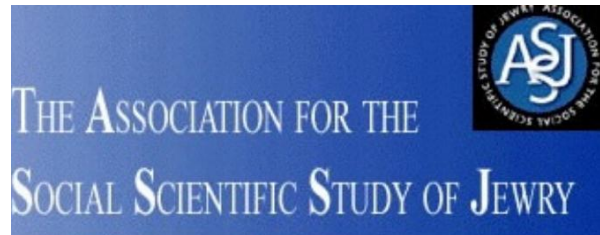


# Resource Guide

## to the 2011 AJS Conference

December 18-20, 2011 | *The Grand Hyatt, Washington, DC*



Essential readings for conference sessions of  
special interest to ASSJ members



# Sunday, December 18

| Challenge and Crisis in West Bank Settlements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Ilan Troen</b> (Brandeis)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Sunday, Dec. 18, 11:15 am</b>   <i>Burnam</i>                                             |
| <b>Motti Inbari</b><br>(UNC, Pembroke)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <i>When Prophecy Fails: Settler Rabbis Confront Israeli Territorial Compromises</i>          |
| <b>Michael Feige</b><br>(Ben-Gurion U. of the Negev)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>The Concept of "Home" in Settler Ideology</i>                                             |
| <b>Joseph Ringel</b><br>(Brandeis)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <i>Beyond Land: Varieties of Religiosity in the Settlements</i>                              |
| <b>Eric Fleisch</b><br>(Brandeis)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>The Development of American Jewish Philanthropic Involvement in the Settlement Debate</i> |
| <p><b>Abstract:</b> The ideological settlement movement in the West Bank is an important segment of the Israeli society; its centrality lies in the role it fulfills in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Yet, this movement is under-studied. Whereas much of the media and the academic attentions are focused on the direct dimensions of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the everyday life is much neglected.</p> |                                                                                              |
| Readings from BJPA:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                              |
| <a href="#"><i>Jews and Fundamentalism</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <a href="#">Samuel Heilman</a> , 2005                                                        |
| <a href="#"><i>Religious Zionism: Nationalism, Religion, and Modernity</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <a href="#">Shlomo Fischer</a> , 2004                                                        |
| <a href="#"><i>Religious Zionism and Secular Judaism in Israeli Society</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <a href="#">Charles Liebman</a> , 2000                                                       |

## Unraveling Discourses about Intermarriage

**Chair & Respondent: Sherry Israel**  
(Brandeis)

**Sunday, Dec. 18, 11:15 am** | Penn B

**Jennifer Thompson**  
(Drake)

*Complex Consequences: How Discourses Shape Intermarried Couples' Family Lives*

**Peter Kaufman Gluck**

*Narratives of Interfaith Parents Raising Their Children With Jewish Identities*

**Bruce A. Phillips**  
(HUC-JIR)

*Methodological And Theoretical Narratives About Intermarriage-A Quantitative Perspective*

**Abstract:** This panel examines gaps between lived experience among intermarried couples and the discourses about intermarriage perpetuated in "official" sources such as Jewish media and policy literature. It further proposes that scholars should attend to less widely recognized narratives in order to understand intermarriage in a way that corresponds more closely to intermarried couples' own experiences and that serves the goal of "Jewish continuity" more effectively.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Seeking a Third Way to Respond to the Challenge of Intermarriage\*](#)

[Steven M. Cohen](#), 2008

[\*Assimilation, Transformation, and the Long Range Impact of Intermarriage\*](#)

[Bruce Phillips](#), 2005

[\*A Tale of Two Jewries: The "Inconvenient Truth" for American Jews\*](#)

[Steven M. Cohen](#), 2006

[\*Jewish Identity Among the Adult Children of Intermarriage: Event Horizon or Navigable Horizon?\*](#)

[Bruce Phillips](#), [Fern Chertok](#), 2004

[\*Mixed Marriage in Cultural Contexts\*](#)

[Joyce Antler](#), 2004

[\*Living Mixed Traditions\*](#)

[Bruce Phillips](#), [Sherry Israel](#), [Arnold Dashefsky](#), [Zachary Heller](#), [Christopher Winship](#), 2004

| North American Jewish Demography: Methods and Trends                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Ira M. Sheskin</b> (U. of Miami)                                                                                                                | <b>Sunday, Dec. 18, 2:00 pm</b>   <i>Independence G</i>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Matthew E. Boxer</b><br>(Brandeis)                                                                                                                     | <i>Cross-Survey Analysis and Projections of the Future of the US Jewish Community</i>                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Theodore Sasson</b> (Middlebury),<br><b>Leonard Saxe</b> (Brandeis)                                                                                    | <i>The Jewish Future is Now</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Mervin F. Verbit</b> (Touro)                                                                                                                           | <i>The Construction, Content, and Consequences of Jewishness: Thoughts on Measuring Jewish Identity</i>                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Jacques Berlinerblau</b> (Georgetown)                                                                                                                  | <i>Why Do So Many American Jews Refer to Themselves as Secular?</i>                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Readings from BJPA:                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <a href="#"><i>Jewish Futures Project: The Impact of Taglit-Birthright Israel: 2010 Update</i></a>                                                        | <a href="#">Charles Kadushin</a> , <a href="#">Leonard Saxe</a> , <a href="#">Benjamin Phillips</a> , <a href="#">Michelle Shain</a> , <a href="#">Graham Wright</a> , <a href="#">Shahar Hecht</a> , <a href="#">Theodore Sasson</a> , 2011 |
| <a href="#"><i>The Usefulness of Local Jewish Community Studies in Examining the American Jewish Future</i></a>                                           | <a href="#">Ira Sheskin</a> , 2010                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#"><i>Jewish Population in the United States, 2010</i></a>                                                                                       | <a href="#">Ira Sheskin</a> , <a href="#">Arnold Dashefsky</a> , 2010                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <a href="#"><i>U.S. Jewry 2010: Estimates of the Size and Characteristics of the Population</i></a>                                                       | <a href="#">Leonard Saxe</a> , 2010                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <a href="#"><i>Four Questions about American Jewish Demography</i></a>                                                                                    | <a href="#">Ira Sheskin</a> , 2008                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#"><i>Community Size and Identity</i></a>                                                                                                        | <a href="#">Matthew Boxer</a> , 2007                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <a href="#"><i>Qualitative Research on American Jewry</i></a>                                                                                             | <a href="#">Theodore Sasson</a> , 2006                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <a href="#"><i>Children of the Movements: Differences Among American Jewish University Students Raised in Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Homes</i></a> | <a href="#">Mervin Verbit</a> , 1985                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## Marshall Sklare Memorial Award Lecture

**Chair: Harriet Hartman** (Rowan) **Sunday, Dec. 18, 4:15 pm** | *Independence G*

**Riv-Ellen Prell**  
(U. of MN) *Boundaries, Margins and Norms: The Intellectual Stakes in the Study of American Jewish Culture(s)*

**Ari Y. Kelman** (U. of CA, Davis) Respondent

**Shaul Kelner** (Vanderbilt) Respondent

**Deborah Dash Moore** (U. of MI) Respondent

**Abstract:** The Marshall Sklare Award is given annually by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry (ASSJ) to a scholar who has made a significant scholarly contribution to the social scientific study of Jewry, primarily through the publication of a body of research in books and articles or of published work related to public policy. The Sklare Memorial Lecture is delivered by our honoree of the year at the Sklare Memorial Lecture session. This year, the Award goes to Dr. Riv-Ellen Prell, Professor and Chair of American Studies, University of Minnesota, leading scholar of post-war American Jewish life as well as of gender among American Jews. Author of 4 major books, over 40 chapters, articles and encyclopedia entries as well as numerous public essays and professional presentations, she is recognized not only as a star interdisciplinary pedagogue and intellectual role model, but also for her dedicated mentoring and contributions to policy research.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Jewish Summer Camping and Civil Rights: How Summer Camps Launched a Transformation in American Jewish Culture\*](#) [Riv-Ellen Prell, 2009](#)

[\*Place, Space, and the Shaping of American Judaism\*](#) [Riv-Ellen Prell, 2007](#)

[\*The Place of Cultural Production\*](#) [Shaul Kelner, 2007](#)

[\*Cultural Events and Jewish Identities: Young Adult Jews in New York\*](#) [Steven M. Cohen, Ari Y. Kelman, 2005](#)

[\*Jews and the Academy: A Complicated Romance\*](#) [Riv-Ellen Prell, 2002](#)

[\*The Jew Within: Self, Family, and Community in America\*](#) [Riv-Ellen Prell, 2001](#)

[\*Inventing Jewish Identity in California: Schlomo Bardin, Zionism and the Brandeis Camp Institute\*](#) [Deborah Dash Moore, 1999](#)

# Monday, December 19

## Demographic Narratives and Identity Research

**Moderator: Debra Renee Kaufman**  
(Northeastern)

**Monday, Dec. 19, 8:30 am** | *Constitution C*

**Harriet Hartman** (Rowan)

Discussant

**Leonard Saxe** (Brandeis)

Discussant

**Bruce A. Phillips** (HUC-JIR)

Discussant

**Barry A Kosmin** (Trinity)

Discussant

**Abstract:** Two competing paradigms or grand narratives dominate much of current identity research: Jewish assimilation/erosion and Jewish resilience/revival. In this roundtable, some of our leading demographic researchers will describe: a) some of their own personal biography; b) what attracted them to their fields, who their mentors were, and what methodologies and theories guide them; c) their work environment (academic and/or social policy oriented); d) what pleases/disturbs them the most and what they understand to be their field's future and their mission within it. By explaining their choices (why some things matter and others do not and how they formulate their theoretical questions and methodological practices) these demographers help make explicit the narratives which are critical to any demographic set of discoveries.

## Readings from BJPA:

[\*Jewish Peoplehood: Greater Than the Sum of its Parts\*](#)

[Leonard Saxe, Benjamin Phillips](#), 2009

[\*The Changing Population Profile of American Jews: 1990-2008\*](#)

[Barry A. Kosmin](#), 2009

[\*Decentering the Study of Jewish Identity: Opening the Dialogue with Other Religious Groups\*](#)

[Debra Kaufman, Harriet Hartman](#), 2006

[\*American Judaism in the 21st Century\*](#)

[Bruce Phillips](#), 2005

[\*Dimensions of Jewish Identity Among American Jews\*](#)

[Harriet Hartman](#), 1997

## Using Social Media Tools to Further Jewish Studies

**Moderator: Ari Y. Kelman** (U. of CA, Davis) **Monday, Dec. 19, 8:30 am** | *Independence I*

**Noam F. Pianko** (U. of Washington) Discussant

**Ken Koltun-Fromm** (Haverford) Discussant

**Jen Rajchel** (Bryn Mawr) Discussant

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Jewish Studies "Born Digital"\*](#) [Heidi Lerner](#), 2011

[\*Post-Ethnic, But Not Post-Peoplehood\*](#) [Noam Pianko](#), 2011

[\*Book Review: Approaching Jewish Law\*](#) [Ken Koltun-Fromm](#), 2006

[\*Jews/Media/Religion: Mapping a Field, Building a Resource\*](#) [Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett](#),  
[Jeffrey Shandler](#), 2005

[\*The Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania\*](#) [Arthur Kiron](#), 2003

## Jews, Race, Caste, and the Global Politics of Knowledge Production

**Chair & Respondent:** **Monday, Dec. 19, 8:30 am** | *Wilson*  
**Jonathan Schorsch** (Columbia)

**Barbara C. Johnson**  
 (Ithaca) *Misrepresentation of "Cochin" Jewish Social Organization in Kerala, India, through Models of Race, Caste and Slavery*

**Noah Miralaine Tamarkin**  
 (Brandeis) *Genetic Jewishness and the Politics of Authority: Lemba "Black Jews" and Their Interlocutors*

**Marla Brettschneider**  
 (University of NH) *Power and Privilege: Western Jewish Studies' Encounters with African and African Heritage Communities*

**Abstract:** This panel re-frames conversations regarding "who is a Jew" with a focus on Jewish-identified groups and people whose Jewishness has not always been taken as self-evident within western academic and Jewish institutional discourse. We call into question the framework of authenticity and proof that accompanies encounters between westerners and Jews of color.

### Readings from BJPA:

|                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><i>African and African Heritage Jews: Western Perspectives</i></a>                 | <a href="#">Marla Brettschneider</a> , 2011                                                                                     |
| <a href="#"><i>Neoconservatism: Tragedy and Farce</i></a>                                      | <a href="#">Jonathan Schorsch</a> , 2008                                                                                        |
| <a href="#"><i>Biological Discourse and American Jewish Identity</i></a>                       | <a href="#">Lynn Davidman</a> , <a href="#">Shelly Tenenbaum</a> , 2007                                                         |
| <a href="#"><i>In Every Tongue: The Racial &amp; Ethnic Diversity of the Jewish People</i></a> | <a href="#">Gary A. Tobin</a> , <a href="#">Diane Tobin</a> , <a href="#">Scott Rubin</a> , <a href="#">Lewis Gordon</a> , 2005 |
| <a href="#"><i>The Changing Face of Jewish Identity: Inside, Outside, and Other</i></a>        | <a href="#">Yavilah McCoy</a> , 2003                                                                                            |
| <a href="#"><i>Kimchee on the Seder Plate</i></a>                                              | <a href="#">Angela Warnick-Buchdahl</a> , 2003                                                                                  |
| <a href="#"><i>Black and Jewish -- And Unaccepted</i></a>                                      | <a href="#">Robert T. Coleman</a> , 1974                                                                                        |



## Investigations into Non-Orthodox Religious Authority in American Jewish Life

**Chair: Lila Corwin Berman** (Temple)      **Monday, Dec. 19, 8:30 am** | *Constituion B*

**Shaul Magid**  
(IN U., Bloomington)

*From Sainthood to Self-Hood in American Judaism:  
Artsroll's Jewish Hero and Jewish Renewal's  
Functional Rebbe*

**Rebecca Alpert**  
(Temple)

*Religious Authority and Jewish Identity: The Case of  
Jewish Baseball Players*

**Deborah Waxman**  
(Reconstructionist Rabbinical)

*Reconstructing Religious Authority in a Democratic  
Context: Early Reconstructionist Approaches and Their  
Contemporary Resonance*

**Deborah J. Glanzberg-Krainin**  
(Reconstructionist Rabbinical)

*Shifting the Textual Center: The Internet and its  
Challenge to Traditional Constructs of Jewish  
Authority*

**Abstract:** Since the advent of modernity, Jewish life has been deeply affected by the shattering of religious authority that was bolstered by a compelling narrative of supernatural revelation and supported by communal institutions. This cross-disciplinary panel will consider various efforts by non-Orthodox Jews to define Jews, Judaism and Jewishness in twentieth and twenty-first century Judaism. The panel will reflect on diverse strategies for articulating non-Orthodox religious authority in American Jewish life.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Be the Jew You Make: Jews, Judaism, and Jewishness in  
Post-Ethnic America\*](#)

[Shaul Magid](#), 2011

[\*Authority in Contemporary Times\*](#)

[David Ellenson](#), [Sharon Brous](#),  
2010

[\*New Prayerbooks: Balancing Innovation and Tradition\*](#)

[Deborah Glanzberg-Krainin](#), 2005

[\*The Business of Being A Rabbi\*](#)

[Lawrence Troster](#), 2004

[\*In the Driver's Seat: Rabbinic Authority in Post-War America\*](#)

[Jenna Weissman-Joselit](#), 2004

[\*On Being a Rabbi at the Margins\*](#)

[Rebecca Alpert](#), 1999

## Charles Silberman's *A Certain People: American Jews and Their Lives Today* - A 25th Anniversary Retrospective

**Moderator: Bethamie Horowitz** (NYU)      **Monday, Dec. 19, 11:00 am** | *Constituion E*

**Jerome A. Chanes** (Brandeis)      Discussant

**Shaul Kelner** (Vanderbilt)      Discussant

**Lila Corwin Berman** (Temple)      Discussant

**Samuel Freedman** (Columbia)      Discussant

**Abstract:** The twenty-fifth anniversary of the publication of Charles Silberman's controversial and influential 1986 book *A Certain People*, coupled with his own passing in early 2011 occasion this roundtable proposal for the 2011 AJS to revisit Silberman's final work from a number of vantage points.

### Readings from BJPA:

|                                                                                           |                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><i>Identity Making: Its Historical Roots</i></a>                              | <a href="#">Lila Corwin Berman</a> , 2011   |
| <a href="#"><i>The Practice of Peoplehood</i></a>                                         | <a href="#">Shaul Kelner</a> , 2010         |
| <a href="#"><i>A Primer on the American Jewish Community</i></a>                          | <a href="#">Jerome A. Chanes</a> , 2008     |
| <a href="#"><i>Wanted: A Critical Engagement With Our Own Heritage</i></a>                | <a href="#">Samuel G. Freedman</a> , 2005   |
| <a href="#"><i>An Uncertain People</i></a>                                                | <a href="#">Arnold Jacob Wolf</a> , 1986    |
| <a href="#"><i>A Response to One Review</i></a>                                           | <a href="#">Charles E. Silberman</a> , 1986 |
| <a href="#"><i>The Jewish Community in Change: Challenge to Professional Practice</i></a> | <a href="#">Charles E. Silberman</a> , 1981 |

| Gender, Spirituality and Embodiment                                                                                                            |                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Sylvia Barack Fishman</b> (Brandeis)                                                                                                 | <b>Monday, Dec. 19, 11:00 am</b>   <i>Lafayette Park</i>                                                  |
| <b>Roberta G. Sands</b><br>(UPenn)                                                                                                             | <i>Narratives of Baalei Teshuvah who are Second-Generation Survivors</i>                                  |
| <b>Charles Kadushin</b> (Brandeis)                                                                                                             | <i>Why Jewish Women are More Spiritual than Men</i>                                                       |
| <b>Lynn R. Davidman</b><br>(U. of Kansas)                                                                                                      | <i>Religious Defection and Transformation of Bodily Practices</i>                                         |
| <b>Ayala Fader</b><br>(Fordham)                                                                                                                | <i>Women's Embodied Listening and the Public Sphere</i>                                                   |
| Readings from BJPA:                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#"><i>Secularizing (Jewish) Sex</i></a>                                                                                               | <a href="#">Naomi Seidman</a> , 2011                                                                      |
| <a href="#"><i>Choosing Limits, Limiting Choices: Women's Status and Religious Life</i></a>                                                    | <a href="#">Sylvia Barack Fishman</a> , <a href="#">Tamar Ross</a> , <a href="#">Blu Greenberg</a> , 2005 |
| <a href="#"><i>Feminist Scholarship and Jewish Studies</i></a>                                                                                 | <a href="#">Lynn Davidman</a> , <a href="#">Shelly Tenenbaum</a> , 2002                                   |
| <a href="#"><i>Women's Transformations of Public Judaism: Religiosity, Egalitarianism, and the Symbolic Power of Changing Gender Roles</i></a> | <a href="#">Sylvia Barack Fishman</a> , 2001                                                              |
| <a href="#"><i>The Roles of Women and Men on the Boards of Major American Jewish Organizations: A Research Report</i></a>                      | <a href="#">Bethamie Horowitz</a> , <a href="#">Pearl Beck</a> , <a href="#">Charles Kadushin</a> , 1997  |
| <a href="#"><i>Brit Taharah: Woman As Covenantal Body</i></a>                                                                                  | <a href="#">David Seidenberg</a> , 1995                                                                   |

## The “Political Economy” of Social Science Research in Jewish Studies

**Moderator: Caryn Aviv** (U. of CO, Boulder) **Monday, Dec. 19, 2:00 pm** | *Independence G*

**Steven M. Cohen** (HUC-JIR) Discussant

**Bethamie Horowitz** (NYU) Discussant

**Sarah Bunin Benor** (HUC-JIR) Discussant

**Leonard Saxe** (Brandeis) Discussant

**Ari Y. Kelman** (U. of CA, Davis) Discussant

**Abstract:** Funding (from philanthropists, foundations, and communal organizations) drives much social research about contemporary Jewish life. This roundtable tackles questions of “political economy” of social science in Jewish Studies: the complex relationships between philanthropists, community organizations, and scholars. These relationships offer enticing opportunities, pose questions of academic freedom and sometimes create serious constraints.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Bad Things Happen to Good Numbers\*](#) [Steven M. Cohen](#), 2010

[\*Counting American Jewry\*](#) [Leonard Saxe](#), 2010

[\*The Reality of the Virtual: Looking for Jewish Leadership Online\*](#) [Ari Y. Kelman](#), 2010

[\*Do American Jews Speak a “Jewish Language”? A Model of Jewish Linguistic Distinctiveness\*](#) [Sarah Bunin Benor](#), 2009

[\*From Data to Knowledge: A Strategy to Decipher Trends in American Jewish Life\*](#) [Bethamie Horowitz](#), 2006

## Tuesday, December 20

### How Powerful Are Extra-Familial Factors in Shaping Jewish Identity? Methodological Challenges and Policy Implications

**Chair: Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz** (JFNA)

**Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:30 am** | *Independence G*

**Harriet Hartman (Rowan), Ira M. Sheskin** (U. of Miami)

*The Influence of Community Context on Jewish Identity: A 21-Community Study*

**Ira M. Sheskin** (U. of Miami), **Steven M. Cohen** (HUC-JIR), **Ron Miller** (NAJDB), **Berna Torr** (CA State, Fullerton)

*The Long-Term Impact of Jewish Overnight Camp*

**Steven M. Cohen** (HUC-JIR)

*The Contribution of Long-Term Trips to Israel to Jewish Commitment and Leadership*

**Fern Chertok** (Brandeis), **Joshua Tobias** (Brandeis), **David Mittelberg** (Oranim), **Annette Koren** (Brandeis)

*Jewish Peoplehood: Beyond the Buzz to Definition, Measurement and Intervention*

**Abstract:** The session will address a variety of aspects of the effects of extra-familial factors (e.g., community context, Israel trips, and overnight camps) on Jewish identity. Co-sponsored by the Berman Institute – North American Jewish Data Bank @ UConn and BJPA @ NYU Wagner.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*The Influence of Community Context and Individual Characteristics on Jewish Identity: A 21-Community Study\*](#)

Harriet Hartman, Ira Sheskin, 2011  
(online at [jewishdatabank.org](http://jewishdatabank.org))

[\*Volunteering + Values: A Repair the World Report on Jewish Young Adults\*](#)

[Fern Chertok](#), [Matthew Boxer](#), [Josh Tobias](#), [Jim Gerstein](#), [Shirah Rosin](#), 2011

[\*Camp Works: The Long-Term Impact of Jewish Overnight Camp\*](#)

[Steven M. Cohen](#), [Ron Miller](#), [Ira Sheskin](#), [Berna Torr](#), 2011

[\*Encountering the Other, Finding Oneself: The Taglit-Birthright Israel Mifgash\*](#)

[Leonard Saxe](#), [David Mittelberg](#), [Shahar Hecht](#), [Theodore Sasson](#), 2008

[\*Mapping Jewish Education: The National Picture\*](#)

[Leonard Saxe](#), [Amy L. Sales](#), [Joe Reimer](#), [Annette Koren](#), [Nicole Samuel](#), [Marion Gribetz](#), [Jackie Terry](#), 2006

[\*The Impact of Childhood Jewish Education on Adults' Jewish Identity: Schooling, Israel Travel, Camping and Youth Groups\*](#)

[Steven M. Cohen](#), [Laurence A. Kotler-Berkowitz](#), 2004

## Modern Jewish Politics in the College Classroom

**Moderator: Shelly Tenenbaum** (Clark) **Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:30 am** | *Constitution B*

**Samuel Heilman** (Queens College, CUNY) Discussant

**Ruth R. Wisse** (Harvard) Discussant

**Nancy Sinkoff** (Rutgers) Discussant

**Malachi Hacohen** (Duke) Discussant

**Jonathan Karp** (AJHS) Discussant

**Abstract:** Sponsored by the Pedagogy Working Group, this proposal addresses the challenges of teaching about contemporary Jewish political controversies, including fundamentalism, the ideologies of far right and left, and conflicts surrounding Zionism. The overarching question is how to open up the classroom to divergent viewpoints on current issues in the Jewish world while fostering an atmosphere of civility and respect.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*An "Economic Turn" in Jewish Studies?\*](#)

[Jonathan Karp](#), 2009

[\*Facing up to Evil: A Conversation\*](#)

[Ruth Wisse](#), [Seth Lipsky](#), 2008

[\*Jewish Studies at Rutgers University\*](#)

[Nancy Sinkoff](#), 2006

[\*Jews and Fundamentalism\*](#)

[Samuel Heilman](#), 2005

[\*Studying and Teaching Jewish Political Studies in the University\*](#)

[Daniel Elazar](#), 1989

## Defining Jewish Interests and Concerns: Between Community and State

**Chair: Theodore Sasson** (Middlebury)

**Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:30 am** | Penn A

**Morton Weinfeld**  
(McGill)

*Defining Jewish Interests and Concerns: Canadian and British Jews*

**Paul Burstein**  
(U. of Washington)

*Congressional Committee Hearings and the Framing of Debates about Israel*

**Judit Bokser Liwerant**  
(Unam Mexico)

*Changing Patterns of Latin American Jews in the National/Transnational Public Sphere*

**Abstract:** Like all diaspora groups, Jews must negotiate diverse commitments to “host country” and “homeland.” How do Jewish perceptions of host country and homeland interests vary within and between national contexts? What national, cultural and demographic forces shape the political commitments and behavior of contemporary diaspora Jews? How do diaspora Jews enact their political commitments and with what result? This panel examines diaspora Jewish politics in a comparative perspective drawing on studies of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Venezuela and Mexico. The themes of identity, issue framing, representation, dual loyalties and transnationalism will be explored.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Latin American Jews: A Transnational Diaspora\*](#)

[Judit Bokser Liwerant](#), 2009

[\*Latin American Jewish Identities: Past and Present Challenges. The Mexican Case in a Comparative Perspective\*](#)

[Judit Bokser Liwerant](#), 2008

[\*Jews and Ukrainians in Canada: A Comparative Study of Diaspora-Homeland Relations\*](#)

[Morton Weinfeld](#), [Harold Troper](#), 1990

[\*Pluralism, Jews, and Equal Employment Opportunity\*](#)

[Paul Burstein](#), 1989

| Jewish Political Behavior in Israel and the United States                                                                                       |                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Ariela Keysar</b> (Trinity)                                                                                                           | <b>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 10:45 am</b>   <i>Penn B</i>                                                                           |
| <b>Samuel J. Abrams</b> (Sarah Lawrence /NYU), <b>Steven M. Cohen</b> (HUC-JIR)                                                                 | <i>Are Jews Really That Liberal? Untangling American Jewish Ideology and Partisanship in the Twenty-First Century</i>       |
| <b>Ephraim Tabory</b> (Bar Ilan)                                                                                                                | <i>The Framing of Rejection: Israeli Conversion Requirements and the Management of Conflict over Religious Identity</i>     |
| <b>Menachem Mautner</b> (Tel Aviv)                                                                                                              | <i>Law, Kulturkampf, and the Crisis of Republicanism in Israel</i>                                                          |
| <b>Shaul Kelner</b> (Vanderbilt)                                                                                                                | <i>What Does It Mean to be Green? Debating the Boundaries of Green Politics in an Environmentalist Party in Israel</i>      |
| Readings from BJPA:                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                             |
| <a href="#"><u><i>A Snapshot of the American Jewish Electorate: 2011 Political Survey</i></u></a>                                               | <a href="#"><u>Steven Windmueller</u></a> , 2011                                                                            |
| <a href="#"><u><i>2010: The Triangular Relationship between Washington, Jerusalem, and the Jewish Community</i></u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>Jewish People Policy Planning Institute</u></a> , 2011                                                       |
| <a href="#"><u><i>Israel Off Their Minds: The Diminished Place of Israel in the Political Thinking of Young Jews</i></u></a>                    | <a href="#"><u>Steven M. Cohen</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>Sam Abrams</u></a> , 2008                                           |
| <a href="#"><u><i>American Jews and the 2008 Presidential Election: As Democratic and Liberal as Ever?</i></u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>Steven M. Cohen</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>Sam Abrams</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>Judith Veinstein</u></a> , 2008 |
| <a href="#"><u><i>A House Divided: Grassroots National Religious Perspectives on the Gaza Disengagement and Future of the West Bank</i></u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Ephraim Tabory</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>Theodore Sasson</u></a> , 2007                                       |
| <a href="#"><u><i>A Global People</i></u></a>                                                                                                   | <a href="#"><u>Shaul Kelner</u></a> , 2004                                                                                  |



| New Perspectives on Eating and Identity in Jewish Studies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Matt Goldish</b> (OSU)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1:45 pm</b>   <i>Independence G</i>                                          |
| <b>Jordan D. Rosenblum</b><br>(U. of WI, Madison)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>In Defense of Kosher Food:<br/>Ancient Apologies for Kashrut</i>                               |
| <b>Jody Myers</b><br>(CA State U., Northridge)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>Purity and Community: Dimensions of Kashrut in<br/>an Orthodox Jewish Neighborhood</i>         |
| <b>Aaron Saul Gross</b> (U. of San Diego)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <i>Contemporary Liberal Judaism, Meat, and Identity</i>                                           |
| <b>Nora L Rubel</b><br>(U. of Rochester)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>The Feast at the End of the Fast: Yom Kippur's<br/>Break Fast Rituals and American Judaism</i> |
| <p><b>Abstract:</b> The papers in this session build upon various anthropological approaches to food practices; these start from the central point that food practices correspond to the individual or group's "map" of the cosmos, that is, the place of the individual/group in relation to God, humanity, and nature. Presenters also integrate insights from animal studies, ethics, and sociology to explore how food creates community among Jews and fissures between them.</p> |                                                                                                   |
| Readings from BJPA:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                   |
| <a href="#"><i>Keeping Kosher: Now What?</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <a href="#">Nigel Savage</a> , 2010                                                               |
| <a href="#"><i>Kashrut and Community</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <a href="#">Ruth Abusch-Magder</a> , 2010                                                         |
| <a href="#"><i>Food and Cultural Change</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <a href="#">Hasia Diner</a> , 2003                                                                |
| <a href="#"><i>On the Current Renaissance in Jewish Spirituality</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <a href="#">Jody Myers</a> , 2000                                                                 |
| <a href="#"><i>Assimilation and Digestion: An Anthropology of Kashrut<br/>in Postmodern America</i></a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <a href="#">Eleni Zatz Litt</a> , 1996                                                            |

## Jewish Families and Institutions

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chair: Fern Chertok</b> (Brandeis)                                                                                  | <b>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1:45 pm</b>   <i>Penn A</i>                                                                       |
| <b>Patricia K. Munro</b><br>(U. of CA, Berkeley)                                                                       | <i>Inclusion or Exclusion: Placing Boundaries around B'nai Mitzvah Participation</i>                                   |
| <b>Randal F. Schnoor</b><br>(York)                                                                                     | <i>Jewish Families and School Choice: Does High School Make a Difference?</i>                                          |
| <b>Sylvia Barack Fishman</b><br>(Brandeis)                                                                             | <i>Spousal Negotiations of Parenthood and Professions in Contemporary American Jewish Households</i>                   |
| <b>Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz</b><br>(JFNA)                                                                             | <i>The Effects of the Great Recession on American Jews: Evidence from the Baltimore and Chicago Jewish Communities</i> |
| <b>Readings from BJPA:</b>                                                                                             |                                                                                                                        |
| <a href="#"><i>The New Jewish Family: Reproductive Choices and Opportunities in Contemporary U.S. Society</i></a>      | <a href="#">Sylvia Barack Fishman, Shulamit Reinharz, Deborah Skolnick Einhorn, Loraine Obler</a> , 2005               |
| <a href="#"><i>Where Do New York's Jewish Kids Go to School? Public, Private or Jewish</i></a>                         | <a href="#">David M. Pollock</a> , 2004                                                                                |
| <a href="#"><i>Jewish Identity Among the Adult Children of Inter-marriage: Event Horizon or Navigable Horizon?</i></a> | <a href="#">Benjamin Phillips, Fern Chertok</a> , 2004                                                                 |
| <a href="#"><i>NJPS Series- Economic Vulnerability in the American Jewish Population</i></a>                           | <a href="#">Laurence A. Kotler-Berkowitz</a> , 2004                                                                    |

## Folklore and Ethnography of Jewish Women

**Chair: Andrea Beth Lieber**  
(Dickinson)

**Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1:45 pm** | *Roosevelt*

**Amy Milligan**  
(Penn State)

*Wearing Many Hats: Head-Covering Practices by Orthodox Jewish Women in a Small-Town Congregation*

**Simon Josef Bronner**  
(Penn State)

*Jewish Naming Ceremonies for Girls: A Study in the Discourse of Tradition*

**Haya Bar-Itzhak**  
(U. of Haifa/Indiana U.)

*Degenderized Heroines in Jewish Legends in Times of Persecution*

**Dan Ben-Amos** (UPenn)

Respondent

**Abstract:** The analysis of roles held by Jewish women in folk societies has been a special problem in folklore and ethnological studies. Whereas men's roles and expressive expectations are often designated, and therefore more frequently documented, women's positions have frequently been viewed as ambiguous or flexible if they have been analyzed at all. In the last two decades, more collections and observations have specifically focused on women's functions within different societies and a comparative ethnological project has arisen, not just between men and women within a single society, but also among different cultures. In this panel, folklorists and ethnologists locate patterns of tradition maintained or constructed by women in different locations or cultural frames. All the papers serve to address the empowerment of women through expressive traditions in response to mass cultural modernity and localized Jewish community.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Women's Transformations of Public Judaism: Religiosity, Egalitarianism, and the Symbolic Power of Changing Gender Roles\*](#)

[Sylvia Barack Fishman, 2001](#)

[\*The Status of Jewish Women's Studies in the United States and Canada: A Survey of University and College Courses As of 1999\*](#)

[Sylvia Barack Fishman, Tobin Belzer, Shulamit Reinhartz, Susan Kahn, 1999](#)

## Service Learning and Community Engagement

**Moderator: Sarah Bunin Benor** (HUC-JIR) **Tuesday, Dec. 20, 4:00 pm** | *Renwick*

**Noam F. Pianko** (U. of Washington) Discussant

**Will Berkovitz** (Repair the World) Discussant

**Vanessa Ochs** (U. of Virginia) Discussant

**Abstract:** College campuses around the country are increasingly embracing civic engagement as an integral part of their core educational mission. Many students arrive on campus with a history of intensive community service involvement and a passion for integrating their learning objectives with real world experiences. As a result, the practice of service learning has expanded dramatically to meet student, faculty, and university interests. Yet, there are very few Jewish studies programs that have explored the possibilities of integrating service learning designed to meet Jewish and/or non-Jewish communal needs into Jewish Studies course offerings.

Over the last few years, a number of scholars in the field of Jewish studies have begun to explore the theoretical, practical, and institutional possibilities of Jewish studies service learning. This panel will bring together several leaders in the emerging field of Jewish studies service learning. Our goal is to share a variety of ways that service learning pedagogy can enhance learning objectives in Jewish studies courses, expand the potential reach of Jewish studies courses, and strengthen communal ties through building relationships with communal organizations.

### Readings from BJPA:

[\*Volunteering + Values: A Repair the World Report on Jewish Young Adults\*](#) [Fern Chertok](#), [Matthew Boxer](#), [Josh Tobias](#), [Jim Gerstein](#), [Shirah Rosin](#), 2011

[\*Making Jewish Education Work: Jewish Service Learning\*](#) [JESNA](#), 2011

[\*Post-Ethnic, But Not Post-Peoplehood\*](#) [Noam Pianko](#), 2011

[\*The Worth of What They Do: The Impact of Short-term Immersive Jewish Service-Learning on Host Communities\*](#) [Ellen Irie](#), 2010

[\*Jewish Service Learning: An Analysis of Participant Jewish Identity and Program Characteristics\*](#) [Jennifer Abzug Zeligson](#), [Sarah Jane Rehnberg](#), [Jinwoo Lee](#), [Rachel Veron](#), 2008

[\*Ten Jewish Sensibilities\*](#) [Vanessa L. Ochs](#), 2003

[\*Service Learning in the Jewish Community: Connecting the Community and Jewish Studies\*](#) [Jody Myers](#), [Terry Hatkoff](#), 2002

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