

# FRANKELY SPEAKING



Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

• April 2015



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COVER PHOTO:

*Haggadah Collection at the U-M Library by Luna Anna Archey*

# Reflections on a Decade, August

**As she steps down from her directorship this June, Deborah Dash Moore looks back on her successful tenure.**



**AUGUST 2005:** I stand outside the Frieze Building on Washington Avenue, ready to enter the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies as director for the first time, when a *Washtenaw Jewish News* reporter stops me and asks: What are you going to do for the community? Nonplussed, I stammer that Judaic Studies will be offering lectures and other intellectual and cultural events.

Later that month, I drive with my husband, MacDonald Moore, to Bloomfield Hills, joining Dean Terry and Mary Ann McDonald for dinner at the home of Stanley and Judy Frankel. I am impressed with their warm hospitality and generosity.

**SEPTEMBER 2005:** The Center sponsors a lunch to introduce and welcome back faculty members, providing an opportunity to meet my new colleagues. Immersed in research at the library, Todd

Endelman, the previous director, doesn't realize his watch has stopped. Impatient, nervous, and unwilling to wait for him, I introduce myself to the assembled faculty. As soon as I finish the introductions, Todd arrives.

Later that month, I meet a group of fundraisers at the Frankel Center to discuss support for Judaic Studies. Marshall Weinberg subsequently agrees to host a dinner in New York.

**OCTOBER 2005:** My first faculty meeting leaves me bewildered, bombarded with questions and demands. I realize I have a lot to learn.

I'm told that the Frankel Center needs a new logo for the November launch of the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies. The new Institute, one of the exciting innovations that drew me to U-M, holds the promise of transforming Jewish studies not only at Michigan, but throughout the United States and Israel.

**JUNE 2007:** What a difference a short move across the street makes! Both Center and Institute luxuriate in the fresh, clean space of the Thayer building. From our

windows we watch the demise of Frieze and the rapid rise of North Quad. Cheri Thompson creates a vital administrative infrastructure to sustain Judaic Studies' growth. Simultaneously, Anita Norich develops procedures to plan and choose the first group of fellows and format the Institute's workshops and colloquia.

**SEPTEMBER 2007:** The first fellows arrive. We celebrate their presence with a delicious kosher dinner, catered by Amanda Fisher, inaugurating a reputation for excellent food. Soon, weekly workshops are running smoothly. Each Wednesday, I am buoyed by the intellectual excitement generated around the seminar table. Within the space of two years, confusion and chaos have yielded to a rich interdisciplinary milieu of ideas, debated with vigor.

Meanwhile, the Frankel Center has expanded to accommodate its growing stature. It acquires "enhanced status," allowing it to hire and tenure faculty. We wrestle with bylaws, trying to hammer out



Inauguration of the Frankel Institute, November 2005. L to R, former LSA Dean Terrence J. McDonald, Deborah Dash Moore, former U-M President Mary Sue Coleman, and Stanley Frankel.

# 2005–March 2015

By Deborah Dash Moore, Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies and Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History

relationships that reflect the de facto multidisciplinary character of Judaic Studies. With an enlarged Executive Committee, the Center creates a graduate certificate program to offer a coherent course of study to doctoral students. As Judaic Studies reaches out across campus, wonderful colleagues affiliate with the Center.

Given our dispersed faculty, Cheri posts their pictures on a bulletin board outside the Center office, making it easier to connect names with faces. Soon our fellows, graduate students, and undergrads beam at us as well. Everyone contributes toward shaping an emerging Center and Institute, but given multiple allegiances among our constituents, fostering bonds proves challenging. We look for opportunities to connect through faculty seminars and reading groups.

**APRIL 2008:** Fellows, faculty, and graduate students gather to celebrate the publication of nine books in the past year. A new tradition is born: an end-of-year book party.

**OCTOBER 2008:** Stanley Frankel joins the second group of fellows on a blue U-M bus for what will become an annual tour of Jewish Detroit. It is a warm, sunny day; the bus lacks air conditioning, and soon Stanley has shed his jacket and rolled up his shirtsleeves as he guides us through the Motor City.

**NOVEMBER 2008:** Faculty, friends, and family members crowd into the Humanities Institute's lounge awaiting the arrival of Todd Endelman and Zvi Gitelman. They

have been invited for a surprise party announcing two generous five-year graduate fellowships named in their honor. A joint initiative from Terry McDonald and Stanley Frankel, these fellowships signal the growth of the Center's graduate program in Judaic Studies.

**DECEMBER 2008:** The first issue of the *Frankel Institute Annual* appears, with short essays by each fellow. Designed by Hannah Smotrich, the *Annual* complements the Center's quarterly newsletter, *Frankely Speaking*, and the annual Belin lecture. News spreads of exciting scholarship at the Center and Institute.

**APRIL 2012:** A symposium on "Everyday Jews" honors Endelman, marking the end of an era. His former students, now leading modern Jewish historians, pay tribute to his extensive influence.

**APRIL 2014:** The Frankel Center celebrates its first 25 years with panels about its founding and the roles of Jews in American higher education. Alums from as far back as the late 1940s return to reflect upon their experiences as Jews at U-M.

Even as the Frankel Center says goodbye to Endelman, Stephanie Siegmund, Jessica Marglin, and Vera Szabo, it welcomes Rachel Neis, Ryan Szpiech, Maya Barzilai, Devi Mays, Jeffrey Veidlinger, and Alexandra Hoffman. The decade also witnesses promotions and honors, with Norich and Veidlinger receiving collegiate professorships. ■



Photo by Jean-Pierre Jans

I arrived as the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies stood poised on the threshold of dramatic changes that would produce heightened visibility and acclaim. Although I didn't realize it as I stumbled through the steep learning curve of my first year, these changes had been envisioned, planned for, and launched, with Dean McDonald's support, by my colleagues, especially Endelman and Gitelman.

Historians always try to relate change to continuities, and I am no exception. The changes that were transforming the Frankel Center when I arrived in 2005 are noticeable and vibrant: strong ties with many units on campus, enlightening public programs, many diverse faculty members, and a flourishing Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies—the only one at a public university. Yet significant continuities endure: among them, a commitment to intellectual excellence and inter-disciplinary dialogue, a willingness to experiment, readiness to take on both the risks and burdens of leadership, and vital ongoing support of friends and colleagues who share a common vision of ensuring that the Frankel Center stands at the forefront of Judaic Studies. I have been fortunate to be part of this significant endeavor. ■

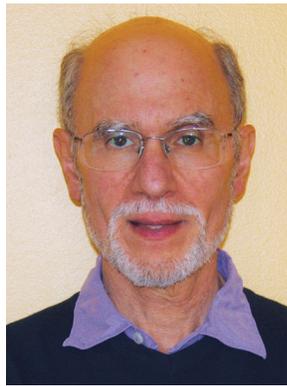
# SPOTLIGHT ON Studying Israel

To paraphrase the medieval poet Yehuda HaLevi, the University of Michigan may be in the Midwest, but many of our professors' hearts are in the Middle East. Students, too, can follow their hearts and focus on Israeli history, culture, sociology, and literature, under the guidance of outstanding faculty members such as Haya Bar-Itzhak, Ruth Tzoffar, and others, who hail from a variety of departments. Read on for a taste of who's who.



Photo by DC Goings

**MAYA BARZILAI** is an Assistant Professor of Modern Hebrew and Jewish Culture in the Department of Near Eastern Studies and the Frankel Center. Her courses examine Israeli literature and Jewish visual culture, particularly cinema and comics. Her book manuscript, *The Golem Condition: Jewish Creation in an Age of Destruction*, explores 20th-century versions of the tale about a magical being created from clay, showing how the Golem served as a metaphor for war technologies and their dangerous capacities. Her research on the development of Hebrew literature in relationship to German culture has culminated in articles about the Hebrew writers S. Y. Agnon, Avraham Ben Yitzhak, and Yoel Hoffmann. She is currently co-authoring an article on Hebrew translations and adaptations of the German-language writer Franz Kafka. ■



**VICTOR LIEBERMAN** is the Raoul Wallenberg Distinguished University Professor of History. His course on the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict is among the most popular in the university, regularly attracting hundreds of students. Last year, they enthusiastically nominated him for U-M's Golden Apple Award for teaching. His many published works include *The Hundred-Year Struggle for Israel and Palestine: An Analytic History and Reader*; and *Strange Parallels: Southeast Asia in Global Context, c. 800–1830*, which was described by the *American Historical Review* as “the most important work of history produced so far this century.” His forthcoming book is *Why Was Nationalism European? Political Ethnicity in Southeast Asia and Europe c. 1450–1840*. ■



Photo by DC Goings

**SHACHAR PINSKER** is Associate Professor of Hebrew Literature and Culture in the Department of Near Eastern Studies and the Frankel Center. His courses illuminate many aspects of Israeli history, literature, and culture, and his course on Tel Aviv and Jerusalem culminates in a trip to Israel. In addition to his many published articles, he is the author of *Literary Passports: The Making of Modernist Hebrew Fiction in Europe*, which won the AJS' Jordan Schnitzer Book Award. He has also co-edited *Hebrew, Gender, and Modernity*, and is editor of two forthcoming volumes: *Women's Hebrew Poetry on American Shores* and an anthology of Israeli Yiddish short stories in Hebrew translation. He is currently working on two books: one a look at urban cafés and modern Jewish culture, and the other an exploration of Yiddish in Israeli literature. ■



**MARK TESSLER** is the Samuel J. Eldersveld Professor of Political Science at U-M, where he has also served as Vice Provost for International Affairs. He, too, teaches a course on the Arab-Israeli conflict as well as a graduate seminar on Middle East politics. He has authored 13 books, including *Public Opinion in the Middle East: Survey Research and the Political Orientations of Ordinary Citizens*, and *A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, which was named a “Notable Book of the Year” by *The New York Times*. His newest book is *Islam and Politics in the Middle East: Explaining the Views of Ordinary Citizens*. Tessler is co-director of the Arab Barometer Survey Project, which has conducted 29 nationally representative political attitude surveys in 14 Arab countries since 2006. ■

**Not only do regular faculty members teach courses on Israel, but the Frankel Center also sponsors a diverse array of events each year that engage aspects of Israeli politics, culture, and society. Recent Frankel Center Israel events from 2014–15 include:**

**Rachel Tzvia Back, Israeli Poet**

“From Holocaust to Protest: The Poetry and Poetics of Tuvia Ruebner” (*September*)

**Sayed Kashua, Author and Journalist**

“The Foreign Mother Tongue: Living and Writing as a Palestinian in Israel” (*September*)

**Joshua Cole, Shachar Pinsker, May Seikali, Khalil Shikaki, and Mark Tessler**

“Thinking and Talking about Conflict: Perspectives on Gaza and Israel” (*October*)

**Abdel Monem Said Aly, Shai Feldman, and Khalil Shikaki**

“The Gaza War: A Different Approach to Understanding the Arab-Israeli Conflict” (*November*)

**Alon Tal, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev**

“All the Trees of the Forest: The Extraordinary Story of Israel’s Woodlands” (*January*)

**Dafna Hirsch, Open University of Israel**

“My Hummus is Bigger Than Your Hummus: On Food and Politics in Israel” (*January*)

**Esti Kenan-Ofri, Singer and Composer**

“Traveling Melodies: Beyond Israel and the Mediterranean” (*January*)

**Eitan Bar-Yosef, Frankel Fellow**

“The African Journey in Israeli Literature and Culture” (*February*)

**Wieseneck Family Israel Symposium**

“Jews, Arabs, and Colonialism” (*March*)

The Wiesenecks have supported a symposium on Israel for the past two years. This year’s event looked at the Jewish experience in Mandate Palestine and the state of Israel in a broader colonial framework by exploring the complexity of social and cultural relationships between Jews and Arabs in the French and the British imperial contexts. ■

# Meet the Graduates

This year's diverse group of Frankel Center graduates just goes to prove that the typical Judaic Studies student is anything but typical.

## Undergraduate Students



Photo by Brittin Jones

**Name:** Rebecca David

**From:** Brookline, MA

**Majors:** Judaic Studies and Biology

**Plans After Graduation:** Dental school

### In Her Words:

“I decided to double major in Judaic Studies and Biology because these are my two passions. I’ve always loved science and health, and knew I wanted to pursue a career that required research and problem solving in the ways that are so intertwined with understanding biological systems. As for Judaic Studies, I grew up in a home speaking Yiddish and felt very connected from a young age to Ashkenazi-Jewish culture.

“I see the two topics as related in the sense that biology and Judaism both aim to explore the roots of who we are as humans. I find beauty in the natural inclinations of humans to understand ourselves through many facets, especially science and religion. While biology involves a myriad of mechanical human elements, Judaism supplements this understanding of the human experience in many powerful ways.” ■



Photo by Brittin Jones

**Name:** Adam Gorman

**From:** Commerce, MI

**Major:** Computer Science

**Minors:** Judaic Studies and Biochemistry

**Plans After Graduation:** Medical school

### In His Words:

“The diversity of my studies represents just my simple curiosity for different fields. I have always been extremely interested in natural science. At the beginning of my sophomore year, I became really interested in medicine, and later, in computer science. I also gravitated to the Judaic Studies courses because I have always loved learning about my religion.

“I have often noticed that the pre-med curriculum focuses on the sciences but does not delve into other important aspects of medicine. Judaic Studies courses, where I developed my analytical and critical-thinking skills, helped fill this void for me. They also helped me gain a better understanding and respect for other cultures in courses about the Arab-Israeli conflict, among others. I took a class called ‘Judaism and the Body,’ and I feel it will help me be a better physician because it helped me gain a new perspective and respect for the human body.” ■



## The Judaic Studies Class of 2015

### Graduate Students



Photo by DC Goings

**Name:** Beth Dwoskin

**From:** Detroit, MI

**Plans After Graduation:**

Translating Yiddish works and writing other subjects

**In Her Words:**

“I worked as a librarian at ProQuest for 25 years and I began my master’s in Judaic Studies after I retired. My first two jobs as a professional librarian were in synagogue libraries, where I developed an interest in Jewish literature, music, art, and history. Later, I worked in New York, where I experienced the klezmer revival, and that music has been my guide to the Ashkenazic culture of my ancestors. I began singing in college, and in New York I attended informal singing events of all types and learned to *leyn* at the West Side Minyan.

“Singing Jewish music led to my interest in the role of women as vocalists in Jewish history, and the paradox of their presence despite the ban on them. Even as a librarian, I knew that my research skills in Judaica were not adequate for this subject, and I was eager to plunge back into the academic world. The master’s program has provided me with the background to write my thesis on women as prayer leaders in Jewish Eastern Europe.” ■



Photo by DC Goings

**Name:** Matt Van Zile

**From:** Toledo, OH

**Plans After Graduation:**

Pursuing doctorate in Judaic Studies

**In His Words:**

“My interest in Judaic Studies started in high school after I began taking violin lessons from a woman whose family had emigrated from Russia in the late 1980s. Her passion for music was fused with a love of Jewish culture. The experience inspired me to explore other aspects of Jewish culture including history, literature, and religion.

“The master’s program at the Frankel Center is fantastic, and the eclectic mix of subjects and disciplines in this program really fits my personality. I have enjoyed the faculty, staff, and scholars who visit here. They all have different techniques and approaches which make learning quite dynamic. I feel well prepared to tackle the next stage in my academic career, and this program has certainly given me the edge I needed to advance further. I am thankful to all the people at Michigan who have invested their time and energy in helping students like me succeed.” ■

### Undergraduates

#### Majors

Ari Cicurel

Rebecca David

Ellen Farber

Michele Freed

Julie Goldfaden

Molly Mardit

Ari Mendelsohn

#### Minors

Amanda Balakirsky

Hanna Berlin

Jonah Brandhandler

Kelsey Dunn

Molly Gilinsky

Andrea Goldwasser

Adam Gorman

Jordyn Kay

Jesse Moehlman

Shira Moskowitz

Lauren Nemerovski

Brendan Rand

Kaitlin Schuler

Esther Shachar-Hill

Ezekiel Silverstein

### Graduates

#### Master’s

Beth Dwoskin

Matt Van Zile

#### Graduate Certificates

Joshua Friedman

Jason Zurwaski

# Amanda Fisher: Hail to the Chef

## Fast Facts



Photo by Luna Anna Archey

**Name:** Amanda Fisher

**Title:** Executive Chef and Owner, Amanda's Kitchen, [amandaskitchencatering.com](http://amandaskitchencatering.com)

**Experience:** Worked for Paula Le Duc (San Francisco); Cesar (Berkeley); The Catered Affair, Salamander (Boston); Te'enim, Tmol Shilshom (Jerusalem); Herbert Samuel, and Messa (Tel Aviv).

**Current Favorite Cookbook:** *Plenty: Vibrant Vegetable Recipes from London's Ottolenghi* by Yotam Ottolenghi

**Notable Recipe:** "Once I created a dish I named *War and Peace* because it was so large and complex, hardly anyone could finish it."

## From our Fellows:

"Of all the remarkable things about being a Fellow at the Frankel Institute, the most enjoyable has to be Amanda's Wednesday lunches: fresh and creative, highly sophisticated and yet offering that sweet sensation associated with the best home cooking."  
— Eitan Bar-Yosef

"I'm grateful for Amanda's delicious contributions to our Wednesday workshops. Even when her creations are not all vegetarian, she ensures that there are vegetarian alternatives for those of us who need them."  
— Sara Feldman

If scrumptious food is being served at a Frankel Center event, then chances are that Chef Amanda Fisher is working behind the scenes making sure that every dish is perfect.

**FRANKELY SPEAKING:** How did you become interested in catering?

**FISHER:** My mother was born in Egypt, and I grew up in a very food-oriented home. It was always the connector; everyone got together and ate. That was the start. I began my career in Jerusalem, and later



worked in Berkeley, Boston, and Tel Aviv in really great restaurants and exclusive catering companies. I started my own company 10 years ago.

**FS:** What cuisines do you draw upon to create your dishes?

**FISHER:** My food is influenced by my own Egyptian background, but also some Californian cuisine and Asian influences. I like all my food to be fresh, healthy, and tasty.

**FS:** Do you use a cookbook or do you create your own recipes?

**FISHER:** Both. I have the most extensive cookbook collection—it fills two bookcases. I'm always buying more, because there's always something more to learn. I feed the Fellows almost every week and I like to experiment, and I'm lucky that they let me! I always try to prepare something new.

**FS:** What do you like about your job?

**FISHER:** With other jobs, you can do something and you don't quite know what the outcome will be. With catering, it's instantaneous. I put a lot of love into my cooking, and I always hope it shows.

**FS:** What are some of the challenges you face in your job?

**FISHER:** I try to keep my business as personal as possible because I want every aspect to be as good as



Photos by Lin Goings

it can be. I do the menu planning, the meetings with the clients, the contracts, and the food. Each menu is custom-made to fit my clients' personalities. It's very rewarding, but it takes a lot. I do a lot of bar and bat mitzvahs, and when you do life events, it can be pretty stressful. But I meet all these great people. It's never boring, and I really enjoy it. I never know what's going to happen from one week to the next.

**FS:** What do you like about working with the Frankel Center?

**FISHER:** I've been working at the Center for many years, and I really enjoy meeting all the faculty and graduate students. But what I really like is that sense of community. I am an outsider looking in, but I do feel that I'm part of that community. I think it's a very special place. ■

# Eighteen Hundred Ways to Tell the Passover Story



The Kalderon Artistic Passover Haggadah by Asher Kalderon depicts a passage describing how the Egyptians experienced hundreds of plagues at the Red Sea.



The Jerusalem Haggadah by Shmuel Bonneh (L) and The Agam Haggadah by Yaakov Agam (R)



The Moss Haggadah by David Moss invites readers to look in mirrors in order to literally see themselves as participants in the Exodus.



The Koren Bird's Head Haggadah is based on a 13th-century Haggadah published in Germany.

The Haggadah relates how several great rabbis sat down one Passover eve to discuss the Exodus from Egypt. The conversation continued as the hours slipped by, until a student finally interrupted to announce that it was time for the morning prayers.

Which raises the question: how is it possible to spend an entire night recounting a story that has been told so many times before?

The late Irwin Alterman—whose extensive Haggadah collection was recently acquired by the University of Michigan—undoubtedly knew the answer. His 1,800-plus Haggadahs attest to what those rabbis understood on that Passover eve long ago: there is more than one way to tell a story.

“Irwin appreciated the Haggadahs on many different levels,” recalled his widow, Marilyn McCall Alterman, who donated the collection. “He liked them intellectually, artistically, and philosophically. This was aside from the fact that he loved Passover; he was so emotionally attached to that holiday. It was a collection that started small and got larger and larger.”

The vast collection is a treasure trove of Haggadahs large and small, ancient and modern, illustrated by renowned artists, and written in many different languages.

“The sheer volume and the variety of types of Haggadahs from a number of countries in numerous languages make this a very comprehensive collection,” noted Elliot H. Gertel, who is Irving M. Hermelin Curator of Judaica in the University Library. “It will be of value to scholars in religious texts, philosophy, art and design, history, languages, Jewish culture and tradition, and many other fields.”

Marilyn sees this gift to U-M as a fitting way to honor her husband's memory. “I think,” she said, “that he would hope people would see there are ways to not just tell the story, but to appreciate the way the story was told.” ■

Photos by Luna Anna Archey

# What's New at the Frankel Center?

## *Yiddish Studies Minor*

At long last, the Yiddish Studies minor is official! The new minor provides a unique opportunity for students to focus on study of the Yiddish language and explore its culture from perspectives of various disciplines, including English, history, American culture, political science, comparative literature, and German and Slavic studies. Students of Yiddish gain access to entire worlds of Jewish culture that are otherwise obscure, from folk songs and memoirs to literary criticism, mystical literature, and historiography.

“The Yiddish minor is a bold step towards creating a more tightly knit community of undergraduate Yiddish scholars at the university,” said senior Jamie Nadel. “It is exciting to see U-M officially encouraging such a community to develop. It speaks to an understanding that knowledge of Yiddish language and culture is integral to Judaic Studies.”

## *New Dissertation Award*

A new dissertation award has been created in memory of Michael S. Bernstein, who was killed at the age of 36 in the bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988.

Bernstein graduated from U-M with honors and earned advanced degrees from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Chicago Law School. He went on to join the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), the Nazi-hunting unit of the US Department of Justice, where he was appointed Assistant Deputy Director in 1988. He was responsible for the deportations of seven former Nazis, who all entered the United States illegally.

In a column for *The New York Times*, David Margolick wrote that Bernstein died “at a moment of triumph. He was returning from Vienna, where he had persuaded the reluctant Austrians to take back some native sons they would rather forget, beginning with an Auschwitz SS Guard, Josef Eckert. Mr. Bernstein

could have come home earlier, but he stayed for the formal signing to make sure there were no hitches.”

Bernstein is survived by his wife, Stephanie — whom he met while they were both U-M undergraduates — his children Sara and Joseph, and his mother, Janet.

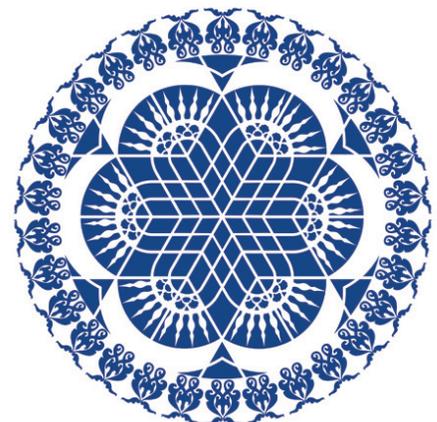
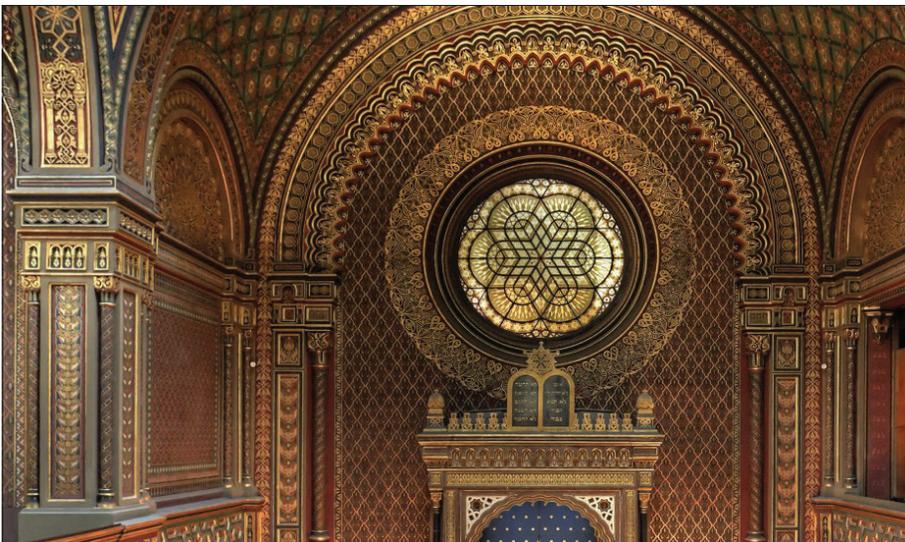
“It is particularly appropriate to name this dissertation prize in memory of Michael S. Bernstein,” said Deborah Dash Moore, director of the Frankel Center. “He understood and valued the importance of research to uncover the past and shape the future.”

## *Judaic Studies on Twitter*

The Frankel Center is now on Twitter! Follow us on @UMJudaicStudies for the latest on our events, faculty, fellows, and students.

## *New Judaic Studies Motif*

Inspired by the magnificent Spanish Synagogue in Prague (*below left*), new papercut art (*shown below*) will soon adorn the Frankel Center's front door, nameplates, and bulletin boards. ■



# MAZEL TOV!

## Graduate Students

**BETH DWOSKIN** was awarded the Fall 2014 Simeon Brinberg Prize.

**KATIE ROSENBLATT'S** article, "Selma' Got it Right By Leaving Out Jews," appeared in *The Jewish Daily Forward* in January.

## Past Fellows

**ANTHONY BALE** was named Distinguished International Visiting Fellow at the University of Melbourne by the Australian Research Council. His recently published book is a new translation of *The Book of Margery Kempe* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

**SHLOMO BERGER** is the convener of the Oxford advanced research seminar in Jewish Studies (January 2015–June 2015) on "Jewish Books in Amsterdam 1600–1850: Authors, Producers, and Readers and the Construction of Jewish Worlds." He was also recently elected visiting fellow of Brasenose College at the University of Oxford.

**MARC CAPLAN'S** article, "Literary Studies," appeared in *The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Jewish Cultures* (Routledge, 2014).

**MADELINE KOCHEN'S** newest book is *Organ Donation and the Divine Lien in Talmudic Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).

**VEERLE VANDEN DAELEN'S** article, "Heropbouw en herinnering in de joodse gemeenschap te Antwerpen," appeared in *Bijdragen tot de Eigentijdse Herinnering/Cahiers de la Mémoire Contemporaine* (2014).

**KENNETH WALD** was named the Shoshana Shier Distinguished Visiting Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto.

**KALMAN WEISER** received an SSHRC Insight Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

## Current Fellows

**REUVEN KIPERWASSER** has received two fellowships for next year: one from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the Free University of Berlin, and the second from the Humanities Center for Advanced Studies in Hamburg. His latest articles are "Encounters Between the Iranian Myth and Rabbinic Mythmakers in the Babylonian Talmud," which appeared in *Encounters by the Rivers of Babylon: Scholarly Conversations Between Jews, Iranians, and Babylonians in Antiquity* (Mohr Siebeck, 2015), edited by Uri Gabbay and Shai Secunda; and "A Bizarre Invitation to the King's Banquet: The Metamorphosis of a Parable Tradition and the Transformation of an Eschatological Idea," in *Prooftexts*, 33:2 (2014).

**GIL KLEIN'S** article, "Spatial Struggle: Intercity Relations and the Topography of Intra-Rabbinic Competition," appeared in *Religious Competition in the Third Century CE: Jews, Christians, and the Greco-Roman World* (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2014), edited by Nathaniel P. DesRosiers, Jordan D. Rosenblum, and Lily C. Vuong. He also recently spoke at Notre Dame University on

"The Memorable Metropolis and the Forgettable Field: Between Rabbinic and Roman Spatial Mnemonics."

## Faculty

**DEBORAH DASH MOORE** published an article, "How a Kosher Meat Boycott Brought Jewish Women's History into the Mainstream: An Historical Appreciation," that paid tribute to Paula Hyman, z"l, and inaugurated a new feature, *Signposts: Reflections on Articles from the Journal's Archive*, in *American Jewish History* 99:1 (January 2015), pp. 79–91.

**TODD ENDELMAN'S** latest book is *Leaving the Jewish Fold: Conversion and Radical Assimilation in Modern Jewish History* (Princeton University Press, 2015).

**ANDREA SIEGAL'S** book chapter, "A Literary Perspective: Domestic Violence, the 'Woman Question,' and the 'Arab Question' in Early Zionism," appeared in *Gender in Judaism and Islam: Common Lives, Uncommon Heritage* (NYU Press, 2014), edited by Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet and past Institute Fellow Beth S. Wenger.

**JEFFREY VEIDLINGER** published "One Doesn't Make Out Much With Furs in Palestine: the Migration of Jewish Displaced Persons, 1945–7," in *East European Jewish Affairs* (December 2014). He also delivered public talks at the University of Toronto and the University of California, Irvine, and spoke at the national conventions of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, and the Association for Jewish Studies. ■

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The Rita Poretsky Fund for Yiddish Challenge Grant was recently established to benefit Yiddish Studies at U-M. Gifts of any size will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$150,000. The matching program ends January 31, 2019.

To contribute to the Rita Poretsky Fund for Yiddish, please visit [lsa.umich.edu/judaic](http://lsa.umich.edu/judaic) and click on "Give Online."

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