

## Yeshiva University Inaugurates New Schneier International Affairs Center



Dr. Richard N. Haass

The best universities provide a framework within which students can explore current events and learn from leading scholars and experts who shape tomorrow's history.

Yeshiva University's new Rabbi Arthur Schneier Center for International Affairs offers that framework. Scholars and experts in international diplomacy, foreign relations, world economics, international law, politics, global health, environmentalism, and military

strategy will share their opinions, research, and experiences with the YU community.

President Richard M. Joel expects the center "to provide a wide lens on the crucial political and social issues of the modern world, and in so doing enrich the university's curriculum and broaden its international perspective and stature. It will also develop student internships in international relations."

The center will encompass all schools within the university; faculty members from each school will comprise its board of directors. Ruth A. Bevan, PhD, the David W. Petegorsky Professor of Political Science, was appointed by Vice President of Academic Affairs Mort Lowengrub as center director.

The center is named for Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who conceived the idea and garnered support for its establishment. Rabbi Schneier is an alumnus of Yeshiva College (1951) and Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (1956) and a YU honorary

doctoral degree recipient. He is internationally known for his leadership in religious freedom and human rights. He is founder and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, established in 1965, and spiritual leader since 1962 of the landmark Park East Synagogue in New York City.

The center held its inaugural event March 31 at Manhattan's Park East Synagogue. The guest speaker was Richard N. Haass, PhD, a former senior State Department advisor and foreign policy specialist, who discussed prospects for Middle East peace. Dr. Haass is president of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Formerly, Dr. Haass directed policy planning at the US Department of State, and was a chief adviser to Secretary of State Colin Powell. He is author or editor of nine books on American foreign policy, including *The Reluctant Sheriff: The United States after the Cold War*.

## Katz Kollel Invigorates Torah Learning



Rabbi Hershel Schachter

Torah lishmah—learning for its own sake—is an ideal that has motivated great Torah sages throughout Jewish history.

At YU, it is the core of programming at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, immersing students in a myriad of biblical texts and shaping their approach and understanding to scholarship, according to Rabbi Hershel Schachter, noted Talmudic scholar and RIETS veteran faculty member.

Rabbi Schachter is the rosh kollel of RIETS' Marcos and Adina Katz Kollel (Institute for Advanced Research in Rabbinics), the largest of such programs at the seminary.

The value of the Katz Kollel and similar programs, said Rabbi Schachter, is that they serve scholars of exceptional promise who devote their academic energies to Talmud and Halakhah.

Just over 100 students now study in the Katz Kollel, most through RIETS' *semikhah* (ordination) program. Students learn Gemara and receive a monthly stipend.

"The kollelim at RIETS embody the efflorescence of Torah learning and commitment to Yeshiva," said Rabbi Zevulun Charlop, Max and Marion Grill Dean of the seminary. He called the Katz Kollel the "foundation-stone upon which our much-touted and admired kollelim rest."

"The vast world of Torah is not something you can simply take a course in to master,"

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### YU STUDENTS AT THE HAGUE



More than 100 YU students demonstrate solidarity with Israel outside the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands (left); Elimor Goldwicht (right), SCW sophomore, recites psalms in front of remains of a bus bombed by Palestinian terrorists.

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Shulamith Z. Berger** YH,'84B, YU archivist and curator of special collections at the Yeshiva University Museum, co-directed a special exhibit on the history of kashrut in America from 1654 through the early 20th century. Held at Kosherfest 2003 in November at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, the exhibit included advertisements for mainstream kosher products from the 1920s to the '40s from Ms. Berger's collection.

**Lea Blau**, PhD, professor of chemistry, was appointed to the International Activities Committee of the American Chemical Society's Division of Chemical Education. Only 50 to 60 of this division's 5,400 members are selected for such service each year.

**Jerome A. Chanes** YH,'64Y,W, adjunct professor, SCW, WSSW, and AGS, delivered a paper, "Is there a 'New' anti-Semitism? Redefining the Protocols for Measuring anti-Semitism," 2003 Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Boston. Also, he delivered "American Jews and the 2004 Elections: Notes from Demographic Surveys," Trinity College's Center for Religion and Public Affairs. He published "The American Jewish Agenda and the 2004 Elections" in *Religion in the News*. In fall and winter 2003, he developed and lectured at a five-film series, "Anti-Semitism on the Screen," JCC in Manhattan.

**Mordechai Z. Cohen**, PhD, '87Y,R,B, associate professor of Bible, and **Louis H. Feldman**, PhD, Abraham Wouk Family Professor of Classics and Literature, delivered lectures at Congregation Etz Chaim in Kew Gardens Hills, Queens, as part of the synagogue's two-year lecture series on "The Wisdom of Japhet in the Tents of Shem," exploring aspects of culture that Jews adapted from other peoples.

**Chris Cristofaro**, adjunct instructor in art, was an exhibitor of hand-made paper and small sculpture as part of "Artlink," a show in Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Dr. Louis Feldman** (see above) was named 2003 Jewish Cultural Achievement Award in Scholarship recipient, for textual studies, by the

National Foundation for Jewish Culture.

**Joshua A. Fishman**, PhD, Distinguished University Research Professor Emeritus, lectured on "Yiddish in the 21st Century: A Sociolinguistic Perspective" as part of the George J. Stolnitz Memorial Program of the Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University.

**Aharon Fried**, PhD, associate professor of psychology, and **Scott Goldberg**, PhD, AGS instructor in education and psychology, presented "The Art of Teaching Lumudei Kodesh in Multi-Level Classrooms; Strategies for Effective and Meaningful Instruction," at a conference sponsored by the New Jersey Association of Jewish Day Schools in September.

**Rabbi Robert S. Hirt**, senior adviser to the president, was a scholar-in-residence at the Yale University Hillel in February. He spoke on "Openness and Orthodoxy: Compatible or Contradictory?" and "How Can a Modern Jew Pray?"

**President Richard M. Joel** traveled to Toronto in December to speak at the Sephardic Kehilla Centre on "Towards Nobility: A Jewish Future." The trip was his first official visit there as YU president. This was part of his visit to launch the Jewish Education Scholarship Program under the leadership of Canadian Friends of Yeshiva University at a reception at the home of CFYU National President, Robert Eli and Renee Rubenstein which raised \$1 million. Scholarship recipients must agree to teach in Toronto for three years after completing their advanced degree at the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.

**Stephen H. Lazar**, EdD, Einstein assistant dean, was the guest of the Ben Gurion School of Medicine in Beersheva, Israel, and the Sackler School of Medicine in Tel Aviv, where he met with university officials and gave two lectures to their faculty. Also, Dr. Lazar hosted some 35 Einstein alumni at a reception in Jerusalem that covered recent developments at Einstein and YU.

**Aaron Levine**, PhD, Samson and Halina Bitensky Professor of Economics, contributed a chapter, "Welfare Programs and Jewish Law," to *Public Policy Social Issues: Jewish Sources and Perspectives* (Marshal J. Breger, ed.; Westport, CT, Praeger 2003)

**Joseph Malovany**, Distinguished Professor of Liturgical Music at Philip and Sarah Belz School of Jewish Music, became a commander of the Legion of Honor, Poland's equivalent of knighthood, in January. At Blair House in Washington, DC, the Israeli-born cantor of Fifth Avenue Synagogue in Manhattan received the award from Polish President Alexander Kwasniewski for his musical contribution to the international and Polish communities. A tenor, he has performed worldwide during a long career that has included positions in Israel, Johannesburg, London, and New York. He is the first Jewish cantor to receive this award from Poland.

**Rabbi Alter B.Z. Metzger**, professor of Judaic studies, spoke on "The Joy of Holiness—A New Chasidic Dimension" at an International Chabad Women Emissaries Conference session and book signing for *Chasidic Perspectives: A Festival Anthology*, by Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, which Rabbi Metzger translated.

**David Shatz**, PhD, professor of philosophy, published "The Biblical and Rabbinic Background to Medieval Jewish Philosophy," *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Jewish Philosophy*. Also, he spoke at Cong. Ahavath Achim, New Bedford, MS; Torah in Motion, Toronto, Canada; at a NEFESH retreat in CN; and at Touro School of Law.

**Alvin I. Schiff**, PhD, '47Y,B,F, AGS Irving I. Stone Distinguished Professor of Jewish Education, authored *Milat Hahag*, a commentary on the Torah reading for Rosh Hashannah, and *Milat Haparshah*, exegesis of key Hebraic terms in the Torah readings of Parshat Lekh Lekha and Parshat Vayeira. The works were published on the Internet at [www.ivrit.org](http://www.ivrit.org) by the National Center for the Hebrew

*Contested Memories: Poles and Jews During the Holocaust and its Aftermath* (Rutgers University Press), edited by Joshua Zimmerman, PhD, assistant professor of East European Jewish history and occupant, Eli and Diana Zborowski Chair in Holocaust Studies, was reviewed in the Sunday, January 18, 2004 edition of the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*. The volume is based on papers delivered at an April 2000 Holocaust conference at YU and sponsored by BRGS and the Zborowski Chair. It represents a reassessment by three generations of Polish and Jewish scholars of the existing historiography of Polish-Jewish relations just before, during, and after World War II.

Language. Also, he spoke on "The Biblical Source of Berachah and Modeling Theory of Behavior for Contemporary Times," at Cong. Torah Ohr, Boca Raton, FL.

**Robert Moses Shapiro**, PhD, adjunct assistant professor of Jewish history, is editor of *Why Didn't the Press Shout: American and International Journalism During the Holocaust 1933-1945* (Yeshiva University Press with KTAV Publishing House, 2003), one of three finalists for a 2003 National Jewish Book Award in Holocaust Studies. The book contains papers presented at a YU conference in 1995 under the Eli and Diana Zborowski Professorial Chair in Interdisciplinary Holocaust Studies.

**Louise Silverstein**, PhD, associate professor of psychology at FGS, was appointed by the American Psychological Association's Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest to serve on the committee on Women in Psy-

chology. Dr. Silverstein's term began Jan. 1 and will continue until Dec. 31, 2006.

**Richard Steiner**, PhD, '66Y, professor of Semitic languages and literatures, was invited by the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University to be a Harry Starr Fellow in Judaica during spring 2005 in "Biblical Exegesis from the Second Temple Period through the Middle Ages." In 1999 he was the Gerard Weinstock Visiting Professor of Jewish Studies at Harvard.

The Department of Student Affairs recently announced four promotions: **Zelda Braun** '68S,W, to associate dean of students, Beren Campus; **Beth Hait** YH '76, to assistant dean of students, Beren Campus; **Rachel Kraut** '97S, to director of residential life, Beren Campus; **Joe Bednarsh**, to assistant director of athletics for undergraduate schools.

## YU Today

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## YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

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## Key to School Abbreviations

A, AECOM Albert Einstein College of Medicine • AG Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration • BG, BGSS Belfer Institute for Advanced Biomedical Sciences • B, BRGS Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies • BSJM Belz School of Jewish Music • CTI Cantorial Training Institute • C, CSL Cardozo School of Law • F, FGS Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology • I, IBC Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies • J, JSS James Striar School of General Jewish Studies • MSDCS Max Stern Division of Communal Services • Y, MYP Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies • SBMP Stone Beit Midrash Program • R, RIETS Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary • S, SCW Stern College for Women • SG Sue Golding Graduate Division of Medical Sciences • SB, SSSB Sy Syms School of Business • T, TI Teachers Institute • T, TIW Teachers Institute for Women • W, WSSW Wurzelweil School of Social Work • Y, YC Yeshiva College • YH, YUHS Yeshiva University High Schools (MSTA The Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy) (SWHSG Samuel H. Wang Yeshiva University High School for Girls)

## FACULTY PROFILE

# Professor Yaakov Elman

## ■ Breaking New Ground in Ancient Persia

**Y**aakov Elman is probably the only person in the world who could forecast the weather in Middle Persian — a skill that would have been a hot ticket about 18 centuries ago in the Near East. Fortunately, this one-of-a-kind scholar has other talents and other goals.

Above all, he wants to broaden study and discussion of the Babylonian Talmud (the most significant of the Talmuds) and to bring such deliberations “down to earth” by focusing on the legal, cultural, religious, and linguistic contexts of the Persian Empire. As Prof. Elman explains, “The Jews and Persians spent about 1,200 years living in close proximity in a kind of ‘Torah Umadda’ situation.”

But how does one get to be a meteorologist *and* a Middle Persian scholar? If the Bronx-born Prof. Elman is any example (actually, he’s the only example), one must be eminently practical and insatiably curious.

Yaakov’s aptitudes were evident at age 12. Dissatisfied with the limited range of his yeshiva education, he taught himself modern Hebrew. Later, around 1960, he discovered a series of Hebrew articles on the Bible in the ancient Near East. That finding fired his passion for an academic career that eventually landed him at Jerusalem’s Hebrew University as a professor of Semitic languages. He is now associate professor of Jewish studies at YU’s Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies.

The necessities of life, however, put his ambitions on hold. Yaakov’s father died when he was 19. On the advice of his mother, he pursued work more accommodating to his shy personality. “I was withdrawn, a book-worm,” he says. “She was right at the time.”

Then came a brief stint at City College studying chemistry. “I realized I couldn’t spend my life designing perfumes,” he says. “I switched, for no great reason, to meteorology; it was practical.” Well, not quite. Jobs allowing for Sabbath observance were few-and-far-between. Weather, he explains, is 24/7. He eventually found a position in private industry, where he had to work every “‘four-letter’ shift there is.”

Yaakov started taking

courses in Semitic languages at Columbia. By 1974, he had a master’s in Assyriology, which led to a job managing a Hebrew bookstore. His expertise became well known to the academic clientele, who decided that such a promising young scholar should do more than peddle books. They arranged for him to study tuition-free at NYU, where he earned a doctorate in rabbinic literature in 1986.

Prof. Elman soon found a home at YU, as well as a base for his uniquely omnivorous brand of Talmudism, which



combines a strong interest in Jewish thought with more conventional textual considerations and now feeds upon Jewish as well as Zoroastrian, Manichean, and Christian sources from the Middle Persian epoch.

“I call it the *cholent* theory of cultural influence,” he says, referring to the Eastern European Shabbat dish, a hodge-podge of stewed foods. “In Babylonia in the third and fourth centuries, there were all kinds of elements percolating, combining, and recombining.” (Prof. Elman is quick to share credit for this insight with James Russell of Harvard University and Shaul Shaked of Hebrew University.)

According to Prof. Elman, this area of study has languished for eons because Talmudists have not studied Middle Persia and experts in Middle Persia have found the Talmud too difficult.

“You really need a Talmudist to do this, as Iranist Vera Moreen [of Swarthmore College] pointed out to me,” says Prof. Elman, who learned Middle Persian on his own and is filling in the chinks with the help of Prof. Oktor Skjaervo, the Aga Khan Prof. of Iranian at Harvard University.

“I am bringing the two

fields together. This is revolutionary for both sides. It gives us an entirely different view of the Jewish community of Babylonia and its place within the cultural matrix of the Persian Empire. This community was one of the crucial communities in all of Jewish history.”

Given the importance of this research, Prof. Elman



spends several days a week at Harvard, working with Professor Skjaervo, who heads the Near Eastern languages and cultures department.

Relatively new to the field, Prof. Elman is already well known among the world’s community of Persian scholars. During the 2002–03 academic year, while on sabbatical from YU, he was a Harry Starr Fellow in Judaica at the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University, affording him time to work on one book and start another.

“He is a multi-faceted jewel in the crown of wisdom, a helpful colleague, a gentle



friend,” says Prof. Russell, the Mashtots Professor of Armenian Studies at Harvard. “He has become an expert in Iranian law and lore, bringing his new and profound learning to the study of Talmudic tradition.”

“Yaakov is no less than a force of nature,” adds Prof. Skjaervo. “He is single-handedly carrying out a crusade among his colleagues for the importance of Pahlavi [Middle Persian] studies. It may well be the salvation of Old Persian studies.”

In 2003, Prof. Elman co-led a global research collaboration on the materials from the Cairo Genizah, a repository of priceless medieval Hebrew and Judaic manuscripts.

Also on Prof. Elman’s agenda is a form of scholarship called omniscient biblical exegesis. “The general rabbinic claim that every word of the Torah has been weighed

and counted has never been challenged. But despite repeated claims, Orthodox scholars haven’t been that thorough in their work. The most complete omniscient commentary I know of was done by a Reform rabbi, Benno Jacob,” he explains.

In an article in the *Jewish Studies Journal*, he adds, “Not every feature of Scripture was interpreted by the rabbis either halakhically or aggadically [allegorically]. Our collections of *midrashim* hardly constitute a comprehensive omniscient corpus; not only do they fail to deal with many verses, and even whole biblical chapters, but features that are considered significant—legally or morally—in one context are ignored in others.”

“I have a good memory and a lot of intellectual curiosity, and I don’t sleep much,” says the professor, explaining his wide and deep scholarly interests.

## YU Loses a Friend and Hero

A memorial service was held January 27 at the Wilf Campus for Mikey Butler, a Yeshiva College alumnus and friend of many, who passed away after a long battle with cystic fibrosis.

In Lampport Auditorium, Chancellor Norman Lamm delivered a *hesped* (eulogy) for Mr. Butler, calling him a legend who accomplished more in his 24 years than most people accomplish in a lifetime. “Mikey had legions of admirers and evoked the better angels of our nature,” said Dr. Lamm.

Mr. Butler’s funeral took place at Pittsburgh’s Congregation Poale Zedek. A delegation of more than 150 Yeshiva University students led by President Richard M. Joel and Vice President for University Life Hillel Davis attended the funeral.

President Joel, at a recent Town Hall meeting, lauded the courage and indomitable spirit of Mr. Butler, whom he said, “lived an incredible, long-short life, day by glorious day.”

That view was echoed by friends and fellow students.

Against all odds, he graduated from YU and received his diploma from Dr. Lamm during a special ceremony at the Pittsburgh airport two years ago. He was active in National Conference of Synagogue Youth, and during summers he worked at a camp for special-needs children. The Yeshiva University community will remember him with affection and admiration.



## YU Chef Remembered

There was a time when alumni would return to YU not just to revel in nostalgia. They came to eat.

Those were the days of Alfred Parker, the master chef who transformed YU's food services into an acclaimed eatery that attracted patrons other than students.

Mr. Parker, who died last October at 84, joined the department of food services in 1957 as manager of Stern College for Women's cafeteria. Dubbed "one of the city's leading authorities on kosher cuisine" by *The New York Times* in 1961, Mr. Parker later directed food services for the entire university, consolidating food operations on all campuses, including the high schools and Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He retired in 1986.

Born in 1919 in Vienna, Austria, Mr. Parker studied engineering, but his education was interrupted by Nazi Germany's invasion of Austria in 1938. He fled to Switzerland and lived in an immigrants' camp where he learned to cook. He eventually received a chef's diploma from the Swiss Hotel School in Lucerne in 1945.

In 1947, Mr. Parker emigrated to the US and worked as

a chef at hotels, Jewish resorts, camps, and schools.

Sam Hartstein, former director of public affairs at YU and current senior consultant, said Mr. Parker's cooking was so good that he catered Mr. Hartstein's wedding as well as his son's bris and bar mitzvah.

"Mr. Parker was very much committed to the students and to YU," Mr. Hartstein said. "He was very serious-minded and was always amenable. People called the cafeteria 'Parkerteria.'"

A *World-Telegram* newspaper article from February 1965, "There's Marital Bliss in Beautiful Blintzes," featured Mr. Parker's famous cooking classes at Stern where students learned how to cook, set a table, choose fine china, and shop for groceries.

Mr. Parker's recipes for Seder meals—matzoh balls, potato latkes, and other Jewish specialties—appeared in national periodicals and newspapers, most notably *The New York Times*.

Mr. Parker and his wife received the Family Service Award from Yeshiva University High Schools for their service and dedication to the schools. Their son, Charles, is a 1963 graduate of the Marsh Stern Talmudical Academy and a 1968 graduate of Yeshiva College.



Mr. Parker bakes hamantaschen with Stern students in 1963.

## 'Vienna: Jews and the City of Music' at YUM

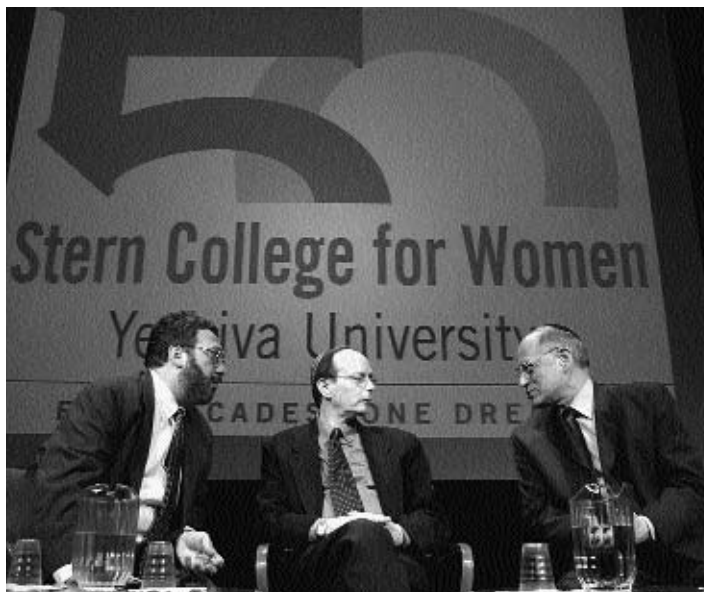
Volkhard Steude, concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic, performed a concerto on Arnold Rose's Stradivarius violin at the opening of Yeshiva University Museum's exhibition, "Vienna: Jews and the City of Music, 1870-1938." On loan to the museum for the gala event, the violin is named for Rose

(1863-1946), a virtuoso featured in YUM's newest exhibit, which runs until June 30.

Piano scores, manuscripts, letters, diary entries, photographs, paintings, and audio recordings illustrate the contributions Jews made to Vienna's music and social life from 1870-1938. The exhibit also portrays the devastating effect of the Nazis' rise to power on Vienna and the world of music at large. Major figures include Arthur Schonberg, Gustav Mahler, Guido Adler, and Cantor Salomon Sulzer. A first for YUM, audio guides accompany the exhibit.

Museum director Sylvia A.

## Israel's Right to Self-Defense Dominates SCW Forum



L-R: David Makovsky, Gary Rosenblatt, and Malcolm Hoenlein discuss prospects for Middle East peace.

Construction of a security barrier is Israel's best short-term option against Palestinian terror attacks and demographic dangers that threaten the country's Jewish character.

That analysis came during a panel discussion sponsored by Stern College for Women at the Center for Jewish History, home to the Yeshiva University Museum. The Feb. 29 discussion, "Israel and Her Neighbors: Peace in Our Lifetime?," kicked off a yearlong series of lectures celebrating Stern's 50th anniversary.

The discussion covered a

range of issues affecting Israeli-Arab relations and peace prospects in the wake of Saddam Hussein's defeat and capture and Washington's war on terrorism. The event was presented by Stern's Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf Scholar-In-Residence Program, which brings leading thinkers, authors, and artists to the school each year.

David Makovsky, a senior fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said the security barrier—a snaking web of walls, razor wire, patrol roads, watchtowers, and electric fences—is crucial to stopping Palestinian suicide bombers. Mr.

Makovsky shared the stage with Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Gary Rosenblatt, editor and publisher of *The Jewish Week*, moderated the hour-long discussion.

Mr. Makovsky pointed to some 280 attempted suicide bombings since September 2000, when Palestinian Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip unleashed a sustained program of violence against Israeli civilians. "The fence is there only to stop the attacks," Mr. Makovsky told 300 guests at the Leo and Julia Forchheimer Auditorium.

Both Mr. Makovsky and Mr. Hoenlein had harsh words for the decision to hold oral arguments on the barrier at the UN's International Court of Justice in The Hague. Mr. Hoenlein said the justices were pandering to Arab pressure and should have recused themselves from the case.

The two men endorsed Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to withdraw from parts of Gaza and the West Bank, and said such moves could presage future opportunities for peace, but only if Arab governments cease their support of Islamic terror groups.

## Marcos and Adina Katz Kollel

*continued from page 1*

said Rabbi Schachter, a world-renowned decisor of Jewish law and a prolific writer, who holds the RIETS Nathan and Vivian Fink Distinguished Professorial Chair in Talmud. "It takes an entire life."

Rabbi Schachter earned his BA from Yeshiva College in 1962 and his MA from YU's Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies in 1967. He was ordained that same year and soon after joined the RIETS faculty.

Marcos Katz, a member of YU's board of trustees, is one of Mexico's leading industrialists and entrepreneurs, as well

as a prominent philanthropist. Born in Poland and educated in Israel, he has been active in Jewish life for more than a half century. He and his wife, Adina, live in Mexico City and New York City.

The kollel was named for Marcos and Adina Katz in 1984 in recognition of their loyal and longtime commitment to the mission of YU.

Herskowitz explained that once Vienna shed its medieval status in 1870, Jews had newfound mobility and freedom. Music was an entry point for Jews into Viennese culture.

The exhibit traveled from the Jewish Museum in Vienna, and was modified by its curator, Werner Hanak, and architect, Christian Prasser, exclusively for YUM's facilities. Leon Botstein, music director of the American Symphony Orchestra, was the scholarly adviser to the exhibition.

"The event's purpose was to generate enthusiasm among our members about their association with the museum,"

said Rachel Lazin, its new director of development. "We want to create a strong membership base, and this exhibit demonstrates that our members are linked to something successful."

Ms. Lazin added, "The museum adds a very important dimension to the university and also can benefit from the university's stature and academic resources."

Oscar Sabo and Fritz Arco in Leo Ascher's "Vindobona, du herrliche Stadt" (Vienna, You Wonderful City), 1910. © Photo courtesy of Österreichisches Theatermuseum (Austrian Theater Museum)



**Congratulations to**

**Karen (Kermaier) Bacon**, PhD, '64S, the SCW Dr. Monique C. Katz Dean, and husband Stephen on the birth of their 12th grandchild.

**Hillel Davis** '72Y,B,R, vice president of university life, and wife **Rachayl** '75S, were honored this month at the annual Hebrew Academy of Long Beach dinner for their years of service to the school.

**Rabbi Yosef Fridman** YH'69, YU Office in Israel director, and wife **Masha** '73TIW, of Beit El, on the birth of granddaughter Ayana Sara to children Chani and Motti Fridman.

YU Museum director **Sylvia Herskowitz** and husband **Rabbi William** '48Y,W,R,B on the bat mitzvah of granddaughter Jennifer, daughter of **Neil Herskowitz** YH'74 and wife Daphne.

**Rabbi David Horwitz** YH,'81Y,B,R, MYP rosh yeshiva, and wife Fraidy on the birth of son Yoel Mordechai Zvi.

**President Richard M. Joel** and wife **Esther** '83F on the marriage of son **Avery** '00Y, RIETS student, to **Aliza Schwartz** '98S,'01AGS.

**Abraham Mann**, PhD, '59Y, R, RIETS development director, and **Joan Ehrlich** '87C on the birth of grandsons Eliezer Joseph to **Dr. Shari** '95A and **Dr. Ranon Mann** YH,'91Y,A; and **Ezra Matis Wallach** to **Miriam** YH,'96S and **Stephen Wallach** '92SB,C.

**Arthur Myers**, director of MIS and Academic Computing, and wife **Barbara** on the birth of a grandson to children **Ilana** '94C and **Timothy Matteson** '94C.

**David Pushkin**, PhD, adjunct professor of chemistry, on his marriage to Beth Nussbaum.

**Burton Resnick**, chairman, Executive Committee, YU Board of Trustees and chairman emeritus, Einstein Board of Overseers, was awarded the Bernard H. Mendik Lifetime Leadership in Real Estate Award by the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY). He is outgoing REBNY chairman and CEO of Jack Resnick & Sons, Inc, a leading developer, builder, owner, and manager of residential and commercial properties.

**Sheldon Socol**, vice president for business affairs, and wife, **Genia**, on the bar mitzvah of grandson Max Reuben Kapelus.

**We Mourn**

**Frank Michael (Mikey) Butler** '01Y, who passed away in Jan. after a lifelong battle with cystic fibrosis. Condolences to his parents, **Dr. Nina** '78S and Daniel Butler, and to his siblings, Gavri, a YC student, Uri, Shoshana, and JJ.

**Howard A. Eder**, MD, Einstein professor emeritus of medicine. He was a member of Einstein's faculty since 1957.

**William Goldberg**, YC Board of Directors member who was a YU Guardian and RIETS Fellow with his wife, Lili, in October.

**Raymond J. Greenwald**, YC Board of Directors member and Benefactor who established the Raymond J. Greenwald Chair in Jewish Studies, in October.

**Abraham S. Guterman** '33Y, a YU Benefactor with his wife, Irene, together who established the Abraham S. and Irene Guterman Chair in English Literature at YC and the Rabbi Henry H. Guterman Chair in Talmud at MYP in memory of his father. He was a member of the YU Board of Trustees for many years and a founding member of the CSL Board of Directors.

**Jim Joseph**, who helped establish a distance-learning program for Jewish day schools through YU, in December.

**Irving Rubinstein**, Benefactor and member of the Einstein Board of Overseers, in December. He and wife Florence endowed a professorial chair in neuroscience and a laboratory in genetic technology at Einstein.

**Helen Sussman**, former Beren Campus cook for many years. In her memory, alumnae have organized a food drive and fundraising project, called Chasdey Yoseph, to benefit a soup kitchen in Jerusalem. Donations may be sent to POB 5283, Jerusalem 91052. Please indicate the donation is in memory of Mrs. Sussman.

**Condolences to**

**Fred Goodman**, PhD, former long-time biology professor, on the loss of his wife, Dina.

**Esther Finkle Hollander** '98S, Communications and Public Affairs staff writer, on the loss of her mother, Lorraine.

**Lea Honigwachs**, PhD, university registrar, on the loss of her father, Joseph Halpern.

**Stephen H. Lazar**, EdD, assistant dean, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, on the loss of his sister, Barbara Meyerson.

**Rabbi Daniel Rapp** '90Y,R, visiting assistant professor of Talmud, on the loss of his brother, David.

**Ruth Schmelzer**, Food Services, Midtown Campus, on the loss of her brother, Ezra Blum, MD, a prominent Jerusalem psychiatrist.

**Samuel Schneider**, PhD, professor of Hebrew, on the loss of his mother, Haya.

**Rose Yavarkovsky**, YU Guardian and YUWO Executive Council member, and Ira Yavarkovsky, YU Guardian and WSSW board of governors member, on the loss of their granddaughter and niece, Jodi Fisher, wife of Dr. Barry Fisher and daughter of Rhoda and Richard Spiegel.

## Gottesman Library Celebrates 350 Years of Jewish Immigration to US

Some 31 books chronicling early American Jewish life are on display at Yeshiva University's Mendel Gottesman Library on the Wilf Campus, in an exhibition commemorating 350 years of Jewish immigration to the country.

"New World—Old Books" showcases volumes from the library's Rare Book Room that illustrate the 2000-year diaspora and the formulation of organized Jewish communities in America, which began with the first immigration of Jews from Brazil to New York in 1654.

"What we tried to do with the exhibit is two-fold," said Zalman Alpert, the curator of the exhibit and a reference librarian at the Gottesman Library. "We wanted to showcase the richness of our library and its wide collection of Jewish Americana, and for the anniversary, I tried to choose books that showed how Jews organized communities in the US."

A book of prayers, printed in London in 1776, and offered by Jews in England in support of King George's soldiers, is the oldest book in the exhibit. Other books include a

lunar calendar for the years 1805 to 1859 that lists Jewish holidays and a table "of the hour to commence the Sabbath in the City of New York;" various prayer books; a discourse by Mordecai Emanuel Noah at the consecration of New York's oldest synagogue, Shearith Israel; a book on European military expeditions in 1855 and 1856 by Major Alfred Mordecai, an early Jewish graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point; a speech by Mr. L.C. Levin of Philadelphia, one of the earliest American Jews to serve in the U.S. Congress; and an 1861 pamphlet defending slavery by the Rev. M. J. Raphall, New York's leading Orthodox rabbi.

"I hope the YU community will realize that although Jews were much acculturated to American life, they were extremely Jewish at the same time," Mr. Alpert said. "America had a vibrant Jewish life even in colonial times, and I think the exhibit reflects that."

"New World—Old Books" will be on display on the fourth floor of the Mendel Gottesman Library through May 31.



Judge Kenneth Starr spoke at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law about the US Supreme Court. He was invited by the student-run Federalist Society. Judge Starr, former US Solicitor General, with Federalist Society leaders, L-R: Kat Blomquist '05, Alicia Crall '05, and Anna Peckham '04. Alicia and Anna are Barbara Olson Scholars, named for the Cardozo alumna who died on September 11, 2001 when her plane crashed into the Pentagon. Ms. Olson, a graduate of the class of 1989, founded Cardozo's chapter of The Federalist Society, which supports the principles of limited government and individual freedom.

**Board News**

- Elaine Schott has been named a member of the WSSW board of governors.
- James E. Schwalbe, '93C, has been named a member of the CSL board of directors.
- Saul Kramer has been named as the first lifetime member of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine board of overseers.
- Earle I. Mack resigned as chair of the CSL board of directors. He has been named chairman emeritus, and Kathryn O. Greenberg '82C has been elected as chairman.

## YU Launches Distance Learning for Jewish Day Schools



Teachers learn to use Angel.

Imagine a fledgling Jewish day school in a small Jewish community a thousand miles from New York City. With limited access to educational resources and few teachers qualified to teach advanced Jewish studies, a quality Jewish education would no doubt be hard to come by.

Now imagine the same school as part of a distance-learning program that beams in experts from around the world through video conferencing. These educators would offer an array of courses and workshops that bolster the curriculum and enhance teacher training.

And when the program is supplemented by an innovative online component that strengthens class content, imagine the advantages, not only to students and faculty, but also to administrators, board members, parents, and communal leaders seeking new educational horizons.

That's the idea behind the Distance Learning Project being developed by the Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools and Yeshiva High Schools (AMODS) as part of YU's broad distance learning initiative. According to Rabbi David Israel, uni-

versity project director and head of the Max Stern Division of Communal Services that staffs AMODS, the Distance Learning Project is set to launch next fall at five schools in AMODS' national network. Initially, broadcasts will emanate from the Wilf and Beren campuses in Manhattan.

"These tools will bring the resources and pedagogic expertise of the university to schools across the country and in Canada," Rabbi Israel said. "In the Jewish communal world, our project is unique because it is backed by an academic institution offering serious content for academic purposes."

The online component, called "Angel," is a course management tool used mostly on the university level. Last year it was introduced to yeshiva high school teachers through a seminar at YU's Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.

"Angel offers teachers an online forum for discussions and distribution of course materials and tests, and provides integrated tools to manage attendance, grades, and off-hour communication with students," said Dr. David Schnall, dean of Azrieli, which provides training in Angel.

According to Dr. Jeremiah Unterman, AMODS director, "With Angel, not only can teachers utilize the technologies their students already use in their free time,"—i.e. e-mail, discussion boards, and Internet—"but it provides the flexibility to accommodate different ways teachers teach and students learn." And it allows teachers—even at different schools—to collaborate in developing course materials and teaching techniques while accommodating even the busiest teacher's schedule, he added.

Distance learning will soon provide new educational opportunities at YU, as well. According to Rabbi Israel, video conferencing will allow the university to offer highly specialized courses by combining students from the Wilf and Beren campuses. Angel, already in use by some university professors, will be further integrated into the curriculum, and professors will be trained to better use it. We believe YU students will reap the benefits of this exciting technology," Rabbi Israel said.

## Honors Programs to Offer Three New Summer Courses

This summer, YU undergraduates will get the chance to walk in the footsteps of Charles Dickens and James Joyce, dig for artifacts in ancient sites, and study life under the sea.

Yeshiva undergraduates can study a wide array of courses on three continents that have never been offered before, said Cynthia Wachtell, director of Stern College for Women's S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program.

An archaeology and ecology field course in Israel, July 6 to Aug. 6, is open to all undergraduates. Headed by biology professor Vincent Chiappetta and sociology/archaeology professor Jill Katz, the course will take place at Tel es-Safi/Gath, an archaeological site in the biblical city of Gath. The Israel program fulfills the summer experience requirement for YC honors participants, and SCW students will receive honors course credits for an enhanced version of the course.

The S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program offers a two-credit course in marine biology and oceanography May 31 to June 13. Students will spend the first week at the Israel Henry Beren Campus making field excursions and studying marine biology. The second half of the program will take place at the Darling Marine Center, the marine laboratory of the University of Maine, where students will conduct research on the open ocean and collect live specimens for lab analysis. Students will meet with local marine

biologists familiar with Maine's coastal environment and learn what it takes to design an experiment and carry it through, said Joseph DeSantis, assistant professor of biology. Students will be accompanied by Prof. DeSantis; Ethel Orlan, associate dean of Stern College; and her husband, Rabbi J. Mitchell Orlan, associate professor of Bible.

The Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Honors Program of Yeshiva College will offer two coordinated courses June 1 to July 6 in New York City, Dublin, and London, to honor the 100th anniversary of Bloomsday, the fictional day in which James Joyce's novel *Ulysses* takes place.

Students will spend the first three weeks in New York City taking 'Creative Writing: Fiction and Poetry,' taught by English professors Nadine Kavanaugh and Gillian Steinberg, and 'Understanding the City,' taught by Prof. Steinberg with guest lectures by Joan Haar, professor of English; Will Lee, director of the Schottenstein Honors Program; and Rabbi Jonathan Rosenblatt, a James Joyce scholar and the rabbi of Riverdale Jewish Center.

The last two weeks will be spent in London and Dublin under professors Lee, Haar, and Rabbi Rosenblatt. In New York and abroad, students will explore London, Dublin, and cities in general through literature, art, music, film, politics, geography, and history. The London/Dublin program fulfills the YC honors summer experience requirement.



**SIMCHA DELIVERIES:** On Sunday, March 7, more than 130 Yeshiva University students in costume visited 10 hospitals and nursing homes in Manhattan and the Bronx and delivered 350 baskets to patients to help them celebrate Purim. The baskets contained baked goods, fruit, hamantaschen, as well as original poems and crossword puzzles. The students danced, sang, and read the Scroll of Esther at some locations. Pictured are YU students at Mt. Sinai Hospital's Peck Jewish Chapel with chaplain, Rabbi Aryeh S. Oberstein, a YU alumnus, in the back row. YC senior Ariel Bayewitz and SCW sophomore Tirza Schlanger spearheaded the charitable effort, together with the Office of Student Affairs.

## Wurzweiler Teach-In Fights Voter Apathy

The importance of voting was top of the agenda at Wurzweiler School of Social Work's annual social action teach-in March 9. City Councilman Robert Jackson, in his keynote address to Wurzweiler faculty and students, as well as BSW students from tri-state area schools, stressed the role of voting in bringing about social reform.

"Today's Students Are Tomorrow's Leaders: Strategies and Tools of Activism for Creating Positive Change," occurred at Belfer Hall's Weissberg Commons, on the Wilf Campus.

Mr. Jackson described voting as a way for social workers and their clients to be heard.

"We want to educate the WSSW community about the importance of building responsible citizenry through social action," said Sheldon R. Gelman, PhD, Dorothy and David I. Schachne Dean of Wurzweiler. The event was also intended to show students that a good marriage between social work and politics can exist, Dr. Gelman said.

The teach-in featured roundtable discussions on strategies to increase voter turnout.

Susan Bendor, DSW, associate professor and chair of the Social Action Committee at Wurzweiler, advised those unsure about their voting eligibility to re-register. Voter registration forms were available for students to duplicate and give to their clients.

### President Joel, Rita and Philip Rosen Honored by Einstein



YU President Richard M. Joel was recently honored at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine Gala in Palm Beach along with Rita and Philip Rosen, philanthropists and community leaders. The College raised nearly \$900,000 which will support medical research facilities including the new Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion and the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine.

L-R: Philip and Rita Rosen, Stanley and Marilyn Katz, Robert and Renee Belfer with Esther and President Joel.

## CHRONICLES

## Moshe Carmilly Takes Jewish Learning to Romania

Ninety-five years old, Dr. Moshe Carmilly, YU professor emeritus of Jewish studies, has garnered many accolades in his lifetime, but none more meaningful than the academic center for Jewish learning in Romania that bears his name. The center is the first such institution since the Holocaust.

"I was overwhelmed," said Dr. Carmilly, rabbi, communal leader, and scholar who taught at YU from 1957 to 1975 at Teachers Institute, Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies, and Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology. The Moshe Carmilly Institute of Judaic Studies was established in 1990 at the Babes-Bolyai University in the city of Cluj-Napoca, once the center of Transylvanian Jewry.

Some 150,000 Jews lived in Transylvania before the Holocaust, though today only 12,000 or so remain.

"Romanians were hungry for Jewish learning. They wanted to hear, to listen, and to learn. [The Institute's opening] was an historic event," Dr. Carmilly said.

Enrollment that totaled 50 students in the first semester

has since climbed to more than 400, mostly non-Jews. Many participate in the Institute's two-year master's program, and six university doctoral candidates are preparing theses on Jewish themes.

In the past three years, the Institute has also organized summer seminars for teachers of the Holocaust in Romanian high schools. Some 80 educators from 30 local counties have participated so far. The seminars include lectures by scholars from Israel, United States, France, and Poland, meeting with Holocaust survivors, and visiting memorial sites in Transylvania and at Auschwitz.

"We realized that despite the directive [to teach about the Holocaust], if teachers did not know how to teach it, no one would do it. We also realized that no other institute in the country is as equipped to train teachers. The Institute is the only facility teaching Holocaust studies in all of Romania," Dr. Carmilly said.

Beyond its academic program, the Institute houses an extensive archive, publishes new and long-forgotten documents, and hosts an annual international conference attend-

ed by experts, including Dr. Carmilly, author of 250 articles and 15 books on Jewish history, literature, and art. Among them are the groundbreaking *Sepher VeSavyis* (Freedom of Expression and Thought among the Jewish People) (New York, 1966) and the recently released *Toldot Yehudi Transylvania* (1623-1944) (The History of the Jews of Transylvania) (Jerusalem 2003).

Last October's conference, "The Contribution of Jewish Writers to World Literature in Poetry and Prose," is the 13th since the school's inception. Dr. Carmilly's lecture (presented by a colleague since he was unable to travel), analyzed the place of Anne Frank's diary in world literature. The Institute's academic journal, *Studia Judaica*, publishes the lectures.

At a previous conference, Dr. Carmilly helped inaugurate a new site for the Institute, a synagogue in Cluj-Napoca abandoned since World War II.

"I've known Dr. Carmilly for many years both during and after his tenure at Yeshiva University," said Dr. Norman Lamm, university chancellor. "He is as gentle as he is wise, and his works have earned him a place of distinction in the

annals of Yeshiva University. I particularly admired his work on censorship in Jewish life and I hope he will have the years and the strength to continue making contributions to Jewish scholarship."

Dr. Carmilly was born in Budapest in 1908 and educated at a public junior high school in Satu-Mare (Romania). He continued his education in the "Szatmarer" yeshiva, Jewish Theologisches Seminar of Breslau (Germany), Rabbinical Seminary of Budapest (where he was ordained in 1935), and Pázmány Péter University of Budapest, where he earned a PhD with *summa cum laude* distinction in 1934.

From 1934 to 1944, he was chief rabbi and spiritual leader of the Conservative congregation in Cluj-Kolozsvár, Hungary. During World War II, he helped hundreds of Jewish refugees from Europe escape to British-mandated Palestine. From 1948 to 1950, he was the immigration and cultural officer at the Israel consulate in Budapest.

Dr. Carmilly was instrumen-



Dr. Moshe Carmilly

tal in establishing Jewish high schools during the Holocaust, and was principal of elementary and high schools in Israel, as well as assistant director of education and culture for the city of Netanya.

For his 85th birthday, Jerusalem's Hebrew University published a *Jubilee Volume* that included his autobiography. In 1996, he received the Wilhelm Bacher Memorial Medal of the Jewish Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Science. The following year he was awarded a doctorate *honoris causa* from the Babes-Bolyai University and in 2003 a doctorate *honoris causa* of Hebrew letters from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

## YU Roots Run Deep in Rackovsky Family



Top: Brothers Ariel (left) and Ori Rackovsky.

Right: Rabbi Sholom Rackovsky (third from right).



While many students can boast of family ties to Yeshiva University that reach back two or three generations, Ariel and Ori Rackovsky can trace their connection back even further.

Brothers from Rochester, NY—Ariel graduated from Yeshiva College in 2002 and is enrolled at RIETS, Ori is a

sophomore at YC—the two are the most recent Rackovskys to attend YU, a family association that began with their great grandfather, Rabbi Sholom Rackovsky. He was a rosh yeshiva at RIETS from approximately 1910 to the mid-1930s.

Rabbi Rackovsky is pictured in a famous photo taken in 1929 in front of RIETS' former

home on the Lower East Side (see above). His grandson and namesake, Dr. Shalom Rackovsky YH,'67Y, associate professor of biomathematical science at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine and Ariel's and Ori's father, described him as "tremendously beloved and very quiet."

Three of Rabbi Rackovsky's sons attended RIETS: Bernard,

Joseph, '23R and Isaiah, Dr. Rackovsky's father. Isaiah began his education at Yeshiva Eitz Chaim (an elementary day school absorbed by RIETS in 1915) and received *semikhah* (ordination) in 1929. Dr. Rackovsky recalled that his father had been captain of the RIETS debating team, and that it defeated a Chicago team at the inauguration of Nathan Lammport Auditorium, in the main building of the school's then-new Washington Heights campus. Isaiah went on to take pulpits in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Nebraska, California, and Connecticut, and served as a chaplain during World War II.

Dr. Rackovsky attended what was then YU's Manhattan Talmudical Academy, spent his senior year of undergraduate studies at RIETS, and graduated with degrees from YC and Teachers Institute (today Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies) in 1967. Two cousins, Rabbis Judah and Baruch Rackovsky, also attended. His mother, Sylvia, joined

the YU Women's Organization, served as a national vice president, and today is an honorary board member.

With a three-generation tradition, Dr. Rackovsky didn't think twice about where to send his sons. "My father remembered President Bernard Revel [YU's first president]. [Former president] Dr. Norman Lamm was my teacher at Teachers Institute. We're a YU family. That's just how we do things," he said.

"Being the fourth generation at Yeshiva University means that you have to live up to the examples and standards set by the previous three. I hope that in some way I have," said Ariel, who majored in biology at YC. Next fall he plans to attend SUNY Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, and hopes eventually to live in Israel.

Ori, pre-med but as yet undecided about a major, said, "I know that YU values its heritage and I am honored to be a part of it."



## James R. Schlesinger and Anthony Lewis Discuss WMDs, National Security and Free Speech at Cardozo

India has them, Pakistan has them, Iraq doesn't have them, we're pretty sure Iran and North Korea have them—weapons of mass destruction. The secret to making nuclear weapons is out and has been available to the public for decades agreed the speakers at "Weapons of Mass Destruction, National Security, and a Free Press," a symposium at Cordoz School of Law on March 2.

They then examined how a free civil society, especially in the "information age," can protect itself. The symposium looked at the dissemination of information on weapons of mass destruction in the context of an historic First Amendment case and closed the conference with a reckoning on nuclear proliferation, and the role of the press today on matters of national security.

Early in 1979, *The Progressive* magazine tried to publish "The H-Bomb Secret—How we got it, why we're telling it," by Howard Morland, but the US government issued a preliminary injunc-



James R. Schlesinger, US Secretary of Defense in the mid 70s and Secretary of Energy in the late 70s, and former *New York Times* columnist Anthony Lewis.

tion to stop publication, in a case where the rights of a free press were pitted against national security.

Ultimately, the government's injunction was ineffective and *The Progressive* published the article later that year.

Key players from this case, including former secretary of

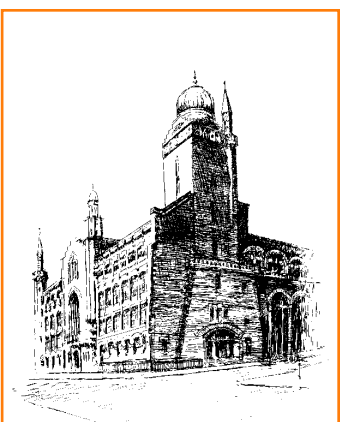
defense and secretary of energy James R. Schlesinger; attorneys for the government Robert E. Cattanach and Frank Tuerkheimer; for *The Progressive*, Brady Williamson; the article's author, Howard Morland; and a nuclear scientist with "Q" clearance, Ray Kidder, offered rare first-hand accounts of

what they were thinking at the time and why they acted as they did.

Gary Milhollin, an expert on international proliferation of nuclear weapons, gave an assessment of which countries have nuclear weapons today and what our intelligence agencies know—which he concluded is not enough.

Closing comments were a chilling commentary by former *New York Times* columnist Anthony Lewis, who suggested that perhaps the gravest threat of all to our national security is the loss of individual civil liberties under the current Bush administration. He chastised the press for not focusing enough attention on this constitutional threat and reminded the press of its duty to inform the public and create an enlightened citizenry.

Frank Tuerkheimer, professor of law at University of Wisconsin and a visitor at Cardozo this spring, organized the conference, which was sponsored by The Floer-sheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy.



### Special Tributes at RIETS

The Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary will hold its Dinner of Tribute Wednesday, May 5, at Manhattan's Grand Hyatt Hotel. Distinguished roshei kollel rabbis J. David Bleich, Michael Rosensweig, Hershel Schachter, and Mordechai I. Willig will be honored, as will longtime Jewish communal leader Carmi Schwartz. The covert is \$250 per person. For reservations and other information, call 212-960-0852, or e-mail Abe Mann at amann@yu.edu.