year of study toward the completion of two master’s degrees in JS and Russian/East European History. In addition to a Title VIII Fellowship for study of the Ukrainian language at IU in summer 2017, he was awarded a FLAS Fellowship for the 2017-18 academic year to continue his study of Ukrainian. With support from a Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship for Study of the Holocaust grant-in-aid, he spent May 2017 in Ukraine, collecting archival materials in Kiev, Vinnytsya, and Rivne. These documents have formed the basis of a research paper concerning the Holocaust in Vinnytsya, which he hopes to submit for publication this year. Jordan looks forward to continuing his study of Yiddish and additional research projects during the coming academic year.

Continued on page 20
Our Doctoral Minor Students

During the past year, Brian Hillman (Religious Studies) presented on the 19th century thinker Nachman Krochmal at the AAR annual meeting; on American and Jewish exceptionalism for Rabbis Kaufman Kohler and Solomon Schechter at the annual JSGSA conference; and on Messianism and Zionism for Rabbis Zvi Yehudah Kook and Joel Teitelbaum at the annual meeting of the Midwest Region of the AAR. After studying Modern Hebrew at Middlebury College in summer 2016, he returned to Middlebury this past summer to attend their newly created program in Classical Hebrew. During the 2016-2017 year, he studied Aramaic. He will begin work on his dissertation on “Mithnagdic Thought after Rabbi Elijah, the Gaon of Vilna” during the year, his fourth year at IU.

Allison Posner (Comparative Literature) received a Dissertation Research Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences for 2017-2018. The working title of her dissertation is “The Missing Image in Holocaust Testimony and Literature.” She taught first semester Yiddish in fall 2016.

Lindsey Pullum-Fouls (Anthropology) completed her coursework and passed her qualifying exams in April. Her research analyzes the discursive practices of belonging among Druze in Israel. She conducted research for her dissertation this past summer with support from a Borns Family Fellowship grant-in-aid. She presented several academic papers: at the Midwest Popular Culture Association, American Anthropological Association, IU/Purdue University JS Graduate Workshop, JSGSA conference, and the Anthropology Graduate Student Association conference.

In fall 2016, Julia Riegel (History) completed a Sosland Fellowship at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. Riegel returned to Bloomington last spring to begin writing her dissertation. In summer 2017, thanks to a Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust, grant-in-aid, Riegel completed final archival research for her dissertation in the YIVO Archives in NYC. This year, she is working as an Editorial Assistant at the American Historical Review while writing her dissertation on musical life in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Meghan Riley (History) is looking forward to having a great adventure during her dissertation research in France this year, supported by a Fulbright Fellowship. Her research will also be supported by the Saul Kagan Fellowship in Advanced Shoah Studies from the Claims Conference. Meghan will be researching the role of international humanitarian organizations, such as the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the American Red Cross, in French internment and concentration camps during World War II. This fall in Paris, she is working in the National Archives and the Center for Contemporary Jewish Documentation. Riley will then work in archives in the southwest of France that were sites of major internment camps.

Over the past year, in addition to co-organizing a successful JSGSA conference, Sean Sidky (Comparative Literature and Religious Studies) has presented papers at a number of regional and graduate conferences. In March, he received a year-long Translation Fellowship from the Yiddish Book Center to translate a book of short stories from Yiddish author Alexander Spiegelblatt. Sean will be reading excerpts from his translation as part of a panel at this year’s American Literary Translator’s Conference in October.

In April, at the University of Toronto, Dale Spicer (Religious Studies) delivered a paper addressing some of the theoretical challenges that scholars face in the study of premodern religious attitudes towards disability. He plans to further explore concepts of health, illness, and physical difference in religious texts during his dissertation research.

Juliane Wuensch (Germanic Studies) completed her course work and qualifying exams and is now writing her dissertation entitled “German-Jewish Female Identity and the Dream of an Egalitarian Society: A Comparative Study of Rahel Varnhagen, Rosa Luxemburg, and Hannah Arendt.” She works as an AI for the Germanic Studies Department.

George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize
Adah Hetko

Adah Hetko, a first year M.A. student in JS, was awarded the 2017 George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize. A recipient of the 2016-2017 Graduate Studies in Yiddish Fellowship, her primary interest is in Yiddish language and culture, including Yiddish song and the contemporary klezmer revival. A graduate of Oberlin College, from 2013-2015 she was the Tannenbaum Inter-Religious Fellow with the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Vassar College. Adah is a storyteller, songwriter, and performer.

Incoming JS Ph.D. minor and M.A. in JS students!
See: www.indiana.edu/~jsp/graduates/funding_incoming.shtml
For the 2017-2018 year, more than $130,000 of scholarships were awarded to JS majors, certificate students, and Hebrew minor students and more than $103,000 of funding was awarded to graduate students.

Graduate Students

Graduate Student Fellows
Jacob Beckert (JS M.A.) Borns Family Fellowship
Emily Franchy (JS M.A.) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship
Morgan Morales (Dual M.A. in JS and History) Borns Family Fellowship
Meghan Paradise (Ph.D., History) Glazer Family Fellowship

Grants in-Aid of Research
David Axelrod (JS & History M.A.) Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust
Charles Bonds (History) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Adah Hetko (JS M.A.) The Alice Ginnott Cohn, Ph.D. and Theodore Cohn Fellowship (for Yiddish)
Brian Hillman (RS) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Steven Kaplin (JS M.A.) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Yehuda Magid (Political Science) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Lindsey Pullum-Foulks (Anthropology) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Julia Riegel (History) Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust
Meghan Riley (History) Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust
Sean Sidky (Comparative Literature and Religious Studies) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund
Jordan Sommers (JS and History M.A.) Sara and Albert Reuben Fellowship to Support the Study of the Holocaust
Juliane Wuensch (Germanic Studies) The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Fellowship Fund

Friends of the Borns JSP Graduate Conference Funding
Brian Hillman (Religious Studies)
Roy Holler (Comparative Literature)
Constanze Kolbe (History)
Yehuda Magid (Political Science)
Lindsey Pullum-Foulks (Anthropology)
Meghan Riley (History)

Undergraduate Students

Incoming Freshmen Scholarships
Taylor-Paige Guba (Indianapolis, IN) Roberta and Arthur Kroot Scholarship (4 year)
Jordana Ichilov (Dallas, TX) Karl and Rosey Krakovitz Scholarship (4 year)
Leora Lindenbaum (Milwaukee, WI) Irving Glazer Scholarship (4 year)
Sara Warner (Novato, CA) Selma Lee Mervis Young Scholarship for Jewish Sacred Music (4 year)
Maya Geller-Montague (Indianapolis, IN) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Ethan Goldberg (Dallas, TX) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Michael Mitgang (Newtown, PA) Irving M. Glazer Scholarship

JS Undergraduate Scholarships
Harry Aaronson (Tarzana, CA) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Merit Scholarship
Michelle Bennett (St. Louis, MO) Herb and Bernice Levetown Scholarship and Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Rebecca Bloom (St. Louis, MO) Karl and Rosey Krakovitz Scholarship and Martha Ann Mervis Scholarship
Sarina Elbenogen-Siegel (Evanston, IL) Selma Lee Mervis Young Scholarship for Jewish Sacred Music
Naomi Farahan (Carmel, IL) Sandra and Stanley Trockman Scholarship

cEytam Fisher-Pinsker (Ann Arbor, MI) Leonard and Ruth Goldstein Scholarship, Irving Glazer Scholarship, Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Merit Scholarship
Shayna Goodman (Santa Barbara, CA) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Hannah Isikow (Rockville, MD) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Merit Scholarship
Mitchell Israel (Deerfield, IL) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Toby Klein (Northbrook, IL) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Merit Scholarship
Tahlia Korin (Indianapolis, IN) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Jacob Levy (Munster, IN) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Hannah Morris (Memphis, TN) Irving Katz Scholarship
Shayna Plotnik (Framingham, MA) Selma Lee Mervis Young Scholarship in Jewish Sacred Music
Douglas Rich (Solon, OH) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Jordan Schiff (Northfield, IL) Isadore Mervis Scholarship and Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Talia Schiff (Northfield, IL) Edward Dayan Scholarship
Merissa Schwab (Skokie, IL) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Merit Scholarship
Rachel Sendrow (Carmel, IN) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship
Margo Wagner (Snowmass Village, CO) Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship, Henry Fischel, Ph.D. Scholarship, and Percy Family Scholarship

Friends of the Borns JSP Undergraduate Conference Funding
Brian Dickstein (Farmington Hills, MI)
Toby Klein (Northfield, IL)
Frankie Salzman (Northfield, IL)
Brian Dickstein (Farmington Hills, MI)

Pescovitz Family Scholarship Established

Dr. Ora Pescovitz, long-time Borns JSP Advisory Board member, has created the Pescovitz Family Scholarship on behalf of her children Aliza, Naomi, and Ari (IU 2008) to honor her late husband Dr. Mark Pescovitz, IU School of Medicine faculty member, who served on the Borns JSP Advisory Board from 2000 until his death in 2010. During his tenure as president of the board from 2006-2009, Mark provided visionary leadership and headed efforts to raise funds for six endowed chairs, along with dozens of student scholarships and fellowships, endowed lectureships, programs, and academic initiatives. This far-reaching gift will support generations of students.
Undergraduate News
2016-2017 JS Graduates

JS Majors
With the 2016-2017 graduation of an outstanding cohort of majors, 320 students have completed the B.A. in JS since our major was established in 1992.
Tziporah Ladin-Gross – Vernon Hills, IL
Becky Mann – Henderson, NV (Jewish Sacred Music)
Alex Perkins (magna cum laude) – Greenfield, IN
Frankie Salzman – Carmel, IN
Bryan Woods (magna cum laude) – Bloomington, IN
Tova Zimm – Rockville, MD

JS Certificate Students
The certificate program requires, at minimum, 8 courses in JS. Joining the 473 alumni of our certificate program (established in 1976) were graduates:
Steven Aranyi – Buffalo Grove, IL
Shannon Hagen – Bloomington, IN
Alexandra Koyfman (summa cum laude) – Granger, IN
Julia Laibstain (cum laude) – Norfolk, VA
Tony Satryan (magna cum laude) – Pittsburgh, PA
David Solkowitz – Rockville, MD
Adam Taylor (magna cum laude) – Lapel, IN
Jack Weinstock – Houston, TX

Jewish Studies Minor Student
The first student to complete the Jewish Studies minor (which began in summer 2017) is:
Elan Chargo – Wayzata, MN

Hebrew Minor Students
The 14th class of students completing the JS minor in Hebrew:
David Solkowitz (also a JS B.A. graduate)
Lindsey Taussig – Highland Park, IL

News of This Year’s Graduates

Julia Laibstain is Yozma Madricha for the Nativ gap year program in Israel.
Becky Mann will begin studies at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at HUC-JIR in summer 2018. This year, she is in Bloomington as Vocal Director of the Synchronicity and Minisync children’s show choirs, as 3rd grade show choir Director at Fairview Elementary School, as music teacher at Congregation Beth Shalom, and as assistant preschool teacher at Gan Shalom day school.
Alex Perkins is pursuing a master’s degree in Non-Profit Management at The Rothberg International School at HUJ.
Frankie Salzman is a Fellow at the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation in Atlanta.
Tony Satryan is teaching secondary English through Teach for America in Miami for the next two years. During this time, he is pursuing a master’s degree in Education at Johns Hopkins University.
David Solkowitz is pursuing master’s degrees at Hebrew College in Jewish Education and JS while serving as part-time middle school youth advisor and teacher’s assistant at Temple Aliyah in Needham, MA.

Undergraduate Honors
An unprecedented percentage (40%) of JS May 2017 graduates were named to Phi Beta Kappa: majors: Alex Perkins and Bryan Woods, and certificate students: Alexandra Koyfman, Tony Satryan, and Adam Taylor.
Thirty percent of JS majors (Harry Aaronson, Michelle Bennett, Naomi Farahan, Becky Mann, Hannah Morris, Alex Perkins and Frankie Salzman) were named to the Fall 2016 College Executive Dean’s List.
JS majors named to the Spring 2017 College Executive Dean’s List were: Harry Aaronson, Michelle Bennett, Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel, Yotam Fisher-Pinsker, Toby Klein, Becky Mann, Alex Perkins, and Bryan Wood.
2016-2017 freshmen Sarina Elenbogen-Siegel, Yotam Fisher-Pinsker, and Abe Shapiro were invited into the Hutton Honors College after their first semester.

High school seniors!
Apply for up to $40,000 ($10,000 per year) scholarships for JS majors. Additional one-year scholarships for incoming JS majors and certificate students. Deadline:
Wednesday, January 17, 2018
See application details at:
go.iu.edu/js_scholarships
Matters: A Top-to-Bottom Analysis of Economic Characteristics” by Schumick of Fort Wayne, IN, and “Why Israel’s Western Economy Catholic Hierarchy and the Independent State of Croatia” by because she “loved it”.

Literature, her “world opened up,” and she chose to major in JS about Jewish history beyond the Holocaust, and didn’t even know conviction. Alex said that as a freshman, she didn’t know anything about Jewish history beyond the Holocaust. “History of the Holocaust” course. After studying abroad in Morocco, Devon wrote his paper for the course “What is Middle Eastern?” with Professor Aziza Khazzoom. He begins law school at the University Notre Dame this fall.

Our Collegial Undergraduate Community

The close and congenial undergraduate community, created with intention by faculty, staff, and student leaders distinguishes the Borns JSP from other JS programs on American campuses. This unique JS community begins before the first day of classes each year, when the officers of the JS Student Association (JSSA) host incoming JS freshmen for lunch and then tour students to their various classrooms. On August 29, 2017, JS faculty, undergraduate, and graduate students will gather for the annual fall welcome dessert, and soon after, freshmen will dine with advisor Carolyn Lipson-Walker to discuss goals for their college careers.

Each fall, JS majors and core faculty enjoy dinner together in a professor’s home. In 2016-2017, the officers of the JSSA — Tziporah Ladin-Gross, Shayna Goodman, Michelle Bennett, Tova Zimm, and Harry Aaronson — organized sushi nights at a local restaurant, held a bowling night with faculty, had a special showing of Judaica and extraordina...
Since Spring 1975, Jewish Studies course enrollments have totaled 65,068.

### Arts & Humanities

#### 100 Level Courses
- Jews, Christians, Muslims—Imhoff
- Power, Politics, & Piety: Nationalism & Territory in Israel/Palestine—Magid
- A Question of Identity: The Case of Judaism—Cohen

#### 200 Level Courses
- Anne Frank & Hitler: Studies in the Representation of Good & Evil—Rosenfeld
- Contemporary Israeli Culture—Katz
- Guns and Roses: Representatives of Soldiers and War in Modern Hebrew Literature—Katz
- Introduction to the Hebrew Bible—Imhoff, Mastnjak, Mokhtarian
- The New Testament—Schott
- Literature of the Holocaust—Rosenfeld
- Representing Jews & African Americans in American Musical Theater—Cohen

#### 300-400 Level Courses
- Ghetto, Shtetl, and Beyond: Millennium of History and Society of Yiddish—Kerler
- The Hebrew Bible—Marks
- Introduction to Jewish Mysticism—Magid
- Jews, Christians & Others in Late Antiquity—Mokhtarian, Schott
- Magic and Witchcraft in the Ancient World—Mokhtarian
- Modern Hebrew Literature in English—Katz
- Music in Judaism—Cohen
- Prophecy in Ancient Israel—Mastnjak
- Rabbinic Judaism: Literature & Beliefs—Mokhtarian
- Sacred Books of the Jews—Mokhtarian
- Victims and Avengers: Readings in the Holocaust Literature of Israel—Katz
- Yiddish Life, Literature, and Memory—Kerler

### Social & Historical Studies

#### 200 Level Courses
- Genocide in the Modern World—Roseman
- Introduction to Jewish History: From the Bible to Spanish Expulsion—González Dieguez, Ifft Decker
- Introduction to Jewish History: From Spanish Expulsion to the Present—M. Zadoff
- Israel: History, Society, Culture (An Introduction)—N. Zadoff
- Israeli Inequality in Context—Khazzoom
- The Urban Jewish Experience—Ifft Decker
- The Zionist Movement between Europe & Palestine/Israel—N. Zadoff

### Languages

#### 200 Level Courses
- Beginning Yiddish I & II—Posner, Kerler
- Intermediate Yiddish I & II—Kerler, Lang
- Introduction to Biblical Hebrew I & II—Mastnjak
- Intermediate Biblical Hebrew I & II—Mastnjak
- Elementary Hebrew I & II—Romashov, Weiss
- Intermediate Modern Hebrew I & II—Maoz-Levy, Weiss
- Advanced Modern Hebrew I & II—Hollier, Maoz-Levy, Weiss
- Introduction to Imperial Aramaic—Beckwith

### Graduate Courses

- Colloquium in JS—Imhoff
- Graduate Proseminar—Mokhtarian
- History of Conflict as History of Emotions: The Israeli Arab Case—N. Zadoff
- The Jewish Jesus from Late Antiquity to the Present—Magid
- Multiple Voices of Israeli Society—Khazzoom

Students in Günther Jikeli’s “Contemporary Antisemitism in Socio-Cultural Perspectives” course in spring 2017 were part of the Department of State’s “Diplomacy Lab,” initiated by Secretary of State John Kerry. The project allowed students to work on a fictional research project for the State Department’s Special Envoy to Combat Anti-Semitism and to consult with the State Department employees on their research. The students shared their preliminary findings with a presentation/panel at the 2017 IUB Undergraduate Research Symposium and Poster Fair. The undergraduate moderator was JS student Abe Shapiro, and JS students Harry Aaronson, Jacob Levy, Jenna Solomon, Jack Weinstock, and Bryan Woods presented. Andrea Ciccarelli, Dean of the Hutton Honors College, called the presentation “superb.” JS M.A. students David Axelrod and Morgan Morales assisted in mentoring the students.
Alumni News

Cantor Janet Iliene Roth (1981) is cantor at Congregation Ohr Shalom in Summit, NJ.
Audrey Krakovitz (1986) is Director of Teacher Workshops at the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust.
David Meline (1986) is Executive Director of Cushman and Wakefield’s Capital Markets Group.
Rabbi Bruce Elder (1989) is rabbi of Congregation Hakafa in Glencoe, IL. He is one of 15 Jewish leaders from across the U.S. to participate in the six month Global Justice Fellowship with the American Jewish World Service.
Hannah Pollack-Feller (1989) is Assistant VP for Planning and Grants at The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore.
Rabbi Braham David (1991) is Rabbi of Temple Shalom in Medford, MA, and Director of the Jewish Discovery Institute in Newton, MA.
Rabbi Debora Gordon (1991) is Rabbi of Temple Bith Sholom in Troy, NY.
Debra Barton Grant (1991) is Executive VP of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis.
Stephanie Fink (1993) is Associate Director, Family Engagement for the Union for Reform Judaism.
Wendy Grinberg (1993) is the Founder and Director of the Jewish Education Lab.
Jessica Bennett Mehiman (1994) is Director of Planning and Allocations at the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest, N.J.
Yosh Eisbart (1995) is Principal of NIMBL LLC in Denver.
Jessica Hazan Jundef (1995) is Technology Coordinator at the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Monmouth County in NJ.
Ida Shapiro (1995) is Senior VP, Business Control Manager for Bank of America in Atlanta.
Ilana Farb (1996) is a Nurse Practitioner in Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Infertility at Minnesota Women’s Care.
Eafat Newton (1996) is an award-winning screenwriter based in Ohio. She completed a Screenwriting Certificate at Emerson College.
Alberta Corner (1997) is Dean and Director of the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library.
Allison Paine Landers (1997) is VP of Customer Experience and Digital for Prudential Financial.
Bradley Finkel (1998) was named Director of Camp Chi, the camp of the Chicago JCCs.
Rachel Murov Greenberg (1998) is Palm Beach Area Director at AIPAC.
Lisa Kohnke (1998) is Director of Strategic Partnerships and Global Affairs, office of Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago.
Shana Canter Levin (1998) was honored with the Helen Nutis Volunteer of the Year Mitzvah Award by the JCC of Columbus, OH. She has served as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and on its Executive Committee, and has chaired the Early Childhood Parent Community, the Early Childhood Education Council, the 2016 Jr. Maccabi Committee, and the JCC Annual Meeting.
Andrea Plotkin (1998) is VP of Development and Communications for The New Jewish Home in NYC.
Amanda Borschel-Dan (1999) is Jewish World Maven at The Times of Israel.
Dr. Jared Hershenson (1999) is a pediatrician in Maryland.
Sean Herstein (1999) teaches JS at Milken Community High School in Encino, CA.
Marcy Ackerman-Price (2000) is Director, Grants and Foundations at United Way of Central Indiana.
Robin Anderson (2000) is Director at Camp Young Judaea Midwest.

Julie Brodsky (2000) is Director of New Parent Engagement at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.
Naomi Slater (2000) is International Activities Coordinator at Merchavim: The Institute for the Advancement of Shared Citizenship in Israel.
Jami Bachrad (2001) is Director of Development at IKAR LA.
Jessica Auerbach Burgoon (2001) is Director of Special Projects at Temple Emanuel Early Childhood Center in Denver.
Emily Sirot (2001) is Director of Admissions and Operations at Temple Emanuel Early Childhood Center in Denver.
Ethan Uslan (2001) has won the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest three times. A professional ragtime and jazz pianist, he has performed on NPR’s Prairie Home Companion.
Kate Breiter Uslan (2000) is Director of Marketing and Communications for UslanMusic.com.
Miriam Pullman Friedman (2002) is Director of Philanthropic Initiatives at the Marcus JCC in Atlanta.
Rabbi Andy Kastner (2002) is Director of Community Impact at the Jewish Federation of the East Bay (San Francisco area).
Diana Kogan (2002) is Senior Program Manager at Genesis Philanthropy Group.
Amanda Meyer Radman (2002) is Temple Administrator at Congregation B’na’i Tikvah in Walnut Creek, CA.
Joshua Samis (2002) is a partner at McDermott, Will & Emery in Chicago.
Ruth Schachter (2002) is Director of Operations at Bais Abraham Congregation in St. Louis.
Cantor Asa Fradkin (2003) has recently been named the cantor of Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County, Maryland. He served as Hazzan at Temple Sholom in Greenwich, CT for ten years.
Ashley Plotnick (2003) is Director of Congregational Learning at Congregation Solel in Highland Park, IL.
Leah Aft (2004) is PJ Library Coordinator for the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. Her husband Aaron Aft (2004) is an Associate in the Real Estate practice group at Ice Miller LLP.
Sarina Fogel Gerson (2004) is Director of Teen Engagement Initiative for the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.
Emily Eisenberg Nasatir (2004) is Associate Director of Major Gifts at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.
Sari Rodin (2004) is Program Director for the Diller Teen Fellows Program at the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.
Benjamin Sider (2004) is Director, Consumer Research and Insights at Vimeo.
Rabbi Jennifer Gubitz (2005) is Rabbi and Director of Riverway at Temple Israel in Boston.
Rabbi Brent Gutmann (2005) is Senior Rabbi at Temple Kol Ami in West Bloomfield, MI.
Sarah Lawson (2005) is Assistant to the National Development Director at New Israel Fund.
Laura Perpinyal (2005) is Director of Congregational Learning at Temple Chai in Long Grove, IL.
Erielie Reshef (2005) is a correspondent on ABC News in NYC.
Sonya Weisburd (2005) is Associate Director of Volunteer Programs at the JCC of Washington, DC.
Netanel Yaghoubi (2005) is Executive Director of JP Morgan Chase.
Rabbi Stephanie Clark Covitz (2006) is Advanced Chaplain Practitioner at Ohio Health Rehabilitation Hospital.
Megan Roberts Koller (2006) is Performance Consultant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She teaches at West End Synagogue.

Continued on page 26
Rabbi Michael Kushnick (2006) is Rabbi at Congregation Anshei Torah in Plano, TX.

Rabbi Philip Sherman (2006) is Associate Rabbi of Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, MA.

Keren Neiger Arazi (2007) is HR Business Partner, Operations and Internal Communication at Payoneer in Tel Aviv.

Max Aronson (2007) is VP for Drama Development for SONY Pictures.

Julia Franks (2007) is Director for Planning and Community Impact at Jewish Nevada.

Samantha Leapman Spoler (2007) is Education and Outreach Coordinator for SHALVA, Chicago’s only Jewish domestic violence agency.

Dr. Leslie Abrams Tobe (2007) is an ophthalmologist in Indianapolis and the mother of Bella Charlotte, born March 5, 2017.

Rabbi Deana Sussman Berezin (2008) is the Assistant Rabbi at Temple Israel in Omaha, Nebraska. She married Jared Berezin on April 3, 2016.

Laura Berman-Lipsky (2008) is Manager of Alumni Career Services at NYU.

Jody Gansel (2008) is Program Manager at Experimental Jewish Education Network in Boston.

Rabbi Jonathan Kleinman (2008) is Chaplain at Hospice of Kansas City.

Shira Nadel (2008) is Director of Compensation at News Corps in NYC.


Will Slatkin (2008) is VP of Harry Slatkin Builders in Bloomfield Hills, MI.

Rebecca Frazin (2009) is Director of Programming and Engagement at Chicago Sinai Congregation.

Nati Orbach (2009) completed her MAPH at the University of Chicago with her thesis on ancient Israelite religion and archaeology. She is a Ph.D. student in Religion and Archaeology at Bar Ilan University.

Dr. Cheryl Steiman (2009) specializes in internal medicine in Madison, WI.

Emily Thal Cohen (2010) is Program Specialist at Congregation Shaare Emeth in St. Louis.

Jessica Gross Gershuny (2010) is Director of Admissions for the Center for Security Studies Program at Georgetown University.

Eric Goode (2010) is Legislative Correspondent for the office of Senator Tammy Duckworth (IL) and is also pursuing a master’s degree at Johns Hopkins University.

Rachel Klein (2010) is Marketing Associate for the Midwest and Florida for the JNF (based in Chicago).

Sara Geboff Levitt (2010) is Director of Jewish Life and Learning for Congregation B’nai Emunah in Tulsa, OK.

Matthew Levitt (2011) is an MBA student at Oklahoma State University.

Jenna Rudy Lowenstein (2010) is a preschool teacher at the Samson Family JCC in Milwaukee.

Lauren (Jacobson) Rosenberg (2010) Leadership Gifts Officer for the Chicago office of Facing History and Ourselves, was named a 2016 Double Chai young Jewish leader by the JUF.

Marc Silberstein is Director of Education at Ahavath Achim Synagogue in the Atlanta area.

Julia Steigerwald (2010) is the News Desk Manager at The Jerusalem Post.

Cantor Lily (Tash) Blum (2011) is Cantor/Educator at Temple Shalom of the South Bay in Hermosa Beach, CA. She will continue her rabbinical studies at the Academy for Jewish Religion, CA and will be ordained in 2018. She married Phil Blum on February 14, 2016.

Rachel Herman (2011) completed her M.A. in Experiential Jewish Education at JTS and is Director of Education and Youth Activities at Congregation Or Hadash in Sandy Springs, GA.

Rabbi Rachel (Silverstein) Schmelkin (2011) is Rabbi/Educator at Congregation Beth Israel in Charlottesvile, VA.

Jill Cogan (2012) is Music Education Director at Congregation Adath Emanuel in Mount Laurel, NJ.

Dr. Jamie Ehrenpreis (2012) is a Pediatric Resident at Rosalind Franklin University.

Leslie Gubitz (2012) is a founding Biology high school teacher at KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) High School in Columbus, OH.

Ben Gurin (2012) is a rabbinical student at HUC-JIR, LA. This past summer, he married Myra Meskin, a rabbinical student at American Jewish University. They are spending the current year in Jerusalem where Ben will be part of the Pardes Institute’s advanced Kolel program.

Abby Ross (2012) is National Executive Healthcare Recruiter at Executive Staffing Solutions in Columbus, OH.

Matthew Bikoff (2013) is Program Associate for the Leaders for Democracy Fellowship at World Learning at the U.S. Department of State.

Marisa Briefman (2013) completed an M.A. in Jewish Professional Studies at Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership. She is Annual Giving Manager at Jewish Social Services in Rockville, MD.

Melody Coven (2013) is Associate Director of Development at Northwestern Hillel.

Joshua Dinner (2013) is the 2017-2018 Program Director at IU Hillel. He has his own space news website: www.theOrbital.space.

Bianca Hasten (2013) is Coordinator at Planned Parenthood Federation of America in NYC.

Julia Lustig (2013) completed an M.A. in Jewish Education/Educational Leadership in Communal Settings at JTS and is a nursery school teacher at the JCC Manhattan.

Dr. Dina Soloveychik (2013) is a Pediatric Neurological Resident at St. Louis Children’s Hospital.

David Bloom (2014) Zachary Plesent (2014), Jenn Queen (2009), and Austin Zoot (2014) are rabbinical students at HUC-JIR.

Lauren Cantor (2014) is pursuing a graduate degree in Physician Assistant Studies at IUPUI.

Bari Finkel (2014) is Radiolab Spinoff show’s Associate Producer (freelance). She also works with The Brian Lehrer Show, Buzzfeed and Israel Story. Bari also produced The Knick podcast, Making a Murderer podcast, and a new podcast from Dean & DeLuca Prince Street.

Stephanie Katz (2014) is the Campaigns Coordinator at Rotary International.

Sasha Dominguez (2015) is a first year student in the M.A. in Jewish education program at HUC-JIR.

Jodie Goldberg (2015) completed her M.A. in Jewish education at JTS and is Children and Camp Haverim Assistant Director at the Merage JCC in Orange County, CA.

Barbara McGinness (2015) is pursuing a Ph.D. in Folklore at IU. Trudy Miller (2015) is Program Associate for Shorashim. She completed an M.A. in Israel Studies at HUJ.

Amanda Phillips (2015) completed the M.A. in Jewish Education at JTS and is a Jewish Educator at the Lese Center for Living Judaism at Central Synagogue in Manhattan.

Rachel Sherman (2015) is pursuing a master’s degree in Jewish Education at JTS.

Joelle Swatz (2015) is the Uptown Café Coordinator and Jewish Programmer for EZRA, an organization of the JUF in Chicago.
Our Faculty


Michelle Facos was awarded an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship for the 2017-2018 year for her project on works produced by artists studying in Copenhagen between 1770 and 1820 that anticipated later developments in continental art often attributed to artists elsewhere. She plans to teach “Introduction to Jewish Art” in 2018-2019.

Sarah Imhoff’s first book, Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism, was published by IU Press in March. In 2016-2017 her excellence in the classroom and splendid mentoring of our graduate students as Director of Graduate Studies earned her the Trustees Teaching Award. She is now hard at work on her new book project about Jessie Sampter, a little-known but fascinating Zionist woman from the early twentieth century (1883-1938). Sampter moved to Palestine alone — she was not married, and had no close family there — and lived there the rest of her life, giving up her American citizenship and ultimately joining a kibbutz. Sampter is especially fascinating because she was disabled: she had polio as a child, and as an adult she had what we now call post-polio syndrome. The polio damaged her spine and hands, and it left her often weak and in pain. So, here was a Zionist woman who advocated for a movement that celebrated physically working the land, in spite of the fact that she herself could not. Sampter spent much of her life in Palestine living with another Zionist woman named Leah Berlin, who also helped care for Tamar, the Yemenite Jewish girl who Jessie adopted. The book will discuss Sampter’s queer kinship as well as her disability as it considers a larger question: what happens when a person’s embodied life does not match up with her religious and political ideals? Professor Imhoff’s article “Carlebach and the Unheard Stories” in the October 2016 issue of American Jewish History received honorable mention for this year’s Wasserman Prize that recognizes the best article published in this journal.

Günther Jikeli’s article, “Explaining the Discrepancy of Antisemitic Acts and Attitudes in 21st Century France,” appeared in Contemporary Jewry (June 2017). This summer, he, with principal investigator Alvin Rosenfeld and others (-funded by an IU President’s International Research Award and in cooperation with Potsdam University) are doing fieldwork in Germany for a research project on attitudes among Syrian and Iraqi refugees and their experiences in Germany. As part of this project, he was an organizer and participant in the June 2017 workshop “Antisemitism among Refugees: In the Context of Rising Xenophobia and Antisemitism, including in the U.S.” at the IU Europe Gateway in Berlin. In spring 2017, students in his course “Contemporary Antisemitism in Socio-Cultural Perspectives” were part of the Department of State’s “Diplomacy Lab.” The project allowed students to work on a fictional research project for the State Department’s Special Envoy to Combat Anti-Semitism and to consult with the State Department employees on their research.

Stephen Katz continues as Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures. Last year, under his direction and with the aid of the Arabic language faculty, the department attained Arabic Flagship status. His article, “Strange Language: Estrangement and Curiosity in American Modern Hebrew Literature,” in Hebrew, appeared in June 2017 (Hakibbutz Hame’uhad) as a chapter in the festschrift, which he co-edited, in honor of Moshe Pelli. He continues his work on the study of the representation of the Holocaust in early literature in Hebrew, Yiddish, and other languages (composed prior to 1960). He prepared a paper, “A Hebrew Literary Response to the Holocaust in Fortress America,” for the December, 2016 AJS

Continued on page 28
During his sabbatical spring 2017 semester in Jerusalem working on a number of projects, in particular, on a critical, annotated collection of select materials from the AHEYM project’s interviews (2002-2017). In November 2016, he delivered a paper “Folklore Remnants among Last Native Yiddish Speakers of Contemporary Ukraine” at the International Symposium, “Jewish Folklore in the 21st Century,” at the Schusterman Center for JS, University of Texas at Austin. In January 2017, he presented a Russian version of the paper at the Linguistics, Folklore Studies, and Oral History section of the SEFER International Conference in JS in Moscow. He published a number of articles in the Forverts and gave invited talks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in March 2016, as well as two lectures in July-August 2016 at the Vilna Yiddish Institute’s intensive Yiddish Language & Culture Summer Program at Vilnius University, where he also taught two advanced language and literature classes. In summer 2016, a new collection of his original Yiddish poems (under the pen-name ‘Boris Karloff’) was published by the new Israeli Yiddish book series, entitled Bibliotek fun der Hayntsaytiker Yiddisher Literatur, which is funded by the Israeli National Authority for Yiddish Culture. Ongetsoygene Shorne [Taut String] is his sixth poetry book; it appeared in Tel Aviv exactly 20 years after his first two poetry collections appeared in 1996—one in Wales and the other in Jerusalem. He was also invited to serve on the editorial board of the new Yiddish series and he helped with style-editing and proofs of its Anthology of 20 contemporary Yiddish poets from 8 countries, A Ring, Yidishe Poezye, der Nokhn Khurbn Dor (A Ring, Yiddish poetry of the postwar-born generation), which appeared in June 2017.

In summer 2017, Aziza Khazzoom lectured at the Brandeis Summer in Israel Seminar to the participants - professors who intend to create new Israel Studies courses. In the same month, she gave a talk “Arabs, In the Eyes of the 1950s Immigrants” at the Association for Israel Studies. She spoke in fall 2016 on “Inadventent Traditionalism: Orientalism and Self-Presentations of Israeli Jewish Women” at the Middle East Studies Association conference. She is teaching a variety of courses, including “What is Middle Eastern? Perspectives Gained through Comparison with Israel,” “Gender and Difference in Israel,” and “Inequality in Israeli Context.”

Shaul Magid is the NEH senior research fellow at The Center for Jewish History in 2017-2018 working on an intellectual biography of Meir Kahane. Over the past year, he gave the following lectures:

- “What Would a Jewish Renaissance Look Like in Postethnic America?” at AJS Perspectives
- “On Same Sex Marriage in Judaism: Some Legal and Mystical Perspectives,” at Ohio State University
- “The Language of Torah or the Language of the Zaddik: Lashon ha-Kodesh” at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature: “The Order of Jeremiah and the Nature of the Sefer,” and “Weeping and the Return of Lost Children in Jer 31:15 and Gen 37:35.” At AJS, he presented a seminar paper titled, “Prestige, Authority, and Jeremiah’s Torah.” In addition to teaching beginning and intermediate biblical Hebrew, he led an Aramaic reading group attended by both graduate and undergraduate students.

Dov-Ber Kerler led an 18-day Yiddish ethnographic expedition to Poland and parts of Western Ukraine in May-June 2017. The expedition visited and worked in Warsaw, Lublin, Lvv, Mukachvo (Munkacz), Uzhgorod (Ungvar), Solotvino, Krakow, Wroclaw, and Gora Kalwaria. He spent his sabbatical spring 2017 semester in Jerusalem working on a number of projects, in particular, on a critical, annotated collection of select materials from the AHEYM project’s interviews (2002-2017). In November 2016, he delivered a paper “Folklore Remnants among Last Native Yiddish Speakers of Contemporary Ukraine” at the International Symposium, “Jewish Folklore in the 21st Century,” at the Schusterman Center for JS, University of Texas at Austin. In January 2017, he presented a Russian version of the paper at the Linguistics, Folklore Studies, and Oral History section of the SEFER International Conference in JS in Moscow. He published a number of articles in the Forverts and gave invited talks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in March 2016, as well as two lectures in July-August 2016 at the Vilna Yiddish Institute’s intensive Yiddish Language & Culture Summer Program at Vilnius University, where he also taught two advanced language and literature classes. In summer 2016, a new collection of his original Yiddish poems (under the pen-name ‘Boris Karloff’) was published by the new Israeli Yiddish book series, entitled Bibliotek fun der Hayntsaytiker Yiddisher Literatur, which is funded by the Israeli National Authority for Yiddish Culture. Ongetsoygene Shorne [Taut String] is his sixth poetry book; it appeared in 1996—one in Wales and the other in Jerusalem. He was also invited to serve on the editorial board of the new Yiddish series and he helped with style-editing and proofs of its Anthology of 20 contemporary Yiddish poets from 8 countries, A Ring, Yidishe Poezye, der Nokhn Khurbn Dor (A Ring, Yiddish poetry of the postwar-born generation), which appeared in June 2017.

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Jason Mokhtarian is currently writing two books. The first is an exhaustive study of medicine in the Babylonian Talmud, the richest repository of medical remedies in ancient Judaism. The book, which is well underway, will be the first synthetic study of Talmudic medicine in over a century. The second book project is a history of the Jews of Persia, the world’s oldest Jewish community, from antiquity to the present. One of the book’s contributions is its focus on Judeo-Persian literature, an enormous corpus of Persian texts written in Hebrew script from the eighth through the nineteenth century. This summer, Jason travelled to Israel to explore archival resources for this project, including the Dr. Habib Levy Collection at the Sourasky Center Library (Tel Aviv University); the Judeo-Persian manuscripts housed at the Ben Zvi Institute (Jerusalem); and the Central Archives and Rahmiyan Collection at the National Library, which contains files and microfilm (e.g., Alliance Israelite Universelle documents from Hamadan; marriage documents from Yazd; and letters from Persian Jews to the Chief Rabbi of Turkey). Jason finished several articles that will be published soon: “Clusters of Iranian Loanwords in Talmudic Folklore: The Chapter of the Pious (b. Ta’anit 18b-26a) in its Sasanian Context,” in The Aggada of the Babylonian Talmud and its Cultural World, slated to be published by Brown Judaic Studies (SBL); “Zoroastrian Polemics against Judaism and Islam in The Doubt-Dispelling Exposition (Skand Gumāng Wizār)” iMazan: Journal of Interdisciplinary Approaches to Muslim Societies and Civilizations, a new open-access digital platform in Islamic Studies; and “The Material Culture of the Jews in Sasanian Mesopotamia;” in The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Jews and Judaism in the Late Ancient Period. Jason gave a talk at the annual AJUS conference in December, 2016. This past year, he taught courses on the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, the Jewish sacred canon, Aramaic language, as well as, the graduate proseminar.


“The Longest Hatred Renewed” appeared in the inaugural number of the journal Anti-Semitism Studies. “Is There an Anti-Jewish Bias in Today’s University?” is forthcoming in The Betrayal of the Humanities: The University During the Third Reich, ed. by Bernard Levinson and Robert Erickson. He presented lectures on contemporary antisemitism at Oberlin College, Florida Atlantic University, and at IU’s Europe Gateway, in Berlin. He was featured in a Yad Vashem-produced film, “Antisemitism: From Its Origins to the Present.” He spoke on Sartre and antisemitism at a conference on Sartre at HUJ in December. And he presented “Literary Studies as an Ethical Choice” at HUJ in June. The recipient of an IU President’s International Research Award for a project entitled “Syrian and Iraqi Refugees in Germany: Antisemitism, Islamism, and Integration,” he, in collaboration with three other scholars, is pursuing research among people in Germany’s new refugee population. He and his colleagues will discuss the results of their findings at a conference in Berlin in December. He is also helping to introduce the study of antisemitism and the study of the Holocaust in India and will be speaking on these subjects at universities in Kolkata and New Delhi, in October and November. As its Director, he continues to expand the activities of IU’s Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA). After finishing a 10-year term as Chairman of the Academic Committee of the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, he continues to serve as an active member of the committee. He is also a member of the Museum’s Committee on Combating Holocaust Denial and Contemporary Antisemitism. He is a member of the Public Council of the Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism and Racism at Tel Aviv University. He is IUP’s series editor of books in Jewish Literature and Culture and edits the press’ growing book series, Studies in Antisemitism.

During the last academic year, Mirjam Zadoff invited a number of speakers to IUB, among them Professor Michael Brenner (American University/University of Munich), Michelle Engert, J.D. (American University) and Professor Dirk Rupnow (University of Innsbruck). Together with her IU colleague Alex Lichtenstein, she organized the international conference “Red Biography. The Significance of Communist Life-Histories in Global Perspective,” and, in March, she hosted the Fifth Junior Scholars Conference in Jewish History on “Rich and Poor, Jews and Gentiles: Wealth, Poverty and Class in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries,” co-funded and co-organized by the GHI Washington and the Institute for the History of German Jews in Hamburg. In June 2017, she and Noam Zadoff organized a conference on antisemitism and racism in the U.S. at the IU Europe Gateway in cooperation with the Berlin Center for the Research of Antisemitism, funded by a CAHI Global Gateway Grant (College Arts & Humanities Institute and the Office of the VP for International Affairs). This year, she is teaching a new interdisciplinary course for students in JS, the Hutton Honors College, and International Studies on “Refugees and Migrants.” She was invited to speak at the universities of Innsbruck and Augsburg, and presented a lecture at the Berlin Jewish Museum. With her husband Noam Zadoff, she presented the Emanuel Ringelblum Continued on page 30
Lecture at UC Davis. The publication of her book *Werner Scholem: A German Life* (University of Pennsylvania Press) will be acknowledged with the symposium “Werner and Gershom Scholem: Two German Jewish Lives” in January, 2018. She is working on an article entitled “A Deal Made in Heaven. On Economy and Romance in Modern Judaism,” as well as supervising translations of her books into English, Hebrew and Czech.

The publication of Noam Zadoff’s *Gershom Scholem: From Berlin to Jerusalem and Back* in December by Brandeis University Press will be celebrated by the Borns JSP with a symposium “Werner and Gershom Scholem: Two German Jewish Lives” in January, 2018. He is the inaugural Director of Olamot: The Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel. With Mirjam Zadoff, he delivered The Emanuel Ringelblum Lecture on the Scholem brothers at UC Davis. In June, he organized, together with Mirjam Zadoff, the conference “After the Election: Antisemitism and Racism in the U.S.,” at IU Europe Gateway in Berlin. In fall 2016, he taught a new graduate course on the history of the Israeli-Arab conflict as history of emotions.

**Community Outreach**

In addition to the Borns JSP faculty’s mission of teaching and research, we are dedicated to serving the larger community in Bloomington, Indiana, and beyond.

Funded in part by an NEH grant, Sarah Imhoff with her colleague Ashlee Andrews (RS) presented talks at the Batesville, IN and Milan, IN public libraries on the faiths and cultures represented in southern Indiana, in order to encourage understanding and dialogue.

Günther Jikeli was the speaker for Hillel’s Holocaust remembrance program. He also spoke on “Antisemitism among Muslims and Refugees in Europe” at Congregation Beth Shalom in Bloomington.

Stephen Katz and Aziza Khazzoom are working with the Indiana National Guard to develop a short course to orient new recruits to Israel. These National Guard members go to Israel to exchange information about emergency response after disasters, such as attacks or fires.

Dov-Ber Kerler gave invited talks and lectures for the Jerusalem Yiddish Culture Society and the Tel Aviv Yiddish Culture Workman’s Circle Association (both in March 2016), Shaual Magid spoke on “Religious Zionism or Zionist Religion,” to the National Hillel Foundation, Washington D.C., “Why Should Progressive Jews be Interested in Hasidism?” at Temple Isaiah, Palm Springs, CA; and, “Why Meir Kahane is Important” at a symposium at the JCC, Manhattan.

In February 2016, Mark Roseman delivered a public lecture at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, on “The Wannsee Conference and the Holocaust 75 Years On.” He gave a public talk at Congregation Beth Shalom, Bloomington on “The Rise of Fascism in 20th Century Europe and this Pre-Inaugural Moment: What are the Similarities? What are the Differences?”

Alvin Rosenfeld presented “Elie Wiesel and His Legacy” at the Yom HaShoah commemoration in Bloomington.

Mirjam Zadoff discussed “Migrants and Refugees” with primary school students at Bloomington Montessori School as they looked at children books on refugees — past and present.

In October 2016, Noam Zadoff participated in the Department of History’s Happy Hour for IU Lifelong Learning, speaking about current events in the Middle East viewed through an historical perspective.

“In my travels throughout the Jewish community, I continually meet colleagues who, like me, are graduates of IU’s Borns JSP. Recruiters regularly ask me, “What is it about the IU JSP that produces such wonderful leaders for the Jewish community?!” The IU JSP was a great launching pad for my professional career, not only providing a depth of scholarship in a variety of Jewish subjects, but also a supportive community of professors, advisor, and classmates whom I still connect with more than 20 years after graduating.”

Jennifer Zwilling (1994), Chief Strategy Officer, Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life
2017–2018 Borns JSP Faculty

James S. Ackerman  
Professor (Emeritus), Religious Studies

Joëlle Bahloul  
Professor (Emerita), Anthropology

Jack Bielasiak  
Professor, Political Science, Russian & East European Institute

Lou and Sybil Mervis Chair in the Study of Jewish Culture; Associate Professor, Jewish Studies and Musicology

Music in Jewish Life; American Music; Musical Theater; Popular Culture; Caribbean Jewish History; Diaspora; Medical Ethnomusicology

Sarah Ifft Decker  
Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow  
Jews in Medieval Iberia; Medieval European history; Mediterranean history

Paul D. Eisenberg  
Professor (Emeritus), Philosophy

Michelle Faocos  
Professor, Art History  
Jewish Art; Jews in Scandinavia before 1915

Halina Goldberg  
Professor, Jacobs School of Music, Musicology  
Jews and Jewishness in 19th and 20th Century Poland; Jewish Musicians and Music; Jews in Łódź

Susan Gubar  
Distinguished Professor (Emerita), English

*Sarah Imhoff, Director of Graduate Studies  
Assistant Professor, Jewish Studies and Religious Studies  
Gender and Judaism; Race and Jewishness, Rabbinic Literature; American Religious History

Jeffrey Isaac  
Rudy Professor, Political Science

Günther Jikeli  
Justin M. Druck Family Visiting Associate Professor, Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism

History of Antisemitism; Racism, Discrimination and Education; Jewish-Muslim Relations

*Stephen Katz  
Professor, Jewish Studies and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures  
Hebrew; Israeli Culture; Modern Hebrew Literature; Hebrew Literature of the Holocaust

*Dov-Ber Kerler  
Dr. Alice Field Cohn Chair in Yiddish Studies; Professor, Jewish Studies and Germanic Studies  
Yiddish Studies

*Aziza Khazzoom  
Associate Professor, Jewish Studies & Near Eastern Languages & Cultures  
Israel Studies

*Shaul Magid (on leave 2017–2018)  
Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Chair in Jewish Studies; Professor, Jewish Studies and Religious Studies  
Jewish Thought; Hasidic Judaism; Modern Jewish Religious Experience

Michal Maoz-Levy  
Senior Lecturer  
Modern Hebrew

*Herbert J. Marks  
Professor, Comparative Literature  
Biblical and Literary Studies

Nathan Mastnjak  
Visiting Faculty/Scholar  
Biblical Hebrew; Hebrew Bible

*Jason Mokhtarian, Biblical Hebrew Coordinator  
Professor, Jewish Studies and Religious Studies  
Late Antique Judaism; Talmud in its Iranian Context; Jews of Persia

Michael L. Morgan  
Professor (Emeritus), Jewish Studies and Philosophy

Dmitry Romashov  
Lecturer  
Modern Hebrew

*Mark Roseman, Director (on sabbatical 2017–2018)  
Pat M. Glazer Chair in Jewish Studies; Professor, Jewish Studies and History  
History of the Holocaust; History of Antisemitism; The Holocaust; German-Jewish History

*Alvin H. Rosenfeld, Director of the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (on sabbatical 2017–2018)  
Irving M. Glazer Chair in Jewish Studies; Professor, Jewish Studies and English  
Literature of the Holocaust; American Jewish Literature

Jeremy Schott  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
Religion of the Late Ancient & Byzantine Mediterranean and Near East

*Dina R. Spechler  
Associate Professor, Political Science  
Comparative Foreign Policy; American, Russian, and Israeli Foreign Policy

Bronislava Volková  
Professor (Emerita), Slavic & East European Languages and Cultures

*Ayelet Weiss, Director of Modern Hebrew Program  
Senior Lecturer  
Modern Hebrew

*Mirjam Zadoff, Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies (2017–2018)  
Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies; Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History; History of the Jews of Central Europe; Modern Jewish Intellectual & Cultural History

*Noam Zadoff, Director of Olamot: Center for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange with Israel  
Assistant Professor, Jewish Studies and History  
Modern Jewish Intellectual History; History of Israel

* Core Faculty

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Rabbi Joshua said, ‘Being a good friend.’”  
—Pirke Avot 2:9

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