

Jeffrey Swartz Urges Graduates to Apply Torah to Their Lives

■ 'Take Torah to the Street' says Timberland CEO at 2005 Commencement

Jeffrey Swartz, CEO of The Timberland Company, charged 600 Yeshiva University undergraduates to apply the lessons of Torah in all aspects of their lives during his keynote speech at the university's 74th commencement exercises May 26 at The Theater at Madison

Square Garden. Mr. Swartz also received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from YU.

"Torah learning is not just sitting in the beit midrash," he said. "Being active in the words of the Torah means study and action. You have to take Torah to the street by being

active in your community."

Mr. Swartz is the third generation of his family to lead the socially responsible footwear, apparel and accessories company. Under his leadership, Timberland's annual revenues have grown from \$156 million in 1989 to more than \$1.4 billion.

President Richard M. Joel conferred some 2,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees, and re-conferred degrees upon the Yeshiva College class of 1955 in celebration of its 50th reunion, and acknowledged the reunion classes of 1980 and 1995.

During his address, the president told students "to bring wisdom to life."

"Today marks a great beginning," he said. "You have assembled the kite that is your life: You have crafted it, launched it, it has caught the breeze, and now it soars toward your future. So feel the tug of

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Fellowship Awardees to Pursue Research



William Stenhouse



Jay Ladin

Professors Jay Ladin and William Stenhouse received post-doctoral research fellowships to pursue research interests during the 2005–2006 academic year.

Dr. Ladin, David and Ruth Gottesman Assistant Professor of English at Stern College for Women and director of its Writing Center, received a research fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies. His research will focus on the history of American poetry from 1850 to 1920 and the origins of modernist poetry, and will lead to the

publication of a book.

Dr. Ladin taught narrative poetry and American Literature II this spring at Stern, where he has also taught composition, creative writing, and American poetry.

The Stern professor was encouraged in his fellowship application by Morton Lowengrub, PhD, vice president for academic affairs, and Karen Bacon, PhD, The Dr. Monique C. Katz Dean of Stern College. Dr. Ladin said both administrators understand the impor-

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Valedictorians L-R: Ari Wainberg (IBC), Leeran Factor (JSS), Riva Preil (SCW-Jewish Studies), David Hellman (YC), Yael Wagner (SCW-General Studies), Eli Belizon (MYP), Rebecca Reback (SSSB), and Michael Nahmias (SSSB). Not pictured is Ian Baine (BMP).

Students Urge Action on Darfur at Central Park Rally

Yeshiva University students were bolstered by hundreds of supporters from other regional universities on May 8 when they gathered in Manhattan's Central Park to raise awareness of the killing of thousands of innocent people in Sudan.

Not Now Not Ever, a student-run humanitarian organization founded by YU students, organized the rally, which drew 1,000 participants.

The students partnered with groups at other East Coast universities, including Brandeis, Brooklyn College, Columbia,



Inspiration for the rally came from Human Rights and Sovereignty lecture series at Stern College.

University of Connecticut, Georgetown, Harvard, NYU, Penn State, Queens College,

Rutgers, Swarthmore College, Touro College, University of Pennsylvania, and Vassar.

David Weinberg, the organization's director and a YU senior, said the inspiration for the rally came from the Human Rights and Sovereignty lecture series hosted by Stern College for Women this spring commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust.

"It is our responsibility as Jews to stand up and make sure that the kind of genocide our grandparents' generation experienced doesn't happen today," Mr. Weinberg said.

Richard M. Joel, YU president, and Ruth Messinger, executive director of American Jewish World Service and

former Manhattan Borough President, spoke at the rally, which was covered by local and national print and television media.

Other speakers included Yahya M. Osman, general secretary of the Darfur Rehab Project, who lost six members of his family to violence in Kutum, Sudan.

"People often use the excuse, 'We're only human,' President Joel said. "But for us as Jews, humanity is not an excuse; it's an aspiration. It is our responsibility as humans to

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People in the News

Chaim Feuerman, EdD, Golda Koschitzky Professor of Jewish Education, AGS, offered faculty training programs and staff consultations in March at Stern Hebrew High School of Philadelphia and Maimonides School of Brookline, MA.

YC Writing Center staff—**Lauren Fitzgerald**, PhD, director; **Allison Smith**, assistant director; **Liesl Schwabe**, faculty tutor; and undergraduate tutors **Tzvi Kahn**, **Raimy Rubin**, and **Leib Zalesch** (all YC seniors)—presented “Stigmas and Enigmas: Approaching Worlds of Difference in the Writing Center Session” at the Northeast Writing Centers Association Conference, Long Island University-Brooklyn, on April 17.

Scott Goldberg, PhD, AGS assistant professor, spoke in May on “It’s Not the Media We Grew Up With,” South Nassau Communities Hospital.

Ephraim Kanarfogel, PhD, YH, ’77Y,R,B, E. Billi Ivry Professor of Jewish History and chairman, Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies at SCW, was scholar-in-residence at Mt. Sinai Jewish Center, Washington Heights, in February. He spoke on “Views of Yemot Hamashiach” and “Ashkenaz and Sefarad: Similarities and Differences.”

Prof. Edith Lubetski ’68B, head librarian of Hedi Steinberg Library at SCW, presented greetings via video to Yaakov Aronson, Bar-Ilan University librarian, at a *yom ivun* (day of study) celebrating his retirement.

Rabbi Alter B.Z. Metzger ’54Y,R,F, professor of Judaic studies, served as simultaneous translator (Hebrew-English, Yiddish-English) at Madison Square Garden during the March 1 Siyum HaShas commemorating the conclusion of the seven-year cycle of Talmud study. This is the third time he has functioned in that capacity.

David Pelcovitz, PhD, Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus Professor of Jewish Education at AGS, spoke on “Dealing with the Aftermath: A Community’s Response to Tragedy,” Rosenbaum Yeshiva of North Jersey; “The Recipe for a Mentsch” at Cong. Sons of Israel of Cherry Hill,

NJ; and “Can We Help Young People Affected by Domestic Violence Build Healthy Relationships?” NYC Dept. of Youth and Community Development.

Daniel Pollack, MSW, JD, professor at WSSW, authored “Intercountry Adoption: Who are the Good Guys?” in the American Public Services Association’s (APSA) *Policy & Practice*, March ’05.

Rabbi Hershel Schachter YH, ’62Y,R, Nathan and Vivian Fink Distinguished Professor of Talmud, gave a *shiur* (lecture) in English, “Eilu v’Eilu—The Possibility and Legitimacy of Differing Opinions” at YU’s Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Institute of Jerusalem in February.

Alvin I. Schiff, PhD, ’47Y,F, Irving I. Stone Distinguished Professor of Jewish Education, AGI, authored “*Bashert*—Partnership between Man and His Creator” in *Chadashot*, a quarterly published by the Young Israel of Oceanside, NY. He presented an array of lectures at Cong. Torah Ohr, Boca Raton, including a series of 15 on Haftarat focusing on the historic, social, philosophic, and linguistic background of the annual cycle of readings. The synagogue awarded him its Marbitz Torah award. Also, he was interviewed on Israel radio on “Assimilation in the United States and the Role of Jewish Education in Combating Assimilation.”

David J. Schnell, PhD, YH, ’69Y,R, AGS dean and Herbert H. Schiff Professor of Management and Administration, was the keynote speaker for the Chachmei Lev National Honor Society, Hebrew Academy of Long Beach; and was appointed associate of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs.

Samuel Schneider, PhD, department of Hebrew language and Hebrew literature chairperson, authored “Hebrew Language Study in Jewish Day Schools,” *Emanah* magazine (spring/summer 2005). He also received YU’s Murray and Madeleine Baumel Faculty Incentive Award for 2005.

Victor Schwartz, MD, director, counseling and mental health services at YU, made a grand-round presentation to the psychiatry

department at St. Vincent’s Hospital titled “An Update on Issues in College Mental Health.” Also, he conducted a training session for the student affairs division of Fordham University on suicide prevention and suicide response on college campuses.

Moshe Sokolow, PhD, YH, ’69Y,B, Fanya Gottesfeld-Heller Professor of Jewish Education, AGS, authored “Teaching Spirituality in Day Schools and Yeshiva High Schools,” *Jewish Spirituality and Divine Law* (The Michael Scharf Publication Trust of the Yeshiva University Press, 2005).

Publications by **Manfred Weidhorn**, PhD, Abraham S. and Irene Guterman Professor of English Literature, this year included “Twin Stars: The Anxiety of Sibling Rivalry between Literary Titans,” *Papers on Language and Literature* (Spring 2004); “Shakespeare’s Skepticism Redefined,” *Orbis Litterarum* (2004); “A Match Made in Heaven” (acceptance speech for 1998 Farrow Award for Excellence in Churchill Studies), *Churchill Proceedings 1998–2000*; and “Pacifism Lost,” and “Notes on the Ambiguity of Violence,” *The International Journal of Humanities and Peace* (2004).

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Rabbi Kenneth Brander ’84Y,R, inaugural dean of the Center for the Jewish Future, and wife **Rachel (Tambor) Brander** ’84S on the birth of their fifth child, Chaim Yitzchak Amichai. Mazal tov to grandparents **Rabbi Aaron** ’59R and **Ellen Brander**.

Chavi (Swidler) Eisenberg YH, ’01S, director of undergraduate alumni programs, and her husband, **Dr. Daniel Eisenberg** YH’95, on the birth of a son, Elyahu Shaul Eisenberg.

Rabbi Uriel Lubetski YH, ’96Y,B,R, acting assistant principal at YH, on his marriage to Shani Brukner. Mazal tov to parents **Dr. Meir** and **Prof. Edith Lubetski** ’68B and **Harry** YH’72 and **Linda Brukner**.

Shoshana Margoliot of the YU Israel office on the birth of a grandson and the marriage of her daughter.

CONDOLENCES TO

Paul Brusiloff, CSL board member, on the loss of his father, Eugene.

Dr. Meir Havazelet ’68B, SCW professor of Bible, on the loss of his wife, Sarah (Mirsky).

Irma Hilton, PhD, professor at FGS, on the loss of her mother, Alice Lubin.

Naomi Kapp, associate director of YU’s Office of Career Services, on the loss of her father, Josif Kapp.

Abraham M. Mann, PhD, ’59Y,B,R, director of development for RIETS, on the loss of his father, **Rabbi Jacob**. With his late wife, Isabelle, Rabbi Mann established scholarships at YC and SCW and was a Guardian of YU.

BOARD NEWS

Penny Randall, MSW, **Lisa Hershberg Striar**, PshD, ’97F, and **Therese Rosenblatt**, PhD, ’94F were elected to the FGS board of directors.

Scott Apfelbaum to Direct Operations in Israel

YU’s presence in Israel recently received a boost with the appointment of **Scott Apfelbaum** ’89Y as director of operations for Yeshiva University in Israel and the Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Institute.

Mr. Apfelbaum’s duties are varied. In addition to being responsible for the physical plant and the staff, he will communicate with government, municipal, and Jewish Agency offices, oversee budget and fiscal activities, complete special projects and programs, and provide support to alumni.

“I want to create a strong educational, cultural and social center, a place where students and alumni can gather and feel at home,” Mr. Apfelbaum said. “With new programs and initiatives, YU will have an impact on Israeli society as a whole.”

Mr. Apfelbaum’s family made aliyah from Great Neck, NY, when he was 13 years old. He graduated from YU in 1989 with a bachelor’s degree in economics. Before returning to Israel in 1992, Mr. Apfelbaum was assistant director of admissions at YU. He was also the administrative director of Yeshivat Sha’arei Mevaseret Zion for 13 years.

“Scott is energetic and creative, and a consummate professional,” said Howard M. Weisband, senior adviser on Israel Affairs. “As a YU graduate and a professional, Scott shares our vision for YU in Israel and cares about our commitment to students, faculty, and the administrative leadership of the university.”

Mr. Apfelbaum is a member of the urban planning and development committee in Efrat, where he lives with his wife and their three children.

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Key to School Abbreviations

A, AECOM Albert Einstein College of Medicine • AG, AGI 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 Wurzweiler 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)

David Glaser Hits a High Note with Music Award

David Glaser, who has taught music at YU since 1996, received a music award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters at a ceremony on May 18. The award "honors outstanding achievement and acknowledges the composer who has arrived at his or her own voice."

Dr. Glaser, visiting assistant professor of music at Stern College for Women, is a composer who writes frequently for small groups of virtuosic players. He won the Academy Award in Music for two pieces, *Gold-Vermillion*, a trio for flute, alto sax, and piano; and *Moonset #1*, for soprano and clarinet.

One of four composers who were honored, Dr. Glaser received a prize of \$7,500 and an additional \$7,500 toward a recording of one work.

"This will help me produce a commercial CD, which is the best way to reach a large audi-

ence," he said.

The award is the most senior given by the academy's music committee and is presented to non-members of the academy, said Jane E. Bolster, music awards coordinator. The American Academy, founded in 1898, disperses annual cash awards to some 50 artists, architects, writers, and composers (who are not members).

Among the classes that Dr. Glaser teaches are Sense of Music, Chamber Music Coaching, and Seven American Composers, a course of his own creation that traces the evolution of a distinctly American musical style and philosophy, and features guest lectures by three prominent composers.

"I like the idea of exposing students to music they wouldn't otherwise have a chance to hear," said Dr. Glaser, who previously taught at Yeshiva College and Columbia University. What makes his own



David Glaser enjoys exposing students to new music.

L-R: Ariela (Sherman) Orkaby, Rachel Krug, Malka Krupka, Elisheva Shulman, and Sarita Filler

musical style unique, he said, were "the way the melodic lines and instrumental colors interact. They influence each other as well as the larger shape of the piece."

Apparitions, Dr. Glaser's new work for chamber orchestra, (based on collages by the artist Linda Plotkin) will premiere August 14 in Westhampton, NY. His *Piano Trio No. 2*

will premiere this coming season both at the University of Xalapa in Mexico and by the Washington Square Contemporary Chamber Music Ensemble in New York. ■

Presidential Fellows Project Focuses on Attitudes Toward Sexuality



Jennie Rosenfeld and Koby Frances conceived of Tzelem.

Nonprofit project called Tzelem—"image" in Hebrew—is the inaugural undertaking of the Incubator Project, created by the Yeshiva University's 2004–2005 Presidential Fellows to support fledgling programs in need of sponsorship.

The idea for Tzelem was proposed by YU alumni Jennie Rosenfeld YH'01S,AG, and Koby Frances, '97Y, who identified a need for an honest examination of sexuality and gender relationships in the Orthodox community.

"I noticed a lot of my single peers struggling with issues around their sexuality. Some felt overwhelmed by their feelings," explained Mr. Frances, a PhD candidate in clinical psychology at City University

of New York. "Many felt like their feelings and experiences were out of sync with their religious identity."

The Presidential Fellows created the Incubator Project to encourage YU students to devote themselves to humanitarian projects.

YU President Richard M. Joel instituted the Fellowship program in 2004 to maintain close ties with promising university graduates.

"This is a critical area we need to focus on to help young people develop," said Hillel Davis, PhD, vice president for university life. "Supporting this type of values-based education is part of the university's mission."

Ms. Rosenfeld, who also completed YU's Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic

Studies for Women and is a PhD candidate at the CUNY Graduate Center, suggested the topic of gender relationships to the Orthodox Forum, a think tank devoted to Jewish thought organized by YU, and went on to co-chair its annual conference in April. She and Mr. Frances sat on the panel that discussed Orthodox singles.

"Jews of all ages face tensions in life and are often left to face them alone, unguided by Jewish tradition," Ms. Rosenfeld said. "I'm concerned that young Orthodox people don't know the basics of sexuality—not just biological facts, but issues of social interaction, communication, and ways to be in a healthy relationship."

Ms. Rosenfeld and Mr. Frances plan to spend the summer raising additional funds for their program.

In the fall, they hope to develop seminars on YU's Wilf and Beren campuses to help students navigate the complexities of relationships with the opposite sex.

In the future, they would like to devise a premarital counseling curriculum focusing on gender and interpersonal relationships that could be used by synagogues or individual rabbis. Eventually they hope to create a drop-in counseling center. For more information about Tzelem, e-mail tzelem@gmail.com. ■

Exhibit Showcases Talmud's History



A sixth-century mosaic floor and rare Talmud tractates are on display at Yeshiva University Museum as part of its latest exhibit, "Printing the Talmud: From Bomberg to Schottenstein."

The exhibit, which opened April 12, explores the world of Talmud study and illustrates how technological advances have transformed the ancient discipline of Talmud study into an accessible pursuit.

"Our generation, which lives in the midst of the digital information age, can clearly understand how the printing press created an impact on those who lived in the fifteenth century," said Sylvia

Herskowitz, YUM director.

Never before displayed outside Israel, the mosaic floor, from a synagogue in the Beth Shean valley, weighs 3 tons. It is the earliest surviving rabbinic text, containing a 29-line inscription about Jewish agricultural laws.

Talmud examples on display include a 13th-century Spanish manuscript of *Avodah Zarah* (a tractate on idolatry frequently destroyed by the Catholic Church) and one of the few extant complete sets of the 16th-century Bomberg Talmud, which set the standard for layout of the Talmud page.

Other items include a copy of the Holocaust Survivors' Talmud printed by the United States Army in 1948.

"Printing the Talmud" also features an online display of sample Talmud pages as well as a multi-screen video installation, "The Infinite Sea," showing Talmud learning in the United Kingdom, Iran, Poland, Peru, Australia, Lithuania, the United States, Israel, Mexico, and Russia.

"This exhibit highlights the fascinating journey from oral text to handwritten documents, to manuscript, to printed book and beyond," said Gabriel Goldstein, exhibition co-project director. "It illustrates how printing the Talmud allowed this text to attain a preeminent position in Jewish life." ■

UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE RESEARCH

YC Senior Lands Journal Placement



Ben Lefkove researched tuberous sclerosis.

Benjamin Lefkove, a senior at Yeshiva College, co-authored a paper in the December 2004 issue of *Journals of Biological Chemistry* based on research he conducted last summer at Emory University.

The Atlanta native researched tuberous sclerosis, a genetic disease that causes benign and malignant tumors on the brain and in other vital organs, under Jack L. Arbiser, MD, PhD, associate professor of dermatology at Emory University School of Medicine. In the lab, Mr. Lefkove's research focused primarily on finding a novel treatment for melanoma.

The paper is titled "Transgenic expression of dominant negative tuberin through a strong constitutive promoter results in a tissue-specific tuber-

ous sclerosis phenotype in the skin and brain."

"To me, research embodies the ideals of a doctor: to use all of one's given potential to heal and better the world," said Mr. Lefkove, who began doing research at Emory in summer 2003.

"Seeing my name in print is a trophy of accomplishment and a sense that I have aided in a new understanding and furthering of scientific progress."

After graduation, Mr. Lefkove plans to continue doing research at Emory, pursue a master's degree in either biology or biochemistry, and attend medical school. He will also hike the Appalachian Trail, of which he has already completed 100 miles. ■

For Stern Researchers, Nanoparticles Create Mega-Opportunities

Four Stern College students presented physics research at national meetings of various science societies over the past year. The students worked on an investigation of nanoparticles, each focusing on their own part of the project under the supervision of Anatoly Frenkel, PhD, associate professor of physics at YU.

"When materials are broken down, the atoms form unique, exotic shapes," Dr. Frenkel said. "That's predicted theoretically, but no confirmation of theories existed. We synthesized particles in our lab at Stern College and investigated their structure using advanced x-ray techniques."



L-R: Sarah Nemzer, Louissette Soussan, Dana Glasner, and Ilana Pister in Dr. Frenkel's lab.

In March 2005, Ilana Pister discussed size control for nanoparticles at the National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS) seminar at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and presented on a similar topic at the American Physical Society meeting in Los Angeles.

"Initially, I was nervous to present my work to graduate students and post-docs," said Ms. Pister, a shaped biophysics major due to graduate next year. "But I knew the material. Once I got to the conference, I was confident." Ms. Pister's research focused on the techniques used to synthesize and analyze gold nanoparticles.

At the 229th American Chemical Society meeting in San Diego in March, senior Sarah Nemzer gave a poster and oral presentation on "characterizing nanoparticle size" using x-ray and transmission electron microscopy techniques.

At the National Meeting of the Materials Research Society in Boston in November 2004, junior Louissette Soussan presented a talk confirming the prediction that certain nanoparticles will adopt regular polyhedral shapes as their size changes.

Over the past year, junior Dana Glasner made three poster presentations, one at the American Chemical Society, the second at the American Physical Society, and the third at the Annual NSLS Users' Meeting at Brookhaven.

"Giving a talk in front of a distinguished audience, with the best scientists in your field present in the room, is a tremendous experience for young scientists," said Dr. Frenkel. "It was most fulfilling for me to witness my students defending their results in a major conference setting." ■



On Memory Deborah Lipstadt, author of *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*, spoke at YU's annual Yom Hashoah observance May 4.

At the event, sponsored by YU's Rabbi Arthur Schneier Center for International Affairs and organized by the undergraduate student councils, Dr. Lipstadt, Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University, gave a personal perspective on Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism.

Her emphasis was on honoring the memory of those who died. "We owe them something," she said. "If only to live as Jews."

The Yom HaShoah event honored Rabbi Herschel Schacter, a YC alumnus and the first US Army chaplain to enter the Buchenwald concentration camp after its liberation in 1945.

Students Raise More Than \$70,000 for Israel's Poor

Yeshiva University students have raised more than \$70,000 since February as part of a campaign to help alleviate hunger and poverty in Israel.

The campaign, "Feed Israel's Hungry," is an initiative of L'man Achai (for the sake of our brothers), a grassroots, student-run organization that educates American Jews about poverty in Israel.

"L'man Achai is an outstanding student-driven project that proactively responds to issues affecting the Jewish people," said Rabbi Kenneth Brander, dean of YU's Center for the Jewish Future, which plays a mentoring role for the student leaders of L'man Achai.

"The experience of helping to feed Israel's hungry will leave a life-long impression on the students involved, inspiring future initiatives, both on campus and in the outside world."

Following a campaign kickoff event in February, students partnered with schools and synagogues nationwide to collect *tzeddakah* (charity money). Also, students hosted a variety of events, such as *shiurim* (lectures), and a *matanot l'evyonim* (gifts to the poor) drive for the Purim holiday.

"Because of the tremendous efforts of students at YU, together with Jews from all over the US, we were able to help 652 families in Israel have food for Passover," said Baruch Deutsch, a representative for Lev Chessed Charity Fund, which benefited from L'man Achai's contributions.

The campaign wrapped up June 5 at the Israel Day Parade in New York City.

Students from Yeshiva College and Stern College for Women collected money there to distribute to Israeli soup kitchens and charity organizations. ■

Commencement 2005



Rabbi Herbert Bomzer, assistant professor of Talmud, celebrated the graduation of his three grandchildren: (L-R) Yonina Bomzer (SCW), Joel Bloom (YC), and Meshulem Rapps (YC).



Abraham Gdanski (second from left) became the youngest YU alumnus in his family (L-R): Jeffrey '93Y, Melissa (Gdanski) Keiser '96S, Scott '93Y, and Jonathan '03Y.



Jonathan Stavsky and his mother, Ruth, graduated on the same day, from SSSB and WSSW respectively.



Dr. Morton Lowengrub, vice president of academic affairs, hands a diploma to Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology graduate Paul Ferbank, while Professor Moshe Anisfeld looks on.



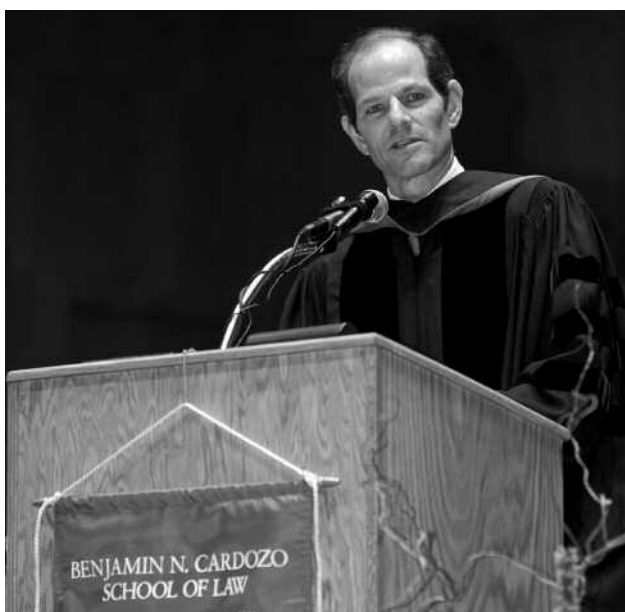
A life-size figurine of Albert Einstein brought a light-hearted touch to AECOM's commencement. At right are Stephen H. Lazar, EdD, assistant dean of AECOM, and President Richard M. Joel.



YC's Class of 1955 held a reunion for their 50th anniversary.



Miriam Zucker, a 1971 WSSW alumna, hoods her son, Jonathan, at Wurzweiler's commencement.



NY State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer delivered the keynote address at Cardozo's graduation.



President Richard M. Joel welcomes Stern students into The Theater at Madison Square Garden.

PROFILES IN EXCELLENCE



Dali Ben-David

Sy Syms School of Business graduate Dali Ben-David will soon start working for Perelson Weiner LLP, a midsize accounting firm in midtown Manhattan. It will be a far cry from the days not long ago, when she spent hours on her feet making pastrami sandwiches at a deli in Forest Hills, Queens.

But Ms. Ben-David has come an even longer way than that.

In 1979, at the age of 10, she and her family emigrated from Kutaisi, Georgia, in the former Soviet Union, to Naharya, Israel. Her family was part of a generation of Russian Jews who moved to Israel in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

In 1996, Ms. Ben-David, possessing only a high-school education, moved with her husband, Chaim, and two young children to the United States, where she hoped to achieve her

dream of a college degree. That she did, with honors, when she walked across the stage at Madison Square Garden during YU's 2005 commencement.

Though proud of how far she has come, Ms. Ben-David says her family is the most important part of her life.

She credits her husband, son, and daughter with patience and tolerance during what she called "all those isolating days when I dedicated myself to my studies."

Ms. Ben-David also paid tribute to "the whole YU family" for making her experience so enjoyable. "I cry when I think about leaving this place. Everyone, even the librarians, were helpful," she said. "I owe so much to Professor David Hornung [adjunct assistant professor of accounting at SSSB]. He made accounting much more than dry number crunching."

Francine Garrett

"A huge transition into the real world" is how Francine Garrett describes graduating from Albert Einstein College of Medicine after nine years in its MD/PhD program.

For the newly minted doctor, that world will be Cornell Weill Medical College–New York Presbyterian Hospital, where she begins a three-year internal medicine residency in June.

With a PhD in the field of immunology, Dr. Garrett now hopes to get her feet wet in clinical research at Cornell. "The next year or so will be an adventure, finding the area I'd like to work in," she said.

Dr. Garrett was born in the United States and grew up in Israel. A gymnastics scholarship brought her to California State University at Fullerton, where she studied biochemistry.

Back in Israel for a summer term abroad, she worked in a cancer center and, for the first time, "saw how powerful the combination of science and medicine can be," she said.

While a student at Einstein, Dr. Garrett volunteered for the Student National Medical Association, the oldest and largest medical student organization dedicated to people of color and underserved communities. A board member and former chair of the organization, she was recently named emeritus chairperson, a rare honor.

She is also a recipient of a Bristol-Myers Squibb Academic Medicine Fellowship, given to minority students by National Medical Fellowships, and the Herbert W. Nickens, MD, Minority Medical Student Scholarship of the American Association of Medical Colleges.

Dr. Garrett plans to serve humanity where help is most needed, regardless of where her career takes her. That, she said, is thanks to "everyone at Einstein who helped me along the way. I wouldn't be where I am today, and where I'm heading tomorrow, without them."



Jack Hartog

He started law school at New York University in 1946. Fifty-nine years later, on June 7, 2005, Jack Hartog is graduating from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

Mr. Hartog, a Holland native in his late 70s, came to the United States in 1940 during the German airborne invasion of Holland.

He studied engineering at NYU, and had gone on to start law school there when he was offered a job managing a shoe factory in Pennsylvania. He took the job instead of finishing law school. It was a hard decision, Mr. Hartog admitted. "But I don't regret it, particularly now that I've had my cake and eaten it too."

He later moved on to other ventures,

including running a family business, Hartog Foods Inc., in New York City. That step marked the end of his hopes for finishing law school, Mr. Hartog said. "Life went on."

But when he retired in 1999, he decided to give law school another try.

While he does not intend to practice law, Mr. Hartog said that he wanted to go to law school for the intellectual training and conditioning. He has returned to work full-time at the family business, where he plans to work for a few more years.

"I've had an exciting life," Mr. Hartog said. "Law school was the icing on top of the cake."

PROFILES IN EXCELLENCE

David Kastner

A well-read physician—that's what David Kastner intended to be when he enrolled in Yeshiva College as an English major. But after four years of undergraduate study, during which he chose two additional majors—in biology and chemistry—Mr. Kastner, 23, will enter the prestigious MD/PhD program at Stanford University this fall.

During the summer of 2002, the native of Teaneck, NJ, worked as a lab assistant at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Tarrytown, NY. The experience solidified his interest in research.

The following summer he conducted research at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, and found his interests shifting to biology.

He spent the summer of 2004 in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program at the Rockefeller University, where he helped

map parts of the signal transduction pathway, which is the means by which cells convert one kind of signal or stimulus into another.

Last summer also marked his receipt of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, granted to college sophomores and juniors who intend to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering.

Mr. Kastner is interested in studying neurological diseases and would like to combine patient treatment with research.

He chose the Medical Scientist Training Program at Stanford because it stresses an interdisciplinary approach. "[It] combines different fields and fosters collaborative efforts among programs," Mr. Kastner said.

The program, which typically admits only eight to 10 students at a time, requires an intensive seven to nine years to complete.



Chanita Warn

Chanita Warn has a string of academic achievements to her name. The biology major is this year's recipient of the Ida Lampert Hurewitz Memorial Award for Excellence in Biology at Stern College for Women. Last year, she was awarded the American Chemical Society's Polymer Education Committee Honor for Outstanding Performance in Organic Chemistry.

Vice president of Stern's Chemistry Club, she also made the Dean's Honor List during each of her three years as a student here.

But these honors comprise only half of this new graduate's accomplishments. Throughout her years at Stern, she matched her academic success with a desire to serve the community.

As a high-school student in Cleveland and while studying for her undergraduate degree, she worked as a volunteer for YACHAD, the National Council on Synagogue Youth's program for mentally disabled children and adults.

Attending shabbatons and workshops with the children taught Ms. Warn how to react with aplomb, even in difficult situations—a skill she developed further as a teaching assistant and tutor in the organic chemistry lab this past year.

"Working as a TA was a confidence-building experience," said Ms. Warn. "It was very satisfying to help other students gain confidence in their own abilities."

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Ms. Warn was one of a handful of Stern students who participated in the act of *shemirah*, accompanying victims' remains until burial.

"That was an unforgettable experience," she said. "It was very shocking, but it was a way to give something back and pray for the victims."

A native of Beachwood, Ohio, Ms. Warn will attend SUNY State College of Optometry in Manhattan this fall.

Kenneth Wigginton

Social workers want to change the world and help people in need. But for 50-year-old Kenneth Wigginton, social work—specifically his years studying for his master's degrees at Wurzweiler School of Social Work—saved him.

His mostly administrative role as the records compliance specialist at an employment organization had him "almost fading away," Mr. Wigginton said. His next job, as a public guardian at Self Help Community Services, "rescued [him] from stagnation."

For the last eight years he has helped people deemed incapacitated by the NY State Supreme Court to deal with financial and medical issues. Most of his clients are hoarders scheduled for eviction because they've accumulated so much trash. One of them kept a small stable horse in his fourth-floor walk-up apartment.

"I clean their houses out, give them therapy for obsessive-compulsive disorder, which most of them have, and make their lives livable again," Mr. Wigginton said.

At this year's Wurzweiler commencement, Mr. Wigginton received the Irwin and Sylvia Lieferman Award for Care of the Elderly.

"He is a champion for the aging," said Joanna Mellor, DSW, assistant professor at Wurzweiler, citing the "remarkable empathy he showed clients in his fieldwork" as one of the reasons he was selected for the award.

The Bronx native hopes to focus on clients who don't want to be helped, a population neglected by academic research, he said. "In social work schools, it is projected that most clients seek help," Mr. Wigginton said. "But most clients I serve don't fully acknowledge that they want help."

"Social work is an art form more than a science," said Mr. Wigginton, himself a former filmmaker and musician. "I look at people as pieces of art in progress and try to assist them in finding their specific medium in dealing with life."



Alumnus Helps Clear Holocaust Hero's Name

In June 1940, Aristides de Sousa Mendes, the consul-general of Portugal in Bordeaux, made a decision that would irrevocably alter the course of his family's life. Defying government orders, Dr. Sousa Mendes worked around the clock processing thousands of visas to Jews fleeing Nazi-occupied France.



WSSW alumnus
Robert Jacobvitz

The diplomat helped save the lives of about 30,000 people—including 10,000 Jews—who gained safe passage through Portugal.

It was an act of moral courage that plunged the large Sousa Mendes family, descendants of a Supreme Court judge and members of the Portuguese aristocracy, into dark

times. Dismissed from his job, Dr. Sousa Mendes sold off his family estate and died a pauper in 1954.

About 40 years later, Robert Jacobvitz, then the executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council for Oakland, CA, read in a local newspaper about the efforts of Dr. Sousa Mendes' son, John Paul, to clear the family name. He felt compelled to help.

"I thought, if I were a Jew standing in front of his door at the time and someone other than him had been in his place, my children and I wouldn't be alive today," said Mr. Jacobvitz, a 1975 alumnus of Wurzweiler School of Social Work.

"Sousa Mendes consulted with his wife and children and they decided they had a higher value to uphold than the Portuguese government at the time. I could not but work on their behalf."

In 1986, Mr. Jacobvitz founded the International Committee for the Commemoration of Dr. Aristides de Sousa Mendes with John Paul and his wife Joan Abranches, and Anne Treseder, an attorney in San Francisco.

The group mounted an

international campaign to pressure the Portuguese government to restore Dr. Sousa Mendes' reputation. They worked with Jewish communities in Lisbon, France, and Canada, gained major media coverage, and rallied the support of US politicians, including Tony Coelho, then US Representative of California and a Portuguese American; Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ); and Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA).

"Through our international contacts, we created a momentum and consistency for the family's cause that they never had," said Mr. Jacobvitz.

Their efforts culminated in a public apology from Mario Soares, Portugal's first democratically elected president, in 1995. During a ceremony at the Portugal National Theater in Lisbon, Dr. Sousa Mendes was awarded the Medal of Liberty, the country's highest civilian honor, and advanced to the most senior grade diplomatic rating posthumously.

For the surviving family members, a long shadow was lifted.

"They have a sense of satisfaction that the world now knows the pain they went



Robert Jacobvitz (second from left) with
Aristides de Sousa Mendes' grandchildren.

through and the good work their father did," Mr. Jacobvitz said.

For his efforts, Mr. Jacobvitz was awarded the Aristides de Sousa Mendes Medal by the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation at the Museum of the Jewish Heritage April 6. The reception marked the opening of the museum's exhibit of the registry book used by Mr. Sousa Mendes for the first 2,000 visas issued and

of the pen he used to enter those names.

Mr. Jacobvitz, now executive director of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Silicon Valley, said he was inspired by the man whose cause he championed. "Sousa Mendes was one of those individuals who sought justice and truth in his life, no matter the consequences," he said. "It was part of the fiber of who he was." ■

David Pelcovitz Invested as Straus Professor in Jewish Education

David Pelcovitz, PhD, professor of education and psychology at Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration, was installed as the occupant of the Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus Chair in Jewish Education at an official ceremony in Geraldine Schottenstein Cultural Center March 31. The chair, endowed by Moshael and Zahava Straus in memory of their parents, is at the Azrieli School with a joint appointment at YU's Stern College for Women.

"I would like to thank Moshael Straus for his generosity and vision, and for the wonderful appointment of Dr. Pelcovitz to this chair. This gift will allow us to expand the vision that Moshael's leadership has brought to the school," said David J. Schnall, PhD, Azrieli dean.

Mr. Straus, founding chairman of the Azrieli board, secretary of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary's board and a YU board trustee, said

he was honored that Dr. Pelcovitz accepted the position of chair occupant. "We need resources to train teachers and rabbis," he said.

YU President Richard M. Joel emphasized the critical role Dr. Pelcovitz plays in advancing Azrieli and its commitment to Jewish education. "In moving the university forward we needed a serious scholar, a professional, and a ben Torah [observant Jew] to spearhead efforts to help the Jewish community, which he has done throughout his career," President Joel said. "We honor David Pelcovitz with the Straus chair at the same time that we honor the Straus chair with David Pelcovitz."

Dr. Pelcovitz delivered the Straus chair inaugural address on "The At-Risk Adolescent in the Orthodox Jewish Community." He sketched out the



President Joel installs David Pelcovitz
as Straus Professor.

scope of behavioral difficulties in Orthodox teenagers and suggested ways for educators to intervene.

Dr. Pelcovitz concluded by paying tribute to supporters of the chair for "lighting lights of inspiration for the community, educating educators, and helping parents to hug their children." ■

No Question Too Trivial for Stock Market Contestants

Competing students from 12 area Jewish high schools could hardly contain their enthusiasm at the first annual Sy Syms School of Business Stock Market Trivia Contest on April 13. During each round, teammates met the correct answers with applause, laughter, and high-fives.

One teacher from The Frisch School of Paramus, NJ, said students there had looked forward to the contest for days.

In each contest, two teams of four students were asked the same set of questions relating to Wall Street and the stock

market. The first team to hit the buzzer got to answer.

The Moshe Aaron Yeshiva High School (MAYHS) of South River, NJ, won the championship, beating out Rav Teitz Mesitva Academy of Elizabeth, NJ. The Frisch School captured third place.

All 12 teams, their teachers, and a number of Syms students and professors gathered in Weissberg Commons during the break for an address by Peter M. Kash, chairman of Two River Group Holdings and author of *Success Through Failure*. Mr. Kash told students "never to fear failure." ■



Students from 12 area Jewish high schools competed.

Commencement, continued from page 1

Torah; feel the tug of learning.”

President Joel also bestowed honorary degrees upon Linda M. Hooper, creator of the Children’s Holocaust Memorial and Paper Clip Project; Leon Charney, host of The Leon Charney Report and member of the Board of Directors of YU’s Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law; and Barry Shrage, president of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.

Mr. Charney dedicated his degree to Ezer Weizman, president of Israel from 1993 to 2000, who died earlier this year, calling him a warrior in times of war and in peace.

Mrs. Hooper, principal of Whitwell Middle School in Tennessee, received a standing ovation. Mrs. Hooper stressed the power of the individual to make a difference. “You can do anything if you decide to do it. Just do what is right.”

President Joel lauded Mr. Shrage as a personal example of Jewish communal leadership. “You are a wonderful role model to our students of how devotion to community leadership can make a difference,” President Joel said.

Anat Barber, one of the 2005 Graduate Fellows, explained the impact of the program. The Graduate Fellowship in University and Community Leadership program was instituted by President Joel to keep top graduates connected to YU. It places recent graduates in university departments and exposes them to leadership and decision-making opportunities at the highest levels.

This year’s student speaker was Stern College for Women graduate Yael Wagner of Woodmere, NY, one of nine undergraduate valedictorians. Ms. Wagner emphasized that reaching any goal is a process.

“There is always more to undertake, and there is always more potential to realize,” Ms. Wagner said. ■

Stern Faculty Fellowships, continued from page 1

tance of scholarly research in maintaining high academic standards at YU.

“It certainly creates organizational complications for a full-time faculty member to leave for a year,” Dr. Ladin said. “But Dean Bacon’s response was, ‘These are complications we love.’”

Dr. Stenhouse, assistant professor of history at both Stern and Yeshiva College, received a fellowship from the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University, which sponsors research relating to Italian history, society, and science.

Dr. Stenhouse will analyze how museums in Italy affected historical research and writing between 1550 and 1620, a time when collectors held important cultural roles and historians used material objects to reconstruct past events, thereby expanding the range of sources used to write history.

Dr. Stenhouse, whose research focuses on the history of archeology, this semester taught two courses at YC and one at Stern, an honors seminar on the history of travel writing and ethnography. He will maintain an office at the Italian Academy on Columbia’s campus next year.

“Taking the year off from teaching means that I can lay the foundation for my next project,” he said.

“The fellowships awarded to Professors Ladin and Stenhouse are concrete indications of the importance of their work to the advancement of knowledge,” Dean Bacon said. “I know that after a year spent immersed in research and writing they will return to us as even more creative teachers and colleagues.” ■

Darfur Rally, continued from page 1

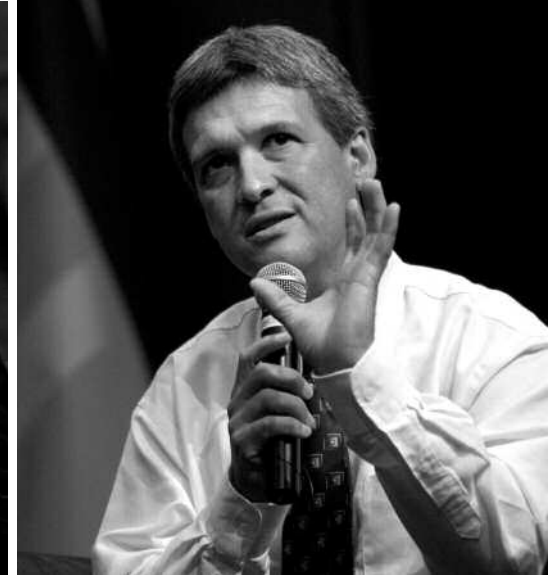
involve ourselves with others.”

Rally sponsors included Human Rights First, the Anti-Defamation League, the American Jewish World Service, and Yeshiva University.

Dr. Bryan Daves, a political science professor at Stern College and coordinator of the human rights lecture series that inspired the students’ involvement, said he had been hoping the program would move students to work for change.

“Students involved in this effort have learned that they can take the lessons they have learned as Jews and relate them to the rest of the world. In a remarkably short period of time they are raising awareness of the tragedy that is unfolding in Darfur among students and non-students alike,” Dr. Daves said. ■

Profiles in Courage: Righteous Protectors Confront Genocide



Simone Weil Lipman and Rev. Carl Wilkens

In the final event of the Human Rights and Sovereignty lecture series April 18, sponsored by the Marcia Robbins Wilf Scholar-in-Residence Program, two people from different generations met and discussed their efforts to save children during genocides on different continents.

Simone Weil Lipman helped save hundreds of Jewish children in France during World War II; Rev. Carl Wilkens saved hundreds of orphans during the genocide in Rwanda. Prof. Bryan Daves, coordinator of the series that commemorated the 60th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust, said Ms. Weil Lipman and Rev. Wilkens proved that every individual can make a difference.

The two heroes told similar stories of courage, compassion, and selflessness.

Rev. Wilkens emerged after hiding in his home for three weeks to find that he was the only American and one of very few Westerners who had remained in Rwanda during the genocide.

Rev. Wilkens was director of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency in the capi-

tal, Kinali. He stayed 100 days, and saved more than 100 children who were dying of dysentery, overcrowded conditions, and thirst in an orphanage that had become a refuge.

Ms. Weil Lipman joined OSE, a child care agency that was helping children in the internment camps in France. At first she was a social worker in the camps.

When the children faced deportation to Auschwitz, Ms. Weil Lipman worked with the Underground, finding hiding places and false identities for them. In charge of a region where 350 children were hiding, she sometimes had only 24 hours to provide them with new identities, coach them, and take them to a new environment.

The children she helped were placed by non-Jewish agencies in foster homes, convents, private schools, and orphanages, where they were accepted as Catholic.

Rev. Wilkens said his experience did not provide him with “the luxury to feel frustration and anger,” although for years afterward he couldn’t salute the United States flag because of

American policies toward Rwanda.

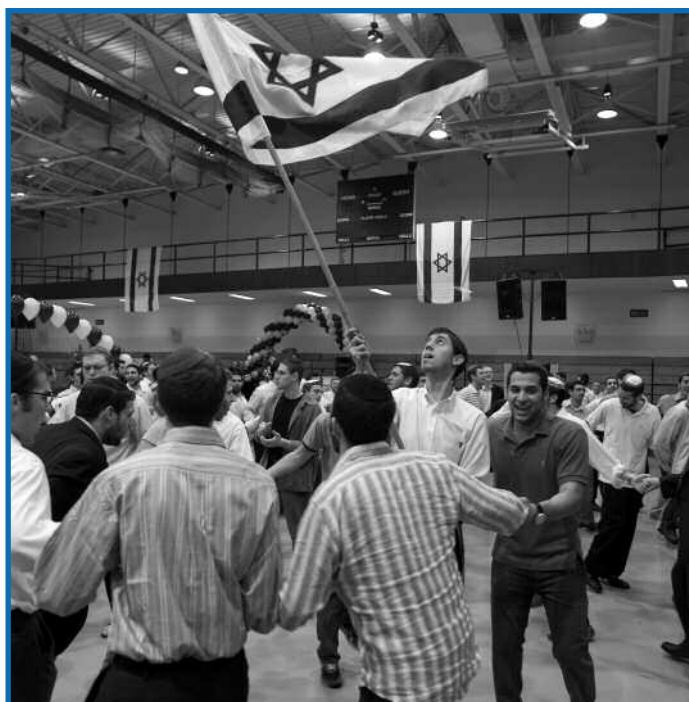
“There were simple things the US government could have done but was limited by the lack of will,” he said.

Ms. Weil Lipman, who eventually moved to the US and earned a master’s degree in social work, said she continued her work after the war by telling her story to school children.

“If you don’t speak out you participate in the evil,” she said. “I’m not an activist or demonstrator. But it’s important to help people to see humanity and value in each other.”

Rev. Wilkens said he also traveled and spoke at schools. In his current job as chaplain/pastor at Milo Adventist Academy in Oregon, he teaches his students the value of human life, an important continuation of his work.

Saul Kagan, board member of Wurzweiler School of Social Work—which cosponsored the event—presented awards to Rev. Wilkens and Ms. Weil Lipman. “We are proud of these people—of their selflessness and inner courage that is almost inconceivable,” said Mr. Kagan. ■



Almost 1,000 students danced and sang late into the night in celebration of Yom Ha’atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) at the Max Stern Athletic Center on May 11. Earlier, the students packed into Lampport Auditorium in Zysman Hall to commemorate Israel’s 57th birthday, which featured a multimedia presentation about YU students’ experiences in Israel throughout the years. The evening began on a more somber note with a memorial program for Yom Hazikaron (Israel Memorial Day), which remembers the many soldiers who gave their lives for the Jewish State.

Latino Task Force Honors Wurzweiler Dean and Three Alumni

Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work recently received quadruple kudos for its role in improving the quality of life of New York's City's Latino communities. Sheldon R. Gelman, the school's Dorothy and David I. Schachne Dean, and three graduates of the doctoral program—Evelyn Laureano, Carmen Ortiz Hendricks, and Evelyn J. Nieves—were honored by the Latino Social Work Task Force at a luncheon March 31 for their efforts to bring more culturally sensitive social services to the city's Latinos.

Dean Gelman is a member of the Latino Social Work Task Force, which was convened by the NYC chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the

Puerto Rican Family Institute to address the shortage of bilingual Latino social workers. For the past two years, Dean Gelman has worked with other members on initiatives to train more Latino social workers.

The three Wurzweiler graduates were recognized for their achievements as Latino social work professionals.

Dr. Laureano is executive director of Neighborhood Self Help by Older Persons Project (SHOPP), which provides social service programs for Latino elderly in the South Bronx.

Dr. Laureano, also an adjunct professor at Wurzweiler, sits on Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Senior Advisory Council for the Department for the Aging.

Dr. Nieves is executive director of Fordham-Tremont

Community Mental Health Center in the Bronx, where she oversees 16 outpatient programs for adults and children, substance abusers, and victims of domestic violence. She teaches at Columbia University as an adjunct assistant professor.

Dr. Ortiz Hendricks is associate professor at Hunter College School of Social Work. She has researched, written, and taught courses on diversity and culturally competent social work practice, and contributed to NASW's Standards for Culturally Competent Social Work Practice, published in 2001.

Proceeds from the Task Force's luncheon helped establish a scholarship pool to fund Latino students in social work programs. ■



Sheldon R. Gelman



Carmen Ortiz Hendricks



Evelyn Laureano

'Independent Thinker' Earns National Merit Scholarship



Shalom Sokolow of Manhattan, a senior at Yeshiva University High School for Boys (YUHS) in Washington Heights, received a \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship for his performance on the 2003 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Mr. Sokolow, 17, received a score of 224 out of 240 on the PSAT and was one of 2,500 high school seniors across the country to receive the scholarship. The students were chosen from a pool of 15,000 finalists.

Mr. Sokolow will study at Yeshivat Har Etzion in Israel next year, after which he plans to attend Columbia University to study political science. At YUHS, he is vice president of both the debate team and ARISTA, the school's National Honors Society. Mr. Sokolow is also editor of *The Academy News*, the school's newspaper.

"I was very surprised and pleased to have received the scholarship," Mr. Sokolow said.

One of his favorite subjects is history, which enables him to "understand the circumstances that created the world in which we now live."

Scholarship recipients were selected by a committee that evaluated each candidate's skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in college studies.

"Shalom's academic achievements, along with his demonstrated leadership ability and maturity, explain why he is so highly regarded by teachers, administration, and peers," said Ya'acov Sklar, YUHS principal. "He is an independent thinker and needs virtually no direct guidance on how to tackle complex issues." ■

Winning Smile Sy Syms School of Business student Joey Bohm presents his business plan for a teeth-whitening company called Hollywood Smiles to judges at the second annual Dr. William Schwartz Business Plan Competition. Mr. Bohm was placed first in the competition, winning a prize of \$5,000. He said his proposed company would be a lower-cost competitor to Brite Smile, which targets more affluent customers. Judges were Josh S. Weston, honorary chairman of Automatic Data Processing, Inc.; Gerry L. Golub, chair of American Express Tax and Business Services; and Michael J. Connelly, president and CEO of Mosaica Education, Inc.



Portraits of Creativity YU's annual arts festival gave students a chance to show off their creative talents in exhibitions, performances, and readings both on and off campus. Refael Omer Cohen (top left), a SSSB senior majoring in marketing and minoring in fine art, displayed his self-portrait in a student exhibit at Weissberg Commons, Belfer Hall. Students from the Beren Campus participating in a concert at the Eldridge Street Synagogue on the Lower East Side included (bottom left) SSSB junior Rena Needle on vocals and SCW junior Hillary Lewin on guitar, and (right) SCW senior Leora Sarna on flute.

LA Team Clinches Annual Sarachek Basketball Tournament

The annual Red Sarachek High School Basketball Tournament ended the same day as the NCAA Championship, on April 4. But the Sarachek game, while hard-fought, was a little more one-sided.

The Los Angeles team formerly known as YULA and now called Young Israel of Century City emerged from a field of 20 Jewish high schools nationwide to capture the tournament championship by defeating The Frisch School of Paramus, NJ, by a score of 53-36.

The 14th annual tournament, named for YU's legendary former basketball coach Bernard "Red" Sarachek, featured 20 high schools representing 14 US states and two Canadian provinces. Sarachek, now 92 and living in Florida, coached the Yeshiva College Maccabees for more than 25 seasons.

He was inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1997. In later years, Coach Sarachek was a consultant to the NBA's Miami Heat.

This year's tournament was a five-day mix of nail-biting contests and dominating per-



A Frisch player pressures an opponent from Ramaz during the Sarachek tournament.

formances. Among the closest games was a 42-41 victory by the Weinbaum Storm of Boca Raton, FL, over Kansas City's hard-charging Rams of Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

Another down-to-the-wire match-up featured YU's own boys high school, The Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy Lions, who lost a close battle to downtown rival Ramaz

(also known as the Rams) by a score of 40-37.

The most impressive victory occurred on the first day of the tournament when the eventual champs, Young Israel of Century City, bested Yavneh Academy in Dallas by a tally of 68-26. Yavneh's Bulldogs came back later in the tourney to defeat the Maimonides M-Cats from Brookline, MA, 59-56. ■

Three Cardozo Professors Make Their Mark at Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum

Three faculty members of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law—Professors Barton Beebe, Daniel Crane, and Myriam Gilles—were chosen to present their work at the sixth annual Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum at Stanford Law School on May 27-28. No other law school has multiple faculty members presenting their work this year.

"Cardozo has been known since its founding for a young, vibrant, and prolific faculty. We are delighted that the junior members of our faculty, who follow in that tradition, are again being recognized for their scholarship by the larger scholarly community," said David Rudenstine, JD, the school's dean.

The forum encourages the work of young scholars by inviting professors with one to seven years of teaching experience to submit unpublished papers for evaluation. This year's topics will cover private law and dispute resolution. Since the forum began in 2000, seven Cardozo papers have been selected for

presentation, five of which were selected since 2003—more than any other school except Harvard University.

Professor Beebe, who has taught at Cardozo since 2000, presented "Search and Permission in Trademark" as part of an intellectual property panel. The paper will be published in the Michigan Law Review.

Professor Crane presented "The Paradox of Predatory Pricing" as part of an antitrust session and plans to publish it in the Cornell Law Review.

Professor Gilles presented "Opting out of Liability: The Forthcoming Near-Total Demise

of the Modern Class Actions" as part of a civil litigation and dispute resolution panel. Her paper will appear in the Michigan Law Review. ■



Daniel Crane



Barton Beebe



Myriam Gilles

How to Daf-a-Day When You're on the Go

Among observant Jews, a pervasive trend is learning *Daf Yomi*, a page of Talmud a day, in preparation for a large-scale *Siyum HaShas*, a ceremony held every seven years marking the completed study cycle of the Talmud's 2,711 pages. In world technology, a major trend is the iPod, a lightweight personal listening device with a large memory capacity for storing music.

Recognizing the potential in marrying these two trends, Yeshiva College graduate Yehuda Shmidman '04Y saw the iPod as an ideal format for storing all 66 Talmudic tractates.

"I thought it would be cool to make Daf Yomi learning accessible anywhere," said Mr. Shmidman, chief operating officer of Heck Yeah, a licensing and branding company in New York.

For \$100 more than a regular iPod, Mr. Shmidman sends his customers a 20-gigabyte "ShasPod" loaded with Talmud lectures by Rabbi Dovid Grossman of Los Angeles. Commuters can listen in a car or on the subway, or open a gemara and follow along. "Put headphones on and you're there," said Mr. Shmidman.

"The recordings take the listener through every single word of the text," he said. "After you finish all the *shiurim* [lectures], you literally have studied the entire Shas."

The device was launched

on March 1 at Madison Square Garden, main site of the most recent *Siyum HaShas*, where it attracted considerable attention, including an article in *The New York Times*. Hundreds of ShasPods have since been sold to laypeople and rabbis all over the world. Customers include the chief rabbi of Venezuela and Rabbi Shmuel Kaminetsky, Rabbi Grossman's rebbe.

For customers who already own iPods, Mr. Shmidman loads the lectures and returns the MP3 players to their owners.

The 24-year-old's entrepreneurial initiative was already evident during his undergraduate education at YU. The Teaneck, NJ, native was the executive editor of *The Commentator*, the men's undergraduate student newspaper, and was one of the co-presidents of the Operation Torah II mission to Israel in 2001. Three years ago as president of the Israel Club, his passion fueled YU's first participation in the Salute to Israel Parade in almost a decade. ■



Calendar of Events

JUNE 1

Albert Einstein College of Medicine Commencement
6 pm, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center

JUNE 7

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Commencement
2 pm, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center

JUNE 8

YUWO Ballet and Luncheon
11 am, Metropolitan Opera House at Lincoln Center

JUNE 28

Wurzweiler School of Social Work Dinner
6:30 pm, The Pierre, Fifth Avenue at 61st Street

SEPTEMBER 21

Yeshiva College 75th Anniversary Dinner
6 pm, Pier 86, USS Intrepid, West 46th Street and 12th Ave

SEPTEMBER 29

International Bioethics Conference
Location and time TBD
Sponsored by the Rabbi Arthur Schneier Center for International Affairs



For a more comprehensive listing, go to www.yu.edu/event.asp



Nuremberg Trials Teach Broader Lessons at Conference

An historic three-day conference on the Nuremberg war crimes trials, at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in late March, reminded participants that “never again” has become “over again” as human rights violations continue.

“We hope to reaffirm the lessons of Nuremberg,” said Sheri Rosenberg, Cardozo deputy director of the Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies, who along with Prof. Richard Weisberg, the program’s director, organized the conference.

A broad spectrum of participants—including former Nuremberg prosecutors, government officials, academics, and participants at tribunals in Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, and Sierra Leone—gathered to analyze the impact of the Nuremberg principles on the 60th anniversary of the trials.

As part of a “recollections” panel, first-hand witnesses to the injustice shared their experiences. Richard Sonnenfeldt, who at the age of 22 was the chief interpreter for the American prosecution team, told the standing-room only crowd he had the opportunity to speak with everyone during the trial and read the indict-



Richard Dicker (left), director of The International Justice Program, Human Rights Watch, and Geoffrey Robertson, chief judge at the special court for Sierra Leone.

ments. “I was a witness to that history,” he said.

Henry King, former Nuremberg prosecutor and professor at Case Western Reserve School of Law, invoked the memory of the late US Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, chief prosecutor for the United States at Nuremberg. “We owe Judge Jackson thanks for giving us a blueprint for the future and a vision for a better world,” Professor King said.

Hassan Bucabar Jallow, chief prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal

for Rwanda, brought a sobering reminder to the proceedings: While Nuremberg and Rwanda are far apart in time and geography, they are the same problem. “It continues to happen,” Mr. Jallow said.

Although crimes against humanity are ongoing, panelists reminded the audience that the work at Nuremberg was not in vain. In a keynote speech, Justice Theodore Meron, president of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, said that although the Nuremberg trials

had flaws, without them the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague would not have been established.

The discussion touched on whether the lessons learned at Nuremberg are being applied to the war in Iraq. “It’s not too late to correct the mistakes that have been made for the Iraqi tribunal,” said Geoffrey Robertson, chief judge at the special court for Sierra Leone.

Panelists on the crisis in Darfur, Sudan, discussed the civil war that is raging and producing new victims every

day. Stephanie Frease, director of programs at the Coalition for International Justice, expressed concern over the conclusion of the United Nation’s Commission of Inquiry on Darfur that what is happening in Sudan is not genocide.

“We need to respond to crimes against humanity whether they are genocide or not,” said John Prendergast, special adviser at the International Crisis Group, who has made three trips to rebel-held Darfur in the last six months. The failure to act forcefully shows that little has changed since the crisis in Rwanda, Mr. Prendergast said, and the government needs to impose sanctions on Khartoum. “It’s not too late to act in these cases,” Mr. Prendergast said.

Former Nuremberg prosecutor Ben Ferencz, who at age 27 tried his first case at Nuremberg, shared his disappointment that the United States does not support the ICC. “There’s only one threat to our service personnel—war making,” Mr. Ferencz said, likening fighting against an international court to fighting against Nuremberg.

“It’s not enough to catch the perpetrators,” Mr. Ferencz said. “You have to stop the killing first.” ■