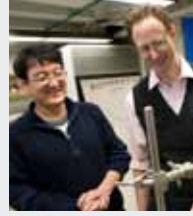




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YUTODAY

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

▶ WINTER 2009/10

▶ VOLUME 14 • NO. 2

Wilf Family Gives \$25M for Scholarships and Research

LONGTIME SUPPORTERS TURN TO YESHIVA UNIVERSITY TO CREATE NEW GENERATIONS OF JEWISH LEADERS

A new \$25 million gift to Yeshiva University from the Wilf family builds on a 20-year-long tradition of supporting the Jewish community and Jewish education—in large measure through the family's many generous donations to the University.

The gift will provide scholarships for undergraduate students in need, as well as create a new cardiovascular research institute at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Over the years, the Wilf family has provided more than \$42 million in support to YU.

"We believe that the future of the global Jewish community depends greatly on supporting the Jewish education of young people," said Joseph Wilf. "Yeshiva University is the only educational institution of its

kind and stature to ensure that is achieved."

Holocaust survivors Joseph and Elizabeth Wilf, along with Joseph's brother Harry, came to the United States in 1950. After building a vibrant business, they focused their philanthropic activities on Jewish education. "Investing in young Jews and helping to build their future continues the effort to rebuild all that we once lost as a family and as a people," Joseph said. "We also learned from that tragedy that the future of the Jewish people is dependent on creating new generations of leaders."

Expressing his appreciation to the Wilfs for this recent gift, President Richard M. Joel called them one of YU's "first families." "They have been a major source of funding for undergraduate scholarships. They have demon-

strated time and again that they share our values and our dreams of investing in a strong Jewish future," said President Joel.

Each year, members of the Wilf family meet with the most recent group of Wilf Scholars, outstanding undergraduates who receive support for their education through a specially created scholarship fund originally established by Joseph and Harry Wilf and continued by the next generation of Wilf family members—Leonard, Zygmunt (Zygi) and Mark.

"These scholars, who now number in the hundreds and are leaders around the world, remain our living legacy and represent our enduring investment in YU," Joseph said.

The Wilf family has played a major role in the University's leadership for two decades.



Joseph Wilf (L) meets annually with undergraduate Wilf Scholars.

Joseph, chairman of the board of Garden Homes, one of the largest real estate development firms in the U.S., served as vice chairman of YU's Board of Trustees and is a Trustee Emeri-

tus. He joined the University's leadership in 1990 as a founding member of the Board of Overseers of Sy Syms School of Business, along with his late brother
Continued on Page 5



GLUECK CENTER TRANSFORMS CAMPUS LIFE

Students, rabbis, alumni and staff danced in the streets at the historic dedication of the Jacob and Dreizel Glueck Center for Jewish Study on the Wilf Campus in September. The new building has revolutionized the campus by creating a hub of student activity in its two-story *beit midrash* [study hall] and in the adjoining Nagel Family Atrium and Student Commons located on the Gottesman Library's first floor. The center houses the offices of rabbinic faculty and a number of stadium-seating lecture halls. The commons features a café and lounge area, providing students with a comfortable place to study and relax. The facing street outside has been closed to traffic, giving students a peaceful place to pause between classes. The new center was made possible through the generosity of many supporters who have helped revitalize Jewish learning. There are still many naming opportunities available. Visit www.yu.edu/glueck to learn more. ■

Jim Joseph Foundation Partners with YU to Create More Top-Notch Jewish Educators

The Jim Joseph Foundation in San Francisco has awarded Yeshiva University an initial \$4 million grant to produce a significantly larger cadre of the best trained Jewish educators to work with Jewish youth and young adults.

The grant, to be administered over the next five years, will develop the Jim Joseph Foundation Jewish Educator Continuum at YU, a University-wide initiative to create and nurture more exceptional Jewish educators.

The foundation has made similar multimillion dollar grants to the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC).

The grants represent a \$12 million initial investment the foundation is making in these three institutions to advance the common purpose of Jewish education.

Initially, the grants will be used by each school as financial aid for students pursuing edu-

cation degrees or certification in both formal and experiential Jewish education, and to assist each institution in planning new and enhanced programs that will attract more educators to the field.

"The promise of this initiative is that it will enrich students in their respective programs of study, strengthen each individual institution and enable us to infuse the field with talented educators whose collective good work will positively impact the world of Jewish education," said Chip Edelsberg, executive director of the Jim Joseph Foundation.

President Richard M. Joel sees the foundation's investment as a rising tide that will lift the capacity of the entire Jewish community. "The future of Jewish life depends on a Jewish people who know and own their story," President Joel said.

"The Jim Joseph Foundation's extraordinary ongoing investment ensures that the best and the brightest are equipped

to educate our children and to advance Jewish life.

"These institutions can become a powerful voice to remind the Jewish community of the essential nature of quality Jewish education to the advancement of the Jewish people," added President Joel.

The University will apply the grant to both its graduate and undergraduate schools. Among multiple initiatives, the funds will support a new certificate degree in experiential education; the Center for the Jewish Future's Eimatai Leadership Development Project, which runs leadership training programs for high school students; and undergraduate experiential learning missions.

On the graduate level, Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration will make use of the funds by increasing scholarships and making its training more accessible with distance-learning courses.

Continued on Page 6

YU Mourns Sy Syms, Founder of Business School

RETAIL ICON TOOK PERSONAL INTEREST IN STUDENTS

Sy Syms, founder of discount clothier SYMS Corp., who passed away Nov. 17, made an indelible impact on undergraduate education at Yeshiva University. He was a member of the Board of Trustees since 1984.

Most notably, he presented the University with a major gift in 1986 that resulted in the establishment of the Sy Syms School of Business, the first business school under Jewish auspices in the Western Hemisphere, on whose Board he also served.

“Sy Syms embodied excellence in education, ethics, decency, humor and humility—he represented the best within us,” said President Richard M. Joel. “His vision and ours was to ensure that young men and women would receive the finest in business education while continuing to grow as proud Jews and thinking citizens.”

Syms took an active interest in the business school over the years, meeting with its students regularly and sharing with them lessons he’d learned while building his business from one store in lower Manhattan to a nationwide chain of 30 stores in 13 states.



Syms met regularly with students.

“Sy had an enormous impact on our school,” said Dr. Michael Ginzberg, dean of the Sy Syms School of Business. “Beyond his initial gift that provided the resources to get the school started 23 years ago, he was a continuing presence here. He was involved with the Board’s executive committee that provides advice and support to the dean. We will miss his friendship and guidance.”

Syms was widely known for his famous tagline—“An educated consumer is our best customer”—and his appearance in the clothing company’s TV commercials. In 1983, with 11 stores already open, Syms took his company public. He remained CEO of SYMS Corp. until 1998, when he was succeeded by his daughter Marcy, who serves on the business school’s Board. He continued as the company’s chairman until his death.

“My fellow students and I are saddened by the loss of Mr. Syms,” said Aliza Wolynetz, president of the business school’s student council on the Beren Campus. “The student body will continue to excel in order to honor the memory of the person for whom our school is named.” ■

Student-Run Medical Ethics Conference on Genetics Draws Over 400 Attendees



Weprin (L) and Bauman (R) led the student team behind the conference.

This year’s Medical Ethics Conference—organized by over 50 students in conjunction with the Center for the Jewish Future (CJF) and supported by the Fuld family—discussed the latest advances in detecting some 1,600 genetic diseases, coupled with perspectives of leading rabbinic authorities on the subsequent issues that have emerged.

The fourth annual Medical Ethics Conference, titled “The Human Blueprint: Jewish Perspectives on Modern Genetics,” featured experts in biology, Halacha [Jewish law] and groundbreaking medical research on reproductive science and endocrinology in a full day of plenaries and breakout sessions

attended by over 400 students, faculty, alumni and guests.

The Oct. 18 event was organized entirely by the Student Medical Ethics Society under the guidance of Dr. Edward Reichman ’86YC, ’90E, ’97R, an associate professor of clinical emergency medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and a rabbi who was ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). The students in the Medical Ethics Society receive mentoring and leadership skills from staff at the CJF.

“In *Bereishit* [Genesis], we learned that God made man from the dust of the ground but scientists have proven that every one of us has an intricate

pattern of genetic information that makes us unique,” said Tali Bauman, co-president of the Medical Ethics Society with Sam Weprin. “Our obligation is to continue to understand the development of humanity through the lens of Halacha.”

Weprin said the society’s goal was “to put education and awareness of medical ethics issues and Halacha not only into our learning but also beyond the University’s walls.”

The conference, Webcast to an audience in Israel, discussed genetic issues relating to cancer, reproduction, DNA, forensics, aging and longevity.

It featured medical experts such as: Dr. Harry Ostrer, professor of pediatrics, pathology and medicine and director of the Human Genetics Program at New York University School of Medicine; Dr. Susan Lobel, the founder of Metropolitan Reproductive Medicine; and Dr. Wayne A. Rosenkrans, Jr., distinguished fellow at the Center for Biomedical Innovation at MIT.

The audience also heard points of view from rabbinic authorities such as Rabbis Moshe D. Tendler ’48R, Mordechai Willig ’68YC, ’71R and Herschel Schachter ’58YUHS, ’62YC, ’67R, all *roshei yeshiva* [professors of Talmud] at RIETS. ■

YUTODAY ON THE WEB
www.yu.edu/news



WEB EXCLUSIVE: Professor Uses Ancient Language to Unlock Biblical Meaning

In his latest book, Dr. Hayim Tawil compiles a lexicon of words in the ancient Semitic language of Akkadian that shed new light on Biblical Hebrew.

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Listen to Gabriela Shalev, Israel’s Ambassador to the UN, discuss the Goldstone Report.
➔ www.youtube.com/yeshivauniversity



Watch a musical slide show capturing the joyous dedication of the new Glueck Center for Jewish Study.
➔ www.youtube.com/yeshivauniversity

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Research Scholarship Shapes Students' Career Paths

YEARLONG PROJECT GIVES KRESSEL SCHOLARS CHANCE TO CONDUCT IN-DEPTH RESEARCH

Five exceptional students are conducting intensive research projects under the supervision of a faculty mentor as this year's recipients of the Henry Kressel Research Scholarship. The scholarship was established last year by Dr. Henry Kressel '55YC, Chairman of the Board of Trustees (see sidebar).

Kressel and his wife, Bertha Horowitz '56YUHS, provided the scholarship to help students prepare for the in-depth research environment of graduate school. "When they graduate, they will have had the experience of real research, experience that will also help them to define their career interests and shape their professional development," Kressel said.

The scholars receive a stipend of \$7,500 for the year, along with travel and appropriate research-support expenses. They will present their work to the student body at the end of the year to stimulate a larger intellectual discussion on the topic.

Jane Kitaevich, a native of



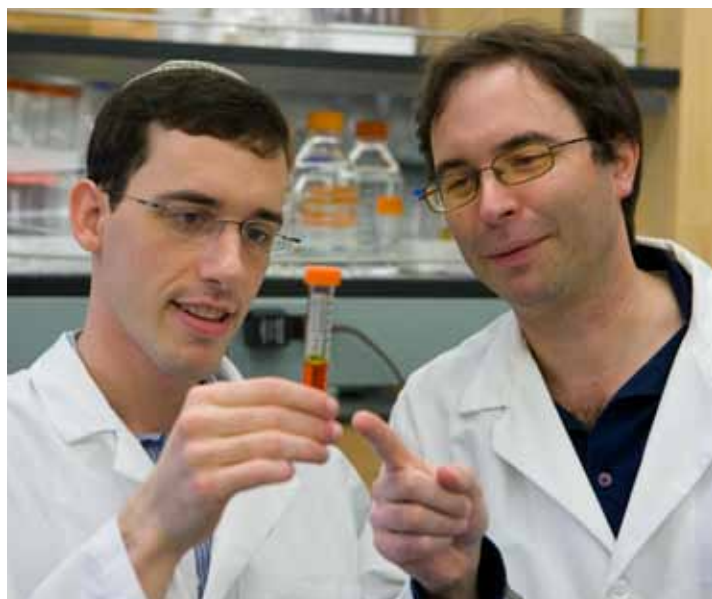
Kitaevich (L) gets one-on-one guidance from Radziszewski (R).

18th-and 19th-century England. She is mentored by Dr. Linda Shires, professor and chair of the English department at Stern.

Chemistry major Isaac Kuyunov is investigating the role of proteins in bio-mineralization under the mentorship of Dr.

research on academic freedom in the 1960s and 1970s for his mentor, Dr. Ellen Schrecker, professor of history.

With his interest in legal history, Friedman is considering joint graduate programs in history and law. The history major said the personal attention available to students at YU was conducive for someone interested in serious academic research. "The small class sizes allow students interested in research to develop their skills under close faculty supervision." ■



Ciner (L), who works in Peter's (R) lab, has medical-school aspirations.

Tbilisi, Georgia, chose a research subject close to her heart: separatist politics in two autonomous republics in the region of her homeland.

"I want to research the nature of the conflict that tore apart my country for more than a decade," said Kitaevich, an international relations and economics major whose faculty mentor is Dr. Elizabeth Radziszewski, assistant professor of political science at Stern College for Women. "The political drama is evolving right in front of our eyes—indeed, what could be more exhilarating than this!"

Aviva Feuerstein, who is double majoring in English literature and political science at Stern, is researching Jewish and non-Jewish female writers' responses to anti-Semitism in

Raji Viswanathan, professor of chemistry and associate dean of academic affairs at Yeshiva College (YC).

Pre-med student Aaron Ciner is working closely with Dr. Yakov Peter, assistant professor of biology at YC, on a project that could revolutionize the field of pulmonary stem cell biology and regenerative medicine. Ciner, who is researching multipotential reparative cells in mouse lung tissue, hopes to pursue a career in research and clinical medicine.

Elie Friedman's research involves writing an account of the seminal 1967 U.S. Supreme Court case *Keyishian vs. Board of Regents*, which became the legal linchpin of academic freedom. He became fascinated with the subject while conducting

NEW BOARD CHAIR HENRY KRESSEL IS CHAMPION, AND PRODUCT, OF A YESHIVA COLLEGE EDUCATION



Continuing to build an outstanding environment for YU students to excel academically and professionally is what drives Dr. Henry Kressel (left), YU's new Board Chairman. A graduate of Yeshiva College (YC) in 1955, he is the first alumnus to serve in this position.

Kressel is a renowned scientist, engineer, corporate manager, industry leader, author and investor. He is a senior partner at Warburg Pincus LLC, a global private equity firm, where he oversees investments in high-tech companies. A world recognized expert in electronic devices, Kressel holds 31 U.S. patents and has led pioneering research on lasers, transistors, solar cells and other devices.

He was appointed Regents Lecturer at the University of California (San Diego) and served as an advisor to several universities, including the University of Cambridge in the UK and the University of Pennsylvania.

"Yeshiva University is a great institution with a unique mission. We have outstanding graduate professional schools and unequalled undergraduate schools. Yeshiva College gave me an excellent Judaic and secular education and the habit of self-study," Kressel said. "I came to appreciate the distinctive value of my college experience as I learned a great deal about other colleges in the course of my lecturing and advisory services."

After majoring in physics, he earned an MS in applied physics from Harvard University, an MBA from the Wharton School and a PhD in material science from the University of Pennsylvania. He attributes his successful professional development to his YC education. "When I graduated, I got a prestigious fellowship to Harvard and was very well prepared," he noted. "My outstanding college education in advanced math, physics, English and other subjects was a huge asset as I moved into different professional endeavors." ■



YOUNG LEADERS IN TRAINING MAKE THEIR MARK AT YU

Now in its sixth year, the Presidential Fellowship in University and Community Leadership has selected 16 of YU's top graduates from the class of 2009. Pictured here with President Richard M. Joel (center) are: (standing, L-R) Elysia Stein '04S (fellowship coordinator), Avital Gozhenko, Adira Katlowitz, Esther Goldstein, Osnat Rabinowich, Steven A. Loterstein, David Eckstein, Daniel Neiss, Uri Westrich, Avi Amsalem, Ephraim Shoshani and Rabbi Josh Joseph '00BR, '00R (chief of staff and fellowship director); (seated, L-R) Allison Liebman, Nava Billet, Aviva Miller, Perel Skier and Annie Wasserman. (Not pictured is Abigail Schoenfeld.) Each fellow is mentored by a senior administrator and works on projects of importance to the University while learning about leadership skills and service to the Jewish community. ■

NEWSRoundup

The **National Institutes of Health** has awarded **Albert Einstein College of Medicine** two grants totaling **\$3.5 million** to study epigenetic changes—chemical modifications of genes caused by stress, diet or other environmental influences—and how they contribute to human diseases and biological processes. One grant, for \$2.03 million over five years, will focus on the epigenetic changes that influence abnormal fetal growth. The second grant, for \$1.49 million over four years, will address the epigenetic landscape of chronic kidney disease. The medical school was one of only two institutions to receive two or more grants from the NIH in this round of funding.

Einstein researchers have identified two small protein fragments that could be developed into an **anthrax vaccine** that may cause fewer side effects than the current vaccine. Anthrax, a disease caused by the bacterial species *Bacillus anthracis*, results in part from toxic proteins, or toxins, that the multiplying bacteria secrete. The scientists focused on the protein toxin used in the current vaccine, looking for the smallest protein sections (known as peptides) that could trigger the production of protective antibodies when injected into animals.

Wurzweiler School of Social Work has been awarded a grant by the **New York City Community Trust** to fund a curriculum aimed at training social workers to better assist **families in economic distress**. The trust has provided the 20-month, \$214,000 grant to Wurzweiler, along with the schools of social work at Fordham University, Hunter College, Lehman College, Long Island University and Touro College. The schools will collaboratively develop, test and implement a **financial literacy curriculum**. The knowledge and skills that the students learn as a result of the curriculum will be applied in field-work settings throughout the metropolitan area. **Dr. Joanna Mellor**, assistant professor, will serve as Wurzweiler's liaison to the project.

Dr. Jonathan Feldman, assistant professor at **Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology**, is the co-recipient of a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine to study disparities in childhood **asthma between Mexican and Puerto Rican children** in the U.S. The grant is shared with researchers at Arizona State University. Feldman serves as the principal investigator for the Ferkauf team of researchers and students at Jacobi Medical Center and North Central Bronx Hospital. Feldman said that according to current data, Mexican children have the lowest prevalence rate among all ethnic groups in this country, while Puerto Rican children have the highest rate.

In just two years, Yeshiva University has made significant strides in **environmental sustainability**, as witnessed by its improved score on the **College Sustainability Report Card** of the Sustainability Endowments Institute (SEI). As in the student involvement, administration and transportation categories, and grade increases in five of nine categories helped raise YU's rating to a B- overall (up from a C in 2009, a C- in 2008 and a D- in 2007). **Jack Zencheck**, chief procurement officer, attributed the University's progress to student-driven programs and the recent formation of an energy task force. He also credited the addition of a sustainability team for the high grades. The announcement of YU's bolstered sustainability standing came on the heels of YU's first **Sustainability Week**, from Oct. 18–23, that included daffodil planting in a local park with students. The sustainability office is developing a **Climate Action Plan**, which will become an energy conservation and sustainability road map.

Wireless connectivity has expanded on all YU's campuses, funded by the recent sale of state bonds through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY). **Nine Manhattan student dormitories** now have wireless connectivity, with more areas slated to be connected by December 2009. Approximately \$15 million of the \$140 million raised in the sale of the bonds was earmarked for **improvements in information technology**. Proceeds from the sale also went toward the new Glueck Center for Jewish Study on the Wilf Campus, refinancing existing projects on the Manhattan and Bronx campuses and the reimbursement of a portion of the costs of acquiring Einstein's Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine.

NIH Supports Groundbreaking Research on Aging and DNA

EINSTEIN STUDY MAY HELP PREVENT AGE-RELATED DISEASE

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded Albert Einstein College of Medicine an \$11.2 million grant over five years to investigate the impact of DNA damage on aging and disease.

Research funded by this grant, and conducted by a consortium of scientists, could reveal the role of genome maintenance systems in delaying aging and will begin to explore novel interventions to maintain health in old age.

Led by Dr. Jan Vijg, chairman of genetics and professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, the research project will build on the consortium's previous internationally recognized work involving mice that undergo accelerated aging. This research has shown that interfering with the cellular processes responsible for DNA repair leads to what appears to be premature aging in these animals.

These results indicate that accumulating DNA errors may underpin the aging process. The investigators in the consortium now plan to see if treatments based on these results can extend life spans of mice bred to have short lives.

"We can try to use interventions that are based on alleviating DNA damage," Vijg said. "One approach, for example, could be the use of antioxidants, which neutralize free radicals, the chemicals that contribute to DNA damage."

The NIH program project grant has funded five groups of scientists who are working on interrelated parts of the project's four research areas. In addition to Vijg's group, another Einstein team is headed by Dr. Yousin Suh, associate professor of medicine and genetics.

Suh will take advantage of a unique Einstein resource: tissue samples from Ashkenazi

Jewish centenarians. Using this relatively homogeneous population brought together by her Einstein collaborator, Dr. Nir Barzilai, director of the Institute for Aging Research at Einstein, Suh will look for gene variations associated with longevity.

Her team will test these "longevity genes" by inserting them into otherwise ordinary human cells and then observing whether the inserted genes improve cellular function.

The other investigators are affiliated with the Buck Institute for Age Research in Novato, CA; the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam, the Netherlands; and the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, TX.

"Ultimately," said Vijg, "our hope is that this research will lead to new strategies that can be deployed for delaying, preventing or even curing age-related disease." ■

Obama Advisor Keynotes Hanukkah Dinner



Dr. Lawrence H. Summers (above), director of the National Economic Council and assistant to President Barack Obama for economic policy, delivered the keynote speech at this year's Hanukkah dinner. The first Jewish president in Harvard University's history, serving from 2001–2006, Summers has held numerous government positions under different administrations. He was the first social scientist to receive the National Science Foundation's Alan T. Waterman Award for outstanding scientific achievement. He was one of *TIME*'s "100 Most Influential People" in 2005.

YU also awarded honorary degrees to:

Froma Benerofe, a clinical social worker now in private practice. She has counseled and assisted people for more than 20 years. She serves on the Board of Overseers of Wurzweiler School of Social Work. Benerofe and her husband, Andrew, established the Benerofe Family Scholarship at Wurzweiler.

Roger W. Einiger, a community leader and philanthropist, and president of Hardscrabble Associates LLC, a private investment firm. He serves as treasurer of Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Board and chairs the budget and finance committee on its executive committee. In 2008, he joined both the finance and investment committees of YU's Board of Trustees.

Tovah Feldshuh, who has carved a remarkable career as an actress, singer and playwright. For her performances on the New York stage, from *Yentl* to *Lend Me A Tenor*, Feldshuh has

earned multiple awards. *Golda's Balcony*, in which she played Golda Meir, became the longest-running one-woman show in the history of Broadway.

Maurice Kanbar, an inventor and entrepreneur. His creations include New York's first multiplex theater, and he invented the SafetyGlide hypodermic needle protector, SKYY Vodka and a new LED traffic light. A YU Benefactor, he established scholarship support for deserving law students at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

Cantor Joseph Malovany, cantor of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue. He holds the Joseph Malovany Chair for Advanced Studies in Jewish Liturgical Music at the Philip and Sarah Belz School of Jewish Music, a division of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He is also dean of the J.D.C. Moscow Academy of Jewish Music.

Go to www.yu.edu/news for more in-depth coverage of YU's Hanukkah Dinner. ■

> CHECK OUT UPCOMING EVENTS AT YU AT www.yu.edu/events <

Your news is our news! ClassNotes is where YU celebrates the milestones and accomplishments of our alumni. In this section, you can catch up on everything your classmates have been up to over the years, from marriages and births to professional and personal achievements. You can submit your class note by e-mailing alumni@yu.edu with the subject line "ClassNotes," by mailing the form included on the back of this page, or by visiting www.yu.edu/alumni. We hope that you enjoy reading about your fellow alumni and friends, and we look forward to hearing about your achievements.

1950s

Herman Cahn '50YUHS retired from the New York State Supreme Court where he served as a judge since 1980. Judge Cahn served on the Civil Court bench from 1977–1980 and was a founding justice of the Commercial Division.

Dr. Jacob "Jack" Finkelstein '59YC is proof that a connection to YU lasts for generations. He currently audits graduate-level Jewish history courses, while his son, **Dr. Barry Finkelstein** '94YC, is an attending surgeon at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and his grandson, **Meir Finkelstein**, is a freshman at YUHS.

Rabbi Yitzchak Meir Goodman '54YC, '56R, '78F published a five-volume commentary on Chumash, *Great Torah Lights* by Devorah Publishing. He was a Rosh Yeshiva at Torah Academy in Manhattan from 1959 to 1975.

The Jewish Publication Society republished **Rabbi David Hartman's** '54R expanded edition, *Maimonides: Torah and Philosophic Quest*.

Rabbi Isaiah Hertzberg ('50YC) and his wife, **Irene Sara** '86W, celebrated the marriage of their granddaughter, **Ariella Shifra Bram** '08S to **Aryeh Rosenbaum** '09YC.

Dr. Abraham Mann ('59YC, '62R, '62BR) and **Joan Ehrlich** '87C announce the birth of a granddaughter born to **Miriam** ('96S) and **Stephen Wallach** '92SB, '95C. Mazel tov to Stephen's parents, **Marilyn and Lee Wallach**; Lee is a member of the YC Board.

Semantic Antics: How and Why Words Change Meanings (Random House, 2008), the latest work of lexicographer **Sol Steinmetz** '53YC, '56R, was reviewed on June 22 in *The New York Times*.

Dr. Joseph Sungolowsky '55YC, '58R, professor of French literature at Queens College, City University of New York, wrote "Joseph Sinzheim, President of Napoleon's Sanhedrin and the First Chief Rabbi of France," which appeared in *Midstream* (Winter 2009). He also wrote "Holocaust Autobiography," about Wiesel's *Night*, which appears in *Bloom's Guides* (Chelsea House, 2009).

1960s



Rabbi Howard Finkelstein '69YUHS, '73YC, '76R, '77F won the 2009 Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.



Dr. Stanford Goldman '61YC, '65E was awarded honorary membership to the Royal Belgian Radiological Society (RBRS) for outstanding achievements in uroradiology.



Chana Henkin '64YUHS, '68S, '76BR was mentioned in the *Jerusalem Post* (October 22, 2009) for her outstanding achievements in promoting female scholarship. She founded Nishmat, an elite school for Israeli and American women that emphasizes beit midrash havruta study of Talmud.

To fulfill the mitzvah to write a Safer Torah [copy of the Torah], **Drew Kopf** '64YUHS, '68YC has been painting watercolor montages that illustrate passages from the Torah as bar and bat mitzvah gifts since 2001. Each painting depicts images drawn from the Sedra [Torah section] and Haftorah [selection from the Books of the Prophets] passages that are being read during the week of the ceremony.

BRINGING NAZIS TO JUSTICE



Dr. Efraim Zuroff '66YUHS, '70YC, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem, published *Operation Last Chance: One Man's Quest to Bring Nazi Criminals to Justice* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), which details Zuroff's ongoing campaign to capture remaining Nazis. Launched in 2002, the campaign has resulted in Zuroff identifying 488 Nazis who are still alive and at large. Dr. Zuroff is widely acclaimed as the world's preeminent Nazi hunter, and a leading expert on the prosecution of war criminals.

Phyllis Curchack Kornspan '69S of Petach Tikvah, Israel, announces a grandson born to Jonathan and Shlomit Kornspan of Shvut Rachel, Israel.

Rabbi Gary ('60YUHS, '64YC, '67R) and **Ann (Hook) Pollack** '62YUHS, '66TI announce a grandson.

Rabbi Dr. Bernhard Rosenberg '69YC, '74R, '74F, '82A delivered the benediction for ROTC Graduation at Rutgers University New Brunswick for army and air force. He is adjunct professor of speech at Yeshiva College and teaches public speaking.

Jeffrey I. Roth '68YC, '71R wrote a book, *Inheriting the Crown in Jewish Law: The Struggle for Rabbinic Compensation, Tenure and Inheritance Rights* (University of South Carolina Press, 2006).

1970s

Bonnie (Gleicher) Farkas '75YUHS celebrated the marriage of her daughter, Michelle, to Josh Arbesman.

Tobi and Rabbi Zvi Freidman '77YC, '81R, '81W celebrated the marriage of their daughter, Daniella, to Raphael Tatelbaum and the birth of their grandson, Avrohom Dovid Mordechai Freidman, born to Aviva and **Eliav Freidman** '05W.

"2009 New York Super Lawyers", published in *The New York Times Magazine*, listed **Ira Lawrence Herman** '79YC in the top 5 percent of lawyers in the New York metro area.

THE AWARD GOES TO...



Dr. Michael Aizenman '75BS received the 2010 Dannie Heineman Prize for Mathematical Physics from the American Physical Society. Aizenman received the award for his "development of the random current approach to correlations which has had an impact on a wide variety of problems, especially his rigorous non-perturbative proof of the triviality of 4 field theory." Dr. Aizenman is a mathematician and physicist at Princeton University.

Debra and **Dr. Martin Hirsch** '76YC announce a granddaughter, Leba Nechama, born to their daughter **Elishava** ('05S) and **Moshe Danzger** '05YC. Mazel tov on the marriage of their daughter **Atara** ('07S, '09A) to **Mordecai Turoff** '07YC. Mazel tov also to grandparents Shoshana and **Rabbi Paul Teicher** '51YC.

Cantor Leon Kahn '75YC was appointed president of the Cantorial Council of America.

Judy ('76YUHS, '80C) and **Jay Kalish** '79YC, '82C announce a granddaughter, Tohar Shahevetya, born to Gavriel and Yael Kalish of Tzefat.

Esther and **Uri Ladell** '72YUHS announce a granddaughter, Neta, born to Moriya and Miki Ladell.

Aryeh Lazar '75YUHS was appointed head of the department of behavioral sciences at the Ariel University Center of Samaria in Ariel, Israel.

Dr. Helen ('77S, '80F) and **Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman's** '81YC, '95A daughter, Daniella, graduated with honors from Columbia Law School.

The *Baltimore Jewish Times* published a poem "Grit and Grace: How my Daughter Survived Cancer," by **Judith Minkove** '76S inspired by her daughter Rachel's journey into remission.

Rabbi Yitschak and **Zahava (Gerri Lasky) Rudomin** '78S, '82W celebrated the birth of twins, Elchanan Noach and Ahuva Liba, to their daughter Rochel and Ari Robert Klein. Mazel tov also on the birth of a son, Aron Moshe, to their daughter Miriam and Menachem Yifat. Mazel tov to Miriam on completing her MSW and continuing in her mother's footsteps as a social worker.

Henry Schachar '71YUHS, '74YC was promoted to executive vice-chairman of Marquis Jet. Schachar co-founded Marquis Jet in 2001 and subsequently served as its president.

Richard and **Susan Shanin** '73YUHS, '77S announce the marriage of their daughter, **Shari** ('07S), to **Zev Koller** '07YC.

Sam Solomon '75YC, '81BR, '81R retired from Doar Communications, Inc., the firm he founded in 1989.

Dr. Meir Wilker '70YC, '72W began a weekly parenting advice column, "Partners in Parenting," in the daily *Hamodia* newspaper.

1980s

Dr. Allan Barsky '88W published a textbook, *Ethics and Values in Social Work: An Integrated Approach for a Comprehensive Curriculum* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

PRESIDENT OBAMA TAPS ALUMNUS FOR COUNCIL



Nathan J. Diament '88YC was appointed by President Obama as one of 25 members of the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. As a member, Diament will help the council fulfill its mission of reaching out to non-profits and community organizations to help them make a bigger impact in their communities. Diament is well-qualified for the task. As director of the Institute for Public Affairs of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization), he develops and coordinates public policy research and initiatives on behalf of the Jewish community. Diament is a co-editor of *Tikkun Olam: Social Responsibility in Jewish Thought and Law* (Aronson Press, 1997) and the author of articles and essays on issues including religion and state, constitutional law, social policy and international affairs. His writing has been featured in law journals as well as publications including *The Washington Post*, *The Weekly Standard*, *The Washington Times*, *The Forward* and *The Jewish Week* and he has been a guest on CNN, FOX News and other broadcast media.

Malca and **Rabbi Chaim Jachter** '81YUHS, '86YC, '88BR, '92R had a son, Hillel Shlomo Zalman. Mazel tov on publication of the third volume of *Gray Matter* and the bat mitzvah of their daughter, Bracha Esther.

Rabbi Marc ('83YC, '88R, '88W) and **Jacqueline (Klausner) Mandel** '86S were Tiferet honorees at the Beth Jacob Congregation in Beverly Hills, CA.

Deborah and **Eric Rosen** '89SB celebrated the bar mitzvah of their son, Daniel, at the Young Israel of Great Neck.

Elie Weiss and Sara Hurand recently had a son, Jonah Zvi. Mazel tov to Elie's parents, Judy and Morry Weiss, immediate past chairman of the YU Board of Trustees, and to his brothers, **Gary Weiss** '84YC, **Jeffrey Weiss** '85YC and **Zev Weiss** '88YC.

Doreen Winter's '87W published *Delivery from Darkness: A Jewish Guide to Prevention, Detection, and Treatment of Postpartum Depression* (Feldheim Publishing, 2009).

1990s

Allison ('92W) and **Jonathan Bellin** '89YC, '93W had a son, Noah Aaron.

Adina and **Lawrence Burian** '91YC had a daughter, Bluma Gittel.

Sara Diamant '97S, '98BR published *Talking to Children About Intimacy: A Guide for Orthodox Jewish Parents*.

Rabbi Eliezer (Josh) ('97YC, '01R) and **Lauren Aviva Friedman** '03S had a son, Reuven.

KEEPING 1948 ALIVE



Eric Halivni '93YC founded Toldot Yisrael, an organization committed to preserving the history

of the 1948 War of Independence by filming interviews with veterans and civilians who were involved. Among the interviewees is Dr. Norman Lamm, chancellor of YU, who as a Yeshiva College student took a leave of absence to work in a bullet factory during the war. So far, Halivni has interviewed more than 100 people and is looking for additional participants. Additional information and clips of the interviews he's conducted so far can be found at www.toldotyisrael.org

Rachel and **Daniel Hanuka** '97SB had a daughter, Bella Leora. She joins big brothers Eli Joshua and Trevor Benjamin.

Shira ('97S) and **Yisroel Hochberg** '92YC had a son, Eli, younger brother to Yehoshua, Ora and Miri. Mazel tov to grandparents **Moshe** ('60YUHS, '64YC, '67R, '67BR) and **Zese Hochberg** '61YUHS and Harry and **Rochelle Zupnik** '65YUHS, '70TI.

Jeremy Neiss '99YUHS, '03YC married Alison Leventhal. Mazel tov to parents **Dr. Vivian** ('91F) and **Moshe Neiss** '68YUHS, '72YC, '75R, '75BR.

Elana and **Jesse Mendelson** '99YC, '02C had a baby boy.



Dr. Dale R. Rosenbach '99YUHS, '03YC began a periodontal residency at Columbia

University College of Dental Medicine. His wife, **Dr. Michal (Gold) Rosenbach** '01S, is a staff dentist at UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School in the Department of Special Care Dentistry. They live in Passaic, NJ, with their two children, Tziporah and Binyomin Nechemia.

Zvi Shapiro '99SB and his wife, Leah, had a daughter, Adina Yaffa. Zvi received his MBA from California State Long Beach in May.

Rabbi David ('91YC, '93R, '93A) and **Bonnie Sheer** '86YUHS, '90S celebrated the bar mitzvah of their son, Yoni. Mazel tov to grandparents Judy and **Rabbi Charles Sheer** '65YC, '67R, '67BR and Philip and Joan Soskin. Also, to great grandfather **Mr. Bernard Schrenzel** '38YC.

Avi Shmidman '96YC received his PhD from Bar Ilan University. His dissertation was entitled: *The Poetic Versions of the Grace after Meals from Cario Genizah*. Avi was granted a tenure-track position at Bar-Ilan University in the Department of Literature of the Jewish People, sponsored by the Alon Fellowship of the Israeli Council for Higher Education.

Miriam (Bluth) ('90YUHS, '93S) and **Danny Wallach** '93SB had a fourth child, Shlomo Yonatan (Yoni).

Orit '95E and **Jan Wimpfheimer** '86YUHS, '89YC celebrated the bar mitzvah of their son, Noam Shai.

2000s

Maggie Dweck '08S married Jason Listhaus. Mazel tov to their parents Jack B. Dweck and **Shari Koslowe Schechter** '77S and **Dr. Alan** ('81YC, '85A) and **Barbara Lauer Listhaus** '80YUHS, '82S, '88F and to the grandparents, Marie and Ben Dweck, Marly Koslowe and **Ilse Ungar Lauer** '60S.

Ayelet (Rosenberg) '06S and **Ari Feder** '04SB had a daughter, Emma Rachel. Mazel tov to grandparents Charlene and **Rabbi Bernhard Rosenberg** '69YC, '74R, '74F, '92AZ and **Sharon** ('76TI, '80C) and **Elliot Feder** '69YUHS.

Judith (Gorelick) Feldman '07S married Joshua Rosenbloom.

Lisa ('02S) and **Jonah Feldman** '97YUHS, '03YC had a son.

Alana Riss Fine '03F delivered a presentation on "Coping in Challenging Times," in which she derives insights into modern psychology from the Bible.

THE BRODY BUNCH



Members of the Brody family who either attend or graduated from YUHSG celebrate the graduation of **Liat Brody** '09YUHS who served as president of Arista and captain of the tennis team. Liat (2nd from left) is proudly flanked by (L-R): Mrs. Harriet Sklar, associate principal; **Limor Brody** '13; **Talia Brody** '07YUHS; **Dana Brody** '10; Head of School Rochelle Brand. Not pictured is Joey Brody. Liat's parents are **Dr. Paul** '72YC and **Dror Brody**, a former Hebrew teacher at Central. Liat is attending Midreshet Moriah in Jerusalem.

Aaron Friedman ('08SB) and Ariella Beth (Deyong) '08S had a son, David Gershon.



Shirli (Freiden) ('07S) and **Ari Gotlib** '06YC had a son, Max Judah.

Dr. Jamie S. Hirsch '04YC, '09E celebrated his marriage to Rachel Fried, son of Lea and **Leon Eisenberg** '47YC.

Rabbi Avery ('00YC, '02A, '05R) and **Aliza Joel** '98S, '01A had a daughter.

Rabbi Eli ('06YC, '08R) and **Naomi Kohl** '04S, '06W had a daughter.

Chani Kirschenbaum '07SB married **Dani Kohn** '07YC.

Devorah (Rubin) ('01S) and **Yosef Korn** '00SB had a daughter, Avigail Bracha.

Sara and **Daniel Kraus** '05YC had a daughter, Kira Emma.

Rabbi Aryeh Leibowitz '04YC, '04BR, '06R recently published a book: *Hashgacha Pratis: An Exploration of Divine Providence and Free Will* (Targum Press, 2009).

Rebecca Leicht '01S married Jason Gould.

Chani Radinsky '07S is engaged to Daniel Friedman. Mazel tov to parents **Barbara** ('65S) and **Rabbi David Radinsky** '63YC, '66R, '66BR and Rabbi and Mrs. Zev Friedman.

A RINGING ENDORSEMENT



On October 12, **Ari Raskas** '01YC and **Jonah Raskas** '07YC (first and second from L) were present for the ringing of the opening bell on the Nasdaq along with the firm, Lihua, a Chinese company that manufactures copper wire. Ari and Jonah work at Rodman Renshaw and Broadband Capital respectively, which managed Lihua's public offering. They are sons of **Stanley Raskas** '65YC, '69BR, '69R, chairman of the Yeshiva College Board of Overseers.

Abby Schwarz '05S married **Elad Cnaan** '04YC.

Joey Schwarz '08SB married **Amber Sved** '09S, daughter of Naomi and **Ira Sved** '79YUHS.

Ariel Schwarzberg '07YC, '09A delivered a lecture at Harvard Divinity School entitled, "Sefer Yonah: The Climax of the High Holidays," which explored the significance of the story of the prophet Yonah. In short, he "hope(s) that I have conveyed that Yom Kippur is really about people realizing their potential!"

Elior D. Shiloh '03SBM, '07C ran in the Philadelphia Marathon for the Survivors of Torture "PSOT", a joint program of Bellevue Hospital and New York University Medical Center providing comprehensive torture treatment.

Shani Snyder '05S, '10E is engaged to **Eli Hagler** '06SB, assistant director of admissions at Yeshiva University.

Elana Stroh '07S married **Michael Goldsmith** '08YC.

Sara Willner '08S is engaged to Nathan Light of Montreal.

In Memorium

We mourn the loss of the following :

Fred Baum, former dean of libraries at Yeshiva University

Irwin "Red" Blumenreich '57YC

Dr. Leon A. Feldman '48R, '59BR

Dr. Baruch Frankel '01YC

Rabbi Ezra Gellman '38YUHS, '42YC, '43R

Suri (Reichel) Granek '70YUHS

Rabbi Joseph Kelman '48YC, '52R

Daniel Ladell '02YUHS, '08YC

Rabbi Chaim Medetsky '42YC, '46R

Melvin Metzger, lifelong supporter of Yeshiva University, former president of Samuel H. Wang Yeshiva University High School

Rabbi Pesach Oratz '48YC, '50R, '81BR

Samuel Rosenblum '38YUHS, '42YC

Sy Syms, vice chairman of Yeshiva University Board of Trustees and member of Sy Syms School of Business' Board of Overseers

Rabbi Toporovsky '49YUHS, '53YC, '56R

James Tropp '84YC

Charles Weinstein '45YC

Your news is our news!

Have you started a new job, received a promotion, published a book, won an award, had an addition to the family or experienced any other personal or professional achievements in your life? If so, we'd like to hear about it! Please include complete information and, if possible, a head shot or hi-res photo.

SCHOOL/CLASS YEAR _____

NAME (FIRST) _____ (LAST) _____

NAME WHILE AT YU (IF DIFFERENT) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ (CELL) _____

PREFERRED E-MAIL _____

MY NEWS: _____

I WOULD LIKE MY CLASSNOTE TO APPEAR: IN YUTODAY ONLINE BOTH

SEND OR FAX TO: Office of Alumni Affairs, 500 West 185th Street, New York, NY 10033-3201. • Phone 212.960.5373 • FAX: 212.960.5336 • E-mail: alumni@yu.edu

While space constraints may prevent us from including every listing we receive, we will make every effort to see that all class notes are recognized in other ways. ClassNotes welcomes typewritten or neatly printed submissions that include relevant information (name, maiden name, school, year of graduation, and a contact phone number). Submitted items may be edited for space.

Legend for school abbreviations: **A:** Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration • **BR:** Bernard Revel Graduate School • **BS:** Belfer Graduate School of Science • **BZ:** Philip and Sarah Belz School of Jewish Music • **C:** Cardozo School of Law • **E:** Albert Einstein College of Medicine • **F:** Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology • **IBC:** Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies • **JS:** James Striar School of Jewish Studies • **MY:** Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies • **R:** Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary • **S:** Stern College for Women • **SB:** Sy Syms School of Business • **SBM:** Stone Beit Midrash Program • **TI:** Teacher's Institute • **W:** Wurzelweiler School of Social Work • **YC:** Yeshiva College • **YUHS:** Yeshiva University High Schools

Faculty Explore New Ways of Storing Solar Energy

GRANTS FROM PETROLEUM RESEARCH FUND SUPPORT SEARCH FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

Dr. Michael Machczynski and Dr. Jianfeng Jiang, assistant professors of chemistry at Yeshiva University, have each been awarded grants of \$50,000 over two years from the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund. Their work, which will investigate different ways of efficiently storing energy from the sun, will provide opportunities for several undergraduate students to conduct research.

Machczynski's research involves the development of enzymes as catalysts to convert water to oxygen. Nature uses solar energy to make fuel that, when burned, releases energy that can be used to make machines run.

Similarly, Machczynski's work focuses on trying to develop "catalysts that will take electrons from water, leaving oxygen, and give those electrons to another catalyst that makes fuel," he said. "The energy to make this whole thing work together comes from the sun."

Machczynski noted that the amount of sunlight that falls on Earth in a single hour produces enough energy to power the world for a year. "The only

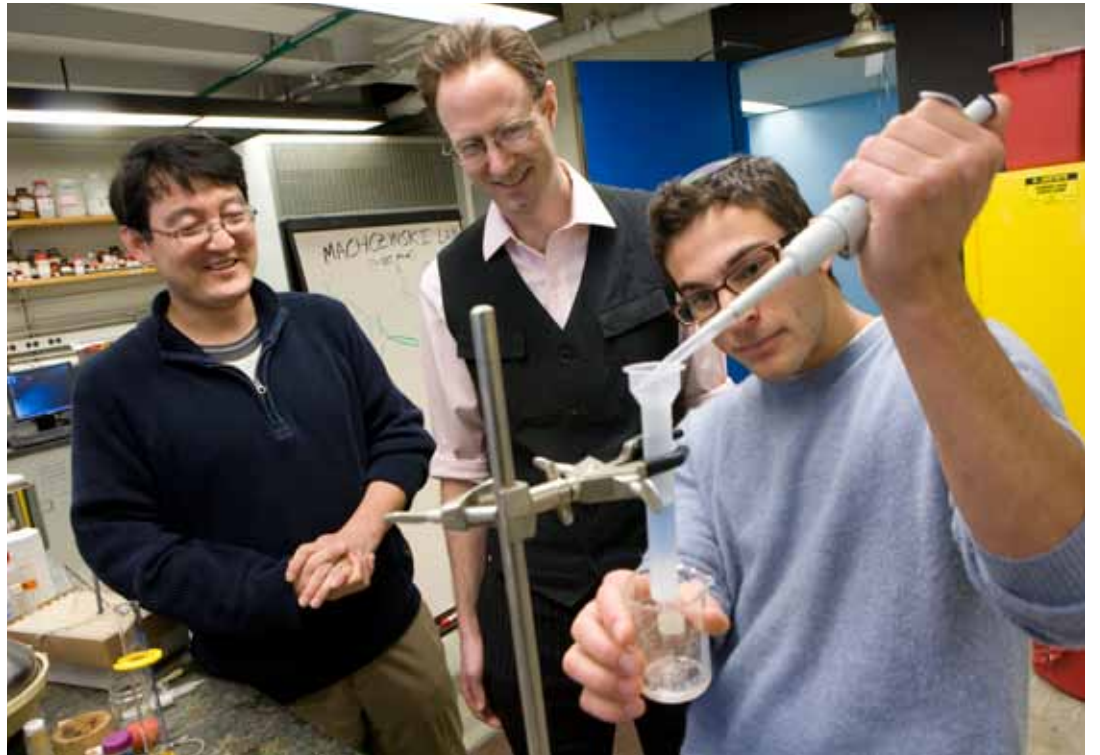
energy source that can cover the whole world is solar." For the United States, reliant as it is on foreign oil, "this is not just an energy issue. This is a national security issue," he said.

Jiang's complementary project focuses on using hydrogen gas to yield water and release energy. He hopes his work will ultimately help replace platinum-based catalysts with those using iron and nickel, which are cheaper and more abundant.

"Most of our energy source now is fossil fuel, which will only last another hundred years," said Jiang. "Burning fossil fuel also releases carbon dioxide as a by-product. In contrast, burning hydrogen gas only generates water. My research, basically, is in how we are going to make hydrogen more convenient and cheap," he said.

The grants enable the professors to purchase a powerful piece of electronic hardware fundamental to modern electrochemical studies, called a potentiostat, as they seek new energy technology.

The grants, according to Machczynski, are helping to renew the experimental science



Jiang (L) and Machczynski (C) guide student Raphael Huntley (R) in the lab.

program at Yeshiva, not only through the faculty's work, but through student involvement with the research as well. Machczynski has four students working with him, while Jiang has three.

The combination of laboratory experience and classroom

training provides students with a more comprehensive understanding of chemistry and promotes creative thinking.

Alexander Raytman '08YC, a former participant in Jiang's research who is enrolled in the molecular and cell pharmacology PhD program at the Uni-

versity of Miami, noted that his acquired skills have been invaluable. "It is because of this research experience at YU that I was well prepared for graduate school from the practical side," Raytman said. "I mastered my research skills in Professor Jiang's lab." ■

Cardozo Develops International Standards for Stopping Genocide

The Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law is earning an international reputation as a leader in helping the United Nations and countries around the world develop firm standards for when and how best to stop a genocide.

The Australian government has awarded Cardozo a grant of \$139,947 to implement a two-year program to develop an international standard for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine, which requires that when a state is either unwilling or unable to fulfill its responsibility to protect its own populations, UN member states are obligated to take action to minimize human suffering.



Rosenberg hopes that international genocide standards will save lives.

Shortly after the grant was announced, a report entitled "Preventing Genocide: A Blueprint for U.S. Policymakers," by

Madeleine Albright and William Cohen, co-chairs of the Genocide Prevention Task Force, cited a conference Cardozo hosted on

R2P in March 2008.

Cardozo's program was among 14 organizations selected to receive funding from the Australian government.

"The grant will enable the program to do groundbreaking work that will lead to real action and make an enormous difference in people's lives," said Cardozo Dean Matthew Diller.

Since 150 world leaders embraced R2P during the UN's 60th Anniversary World Summit in 2005, the international community has struggled to act on, or even decide, when it is facing an R2P situation.

According to Sheri Rosenberg, director of Cardozo's Holocaust and Human Rights Program, R2P is stymied by standards of proof. "As a result, mil-

lions of people lose their lives while the international community determines whether a state is 'manifestly failing' to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity," she said. "Our hope is to establish evidentiary standards to end paralyzing debate in making that determination, thereby stopping or even preventing a genocide."

The project seeks to produce practical criteria to inform the application of R2P in emerging crisis situations. It will prepare a concept paper to be presented at international conferences and workshops at which relevant stakeholders from around the globe will hammer out the details. ■

Wilf Family Gives \$25M

Continued from Page 1

Harry, also a Holocaust survivor and co-founder of the family's real estate operations.

They first endowed a major need-based scholarship fund for undergraduate students in 1990 and added a second major

scholarship fund for distinguished undergraduate scholars a few years later. In 2002, YU's campus in Washington Heights was renamed the Wilf Campus in recognition of the family's continuing support.

Zygi, Joseph's son and chief operating officer of Garden Homes, is a member of YU's

Board of Trustees and secretary of Einstein's Board of Overseers. He also sits on the YU Capital Campaign Committee.

The family's most recent gift includes funding for the establishment of the Wilf Family Cardiovascular Research Institute at Einstein. "In allocating \$10 million to create this insti-

tute, we are seeking to ensure support for an area where we know Einstein physicians and researchers can make a significant impact in advancing public health," Zygi noted.

"Our family truly acts like a family when it comes to determining support for worthwhile causes," noted Harry's son,

Leonard, president of Garden Homes. Leonard and his cousins Zygi and Mark are co-owners and officers of the Minnesota Vikings football team. "High among those causes is creating a stronger Jewish community. We know that YU is the best investment we can make toward securing that goal," he said. ■

Alumni Help Students Find Their Way to Wall Street

UNDERGRADUATES NETWORK WITH EXECUTIVES AT WALL STREET CONNECTIONS SERIES

Twenty-one of Wall Street's most successful executives and money managers, many of whom are alumni, engaged undergraduate students at an industry forum and networking event on the Wilf Campus in October. Since it was established three years ago, the Wall Street Connections series has offered students insight into financial careers and the opportunity to build relationships with the people who might one day hire them.

For Riva Wachsman, a finance major at Stern College for Women, the event—and the contacts and exposure it led to—reaped rewards in the form of a job as an analyst at Citigroup that she will begin after she graduates next year. She met Evelyn Havasi-Stavsky '82S, '85C, managing director and global head of Citigroup's Asset Finance Group, at a Wall Street Connections panel two years ago and reached out to her for guidance about careers in finance. With some determination, Wachsman landed a summer internship in Citi's capital



Herenstein (R) spoke with students about their professional interests.

markets origination division.

"It is not every day that someone of Riva's caliber comes along," said Havasi-Stavsky, who serves on Stern's Board and has a daughter enrolled at the school. "Riva is the full package: bright, articulate and charming, with top quality grades, leadership qualities and great experience. I knew that she would be an asset and a great representative of YU graduates."

Havasi-Stavsky knows what it takes to succeed in the field of finance. The Stern alum-

nus oversees 50 executives and manages a portfolio in excess of \$2 billion. She has a successful record of closing highly complex, structured transactions.

"Evelyn is a role model for me," Wachsman said. "There are very few women who do the work she does, especially observant women. It is hard to work in investment banking and still have a life, but this is someone who does that and takes the time to help people like me. She gave me a lot of encouragement and advice. If it weren't for her,



Askowitz (L) and Havasi-Stavsky (C) co-chair the Wall Street Committee.

I wouldn't be starting at Citi in the fall."

Havasi-Stavsky co-chairs YU's Wall Street Committee with Lawrence Askowitz '87YC, managing partner at Gabriel Advisors LLC. They help bring speakers in from across the spectrum of careers in finance to give students a broader picture of opportunities in operations, sales and trading, private equity, investment banking and mergers and acquisitions. October's event featured panelists who represented a broad swath

of careers in finance, including the keynote speaker Tobias Levkovich, managing director and chief U.S. equity strategist at Citi Investment Research, and Andrew Herenstein '84YC, managing principal of Monarch Alternative Capital LP.

Askowitz reported that the panelists were impressed with the quality of the students. "We can be a resource for them to learn about financial careers in a way that goes beyond what they can get in the classroom," he said. ■

New Beit Midrash Takes Top YU Scholars to Toronto Jewish Community

A new Torah and Talmud study program is enriching and engaging the greater Toronto Jewish community with YU's inspired brand of learning. The Yeshiva University Torah Mitzion Beit Midrash Zichron Dov, an affiliate of YU's Center for the Jewish Future (CJF) and Kollel Torah Mitzion in Israel, opened at the Clanton Park Synagogue in September but will foster an open community of learning for the entire Toronto Jewish population.

"This is a permanent cadre of Torah scholars who reside in Toronto and serve as a satellite of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary [RIETS]," said Rabbi Kenneth Brander '84YC,

'86R, The David Mitzner Dean of CJF. "The multi-tiered program will tailor learning to the men, women and youth of the affiliated community, as well as reach out to the greater Jewish community."

Scholars from YU and its affiliates serve the local synagogues, day schools, youth movements, young couples, college students and the Jewish Federation community.

The Toronto beit midrash is directed by RIETS graduate Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner '95YC, '97R, who led Congregation Sons of Israel in Allentown, PA, for eight years. Rabbi Torczyner excels in utilizing the Internet and social media out-



Rabbi Berzon gave a *shiur* [lecture] at the launch of the beit midrash.

lets to spread Torah to people around the globe, particularly with his WebShas online index to the Talmud.

Fellow RIETS graduate Rabbi Azarya Berzon '70YH, '78R, a student of the late Rav

Joseph Soloveitchik, will be a one-year scholar-in-residence at the Toronto beit midrash. He taught in Israel for 13 years, served in the Israeli army for 14 years, and in 1991, established Yeshiva Sha'arei Mevasseret

Zion where he served as *rosh yeshiva* [professor of Talmud] for 18 years. The two rabbis are joined by four other scholars.

"Toronto is already known for its commitment to Torah," said Rabbi Torczyner. "We will add to that potent mix by disseminating Torah as well as presenting our unique emphasis on building bridges in the Jewish community, on supporting the State of Israel and on engaging the broader society."

The Toronto beit midrash was made possible in part by a gift from Renee and Eli Rubinstein, president of Canadian Friends of YU, who named it "Zichron Dov" in memory of his father, Bill Rubinstein. ■

Save the Date



MARCH 15 – 21, 2010

Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth will visit Yeshiva University and deliver the inaugural Lamm Lecture as the first recipient of the Lamm Prize.

Details to be announced on www.yu.edu
For more information on the Lamm Prize, visit www.yu.edu/lammheritage

Jim Joseph Foundation

Continued from Page 1

Funding will also help launch a Master of Arts Program in Biblical and Talmudic Interpretation at Stern College for Women.

Reflecting YU's desire to both seed and sustain the field of Jewish education, YU's Institute for University-School Partnership will offer serious continuing education and intensive new

teacher induction initiatives.

"This is an exciting development for all who care about improving the quality of Jewish life," said Al Levitt, the foundation's president. "We're simply playing our role in helping these institutions—and the educators they educate—reach their full potential and positively shape the lives of Jewish youth." ■

SEEN & Heard
 > SPEAKERS ON CAMPUS

► **“Radical Islamists are such a danger to the moderate states that they [the moderate states] are willing to do business with Israel!”** noted Dr. Efraim Inbar, professor of political studies at Bar-Ilan University and director of its Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, at a conference on U.S.-Israel relations in the age of Obama and Netanyahu in September. A group of scholars, journalists and diplomats gathered to address the two countries’ relationship, including Daniel Kurtzer, former U.S. Ambassador to both Israel and Egypt, and professor of Middle East policy studies at Princeton; Asaf Shariv, consul general of Israel in New York; and Dr. Evan Resnick, assistant professor of political science at YU. The conference was co-sponsored by the Center for Israel Studies, its Rabbi Arthur Schneier Center for International Affairs and Bar-Ilan University’s Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies and American Friends of Bar-Ilan. ■



▼ **“In our foolishness, we all but wrecked the greatest economy the world has ever known,”** said Bob Herbert, Op-Ed columnist at *The New York Times*, who delved into challenges facing the United States at the Sam Seifter Memorial Lecture at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in October. “We will not be able to bring America back to robust health if we do not directly attack the awful scourge of unemployment, create a world-class public school system for all of our children and end these debilitating wars.” ■



◀ **“We have to get doctors out of the fee-for-service mode,”** said Dr. Peter Barland, professor emeritus of medicine and pathology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, at a panel discussion on health care reform organized by the Center for Ethics in October. Barland suggested a “medical team approach” as an alternative, where semi-salaried doctors “do not profit from excessive tests [but are] judged by their peers on the quality of their care.” He was joined by: Thomas H. Murray, president of the Hastings Center, a nonpartisan bioethics research institute; health care economist Mary Ann Bailey, also of the Hastings Center; and Trudy Lieberman, director of the Health and Medicine Reporting Program at the City University of New York’s Graduate School of Journalism. ■



▲ **“Patenting human genes is counter to common sense, patent law and the Constitution,”** said Daniel B. Ravicher, associate director of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law’s Intellectual Property Program and executive director of its affiliated Public Patent Foundation (PUBPAT). He was speaking at an October seminar on whether corporations should be awarded patents on genes. Ravicher is plaintiffs’ co-counsel in a federal lawsuit filed in May by the American Civil Liberties Union and PUBPAT against Myriad Genetics, Inc., and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. Patents held by Myriad on genetic mutations commonly known as BRCA1 and BRCA2 give the firm a monopoly on charging patients \$3,000 in diagnostic fees. ■

▼ **“I applaud the efforts of Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the more than two dozen research institutions across the state who are at the cutting-edge of stem cell technology,”** said New York Governor David A. Paterson at a roundtable discussion on stem cell research at Einstein in October. Dr. Allen M. Spiegel, The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean of Einstein, and eight stem cell researchers discussed advances in medical therapies and treatments that Einstein scientists have been investigating since receiving more than \$14 million in state funding for stem cell research. ■

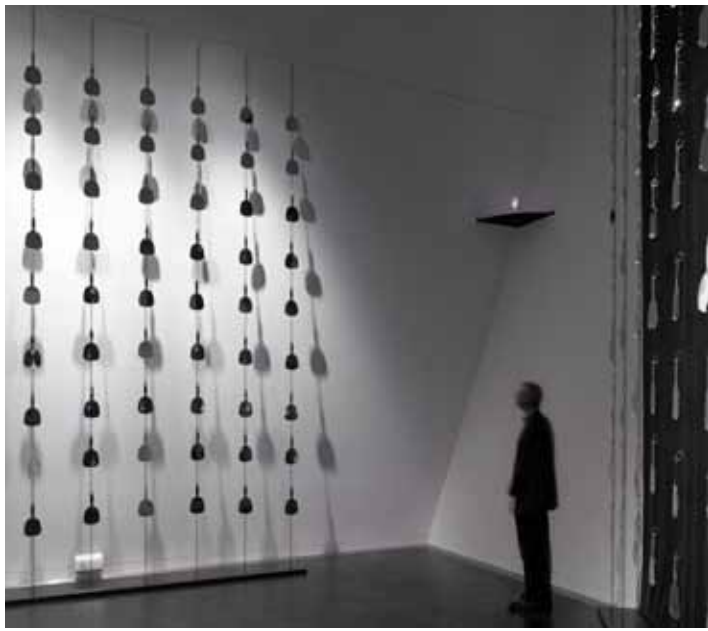


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Group Show at YU Museum Re-Imagines 'Genesis'

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS RESPOND TO ANCIENT JEWISH TEXT



Tsimsum/Shevirat Ha-Kelim—Birthing Tikun Olam, a 2008 mixed-media installation by Mierle Laderman Ukeles, was commissioned and originally shown by the Contemporary Jewish Museum. (photo courtesy of the artist and Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York)

“In the Beginning: Artists Respond to Genesis,” on show at the Yeshiva University Museum until Feb. 28, re-imagines the first chapter of Genesis through a series of commissioned works by dynamic and internationally acclaimed contemporary artists.

“In the Beginning” vividly connects contemporary art to the traditions of Jewish textual exploration. This multimedia exhibition presents an exceptional group of artists engaged in the interpretation of Genesis, the very first source in the compendium of Judaism’s heritage and belief system.

The artists—Alan Berliner, Mierle Laderman Ukeles, Matthew Ritchie, Ben Rubin and

Shirley Shor—vary in their conceptual approach to the text and their artistic practices.

Emerging from the traditional practice of textual study and interpretation, their works make use of 21st-century media and visual expression.

Together, their works challenge viewers to consider various ideas about the origins of our universe and our beginnings. “In the Beginning” was first presented for the opening of the new Libeskind building of the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco, where it received great public and critical acclaim.

“In the Beginning” explores contemporary responses to the story of the six days of creation.

The content of this first chapter of Genesis is multilayered and rich in universal themes related to belief, theism, language, physics, creation, the environment and ancient literature.

In the tradition of Jewish study, the commissioned artworks for “In the Beginning” encourage viewers to respond to and engage with different interpretations of the ancient text. The exhibition also elucidates the broad social and historical context from which these works emerge and to which they react.

Among a selection of key complementary historical works are the 1488 illuminated Prague Bible from the Yeshiva University Library collection, as well as other late Medieval-era manuscripts that embody the rich tradition of biblical illumination and textual commentary.

The resulting dialogue between the commissioned artworks and these supporting historic components raises questions about the ancient story of Genesis and its relevance to current debates in our pluralistic society.

A specially commissioned video, *Genesis Now*, will present various—and often conflicting—scientific, theological and cultural viewpoints about the origins of the universe.

Deeply grounded in tradition and yet exploring new territory, “In the Beginning” invites viewers to contemplate and experience the impact and meaning of biblical text, while raising questions fundamental to an understanding of our origins and current ideals. ■

חג הסמיכה תש"ע *Chag Ha Semikhah*



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HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNUS DONATES RARE AMERICANA

A gift of rare Americana, recently donated to the library by Dr. Ronald Rubin '57YUHS, pictured above with his wife, Miriam (L), and Pearl Berger (R), dean of the library, includes a deed signed by the Governor of Texas, George T. Wood, granting a vast tract of land near Austin to Jacob de Cordova. A Jew born in Kingston, Jamaica, De Cordova settled in the Republic of Texas in 1837 and by 1848 ran one of the largest land agencies in Texas, which had become a state in 1845. “De Cordova had a lot to do with getting people to settle in Texas,” said Rubin, a professor of political science at CUNY and a noted collector of antiquarian Americana. The donation also includes four books dating to the 17th and 18th centuries, and 19 large bound volumes of newspapers from New York and New England, chiefly from the early 19th century. A particularly rare document is the black-bordered issue of the *New-York Spectator* from July 18, 1804, with a detailed description of the funeral of Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the U.S. Treasury. “I have a lot of pride in YU and identify strongly with its mission of Jewish tradition and Halacha [Jewish law], together with involvement in the modern world,” said Rubin, who is the author of several books, including a biography of Fred Lebow, the founder of the NYC Marathon. “I wanted to make sure YU’s library received these historic documents.” To view the materials, e-mail Shuli Berger at archives@yu.edu ■