

## Community Kollel Initiative Strengthens Jewish Life

### ■ YU Fellows Bring Year-Round Presence of Modern Orthodoxy to HAFTR

If education is the lifeblood of today's Jewish communities, Yeshiva University's Max Stern Division of Communal Services is their vital, beating heart.

From this department, the university's rich store of Torah resources flows out to communities in the United States and around the world via the Global Kollel Initiative, a network of learning and community-building projects.

The Community Kollel at the Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns and Rockaway (HAFTR) is the latest project launched by the Global Kollel Initiative.

Based at the academy's high school, the HAFTR Community Kollel provides a two-year fellowship to rabbis and

graduating students at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary as well as YU graduates pursuing careers in Jewish education. The kollel fellows do intensive teaching internships at HAFTR and offer advanced Torah study sessions to members of the community.

"The value of the HAFTR Community Kollel and similar programs is that they give community members local access to YU's exceptional graduates and other resources," said President Richard M. Joel, who spoke at the kollel's inauguration in early September.

The HAFTR kollel and its global parent program are building blocks in the president's broad vision for the future, which embraces the



A class at HAFTR High School, where YU has established a kollel.

strengthening of Jewish life and learning in our communities.

"The Global Kollel Initiative provides an influx of charismatic individuals who are role models for youth in

the community," said Rabbi Ari Rockoff, director of the Department of Community Initiatives at MSDCS. "It invigorates the community by maintaining a year-round presence of Modern Orthodoxy."

The HAFTR program is unique in that it includes a Beit Midrash L'Nashim that offers Talmud and other sophisticated Torah study for women.

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## The New Face of Leadership

### ■ Morry J. Weiss Leads YU Board into New Era



Morry J. Weiss, Ronald P. Stanton, and Richard M. Joel.

When outgoing chairman of YU's board of trustees Ronald P. Stanton passed the ceremonial gavel to Morry J. Weiss Sept. 7, the university's next phase of renewed growth and opportunity gained a new champion.

Mr. Weiss is chairman of the board of American Greetings Corp. and a major supporter of the university and its mission. He joined the board in 1983 and became

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## Students Welcome Sushi, Weights, and Wi-Fi

Creating a vibrant and embracing environment is one of President Richard M. Joel's principal plans for revitalizing campus life. Students are benefiting from a number of new upgrades and renovations.

### New Fitness Center

Thanks to a gift from Sy Syms, namesake of YU's undergraduate business school, the Max Stern Athletic Center on the Wilf Campus has opened a state-of-the-art fitness center. Approximately three times the size of the previous weight room, the new space features the latest in commercial-grade equipment, including four treadmills that became available on the market only a few months ago.

In addition to the treadmills, there are four elliptical trainers, four stationary bikes, and more than a dozen pieces of specialized apparatus designed to target specific areas such as arm, leg, and chest muscles. A double-padded free-weight area features rubber-coated dumbbells.

### Le Bistro at 215

Even with its two sushi chefs from Eden Wok and an extensive salad and soup bar, Le Bistro at 215 had its hands full at its recent grand opening. Students just couldn't eat



Wilf Campus fitness center features commercial-grade equipment.

enough sushi at the popular new food court and lounge, located on the lower level of 215 Lexington Avenue on the Beren Campus.

The new eatery, which also serves fresh wraps, frozen yogurt, ice cream, and shakes, features a lounge with bistro-style seating and tables in red,

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## People in the News

**Joan Beder**, DSW, WSSW associate professor, was quoted in an August article in the *Wall Street Journal* about patients coping with the death of their therapists.

**Ruth Bigman**, MSW, WSSW director of admissions, was elected for a second term as member-at-large of the board of directors of the Girl Scouts of Nassau County.

**Rabbi Yosef Blau** YH, '59Y, BGSS, R, MS, spiritual counselor, participated in a panel discussion on the future of Judaism in America at Yale University School of Law in October. He was one of four leaders from institutions representing various Jewish denominations at the event, which marked 350 years of Jewish life in the United States.

**J. David Bleich**, PhD, Herbert and Florence Tenzer Professor of Jewish Law and Ethics, spoke on "A 19th-Century Solution to a 21st-Century Agunah Problem" at the 13th Biennial Conference of the Jewish Law Association, Boston University.

**Richard K. Caputo**, PhD, WSSW professor, gave a number of conference presentations: "Equalization of Meeting Needs vs. Equalization of Income Distribution," at the 10th Basic Income European Network Congress, Barcelona; "Parent Religiosity, Family Processes, and Adolescent Behavior," at the 2004 American Sociological Association Meeting, and "Poverty Reduction vs. Reducing Income Inequality," at the Annual Meeting of Society for the Study of Social Problems, both in San Francisco; and "Reconsidering Distributive Justice in Light of Van Parijs and Zucker," at the 10th International Society for Justice Research Conference 2004, in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

**Shalom Carmy**, MS, '70Y, B, R, assistant professor of Bible, authored "Something New in Beit Hamidrash" in *Jewish Action*, Spring 5764/2004 (vol. 64, no. 3).

**Jerome A. Chanes** '64Y, adjunct professor at SCW and WSSW, authored a review-essay on four recent books on anti-Semitism, which appeared in *Forward*; and authored "Who Does What? Governance and International Jewish Communal Organization in 2004," for the Jewish Agency's Jewish People's Policy Planning Institute Yearbook. In spring 2004, he curated and lectured at a five-part film series, "Anti-Semitism on the Screen," at the JCC in Manhattan;

offered a course, "The History of Anti-Semitism," at the Skirball Institute; lectured on the Jewish public-affairs agenda and organizational structures at NYANA; and at Stern College, developed a new honors seminar, "The History and Sociology of Anti-Semitism." Last fall he lectured at the Annual Conference of the Association of Jewish Studies in Boston and at the Annual Conference of the Council of American Jewish Museums. His monograph, *A Primer on the American Jewish Community*, is going into its third edition.

Articles by **Anatoly Frenkel**, PhD, associate professor of physics, appeared in the journals *Nature Materials* and *Physical Review B*.

**Sheldon R. Gelman**, PhD, Dorothy and David I. Schachne Dean of WSSW, co-authored the second edition of *Case Management*.

**Margaret Gibleman**, DSW, WSSW professor and doctoral program director, published the second edition of her book, *What Social Workers Do*. She is on the board of the Jewish Association for Developmental Disabilities, Bergen County.

**Sara (Richter) Gruenspecht** is the new YUM assistant to the director. She is also the museum's docent liaison.

**Arthur Hyman**, PhD, BRGS dean, wrote "Moses Maimonides," the cover article for the Maimonides Supplement issue of the *Canadian Jewish News*. Also, he published "Maimonide: Partisan du Libre Arbitre ou Déterministe?" in *Maimonide: Philosophe et Savant*, a volume published in Belgium. In May, he delivered a Hebrew paper, "Maimonides as Biblical Interpreter," at a Maimonides conference in Jerusalem.

**Chancellor Norman Lamm**, PhD, '49Y, B, R delivered a pre-Yom Kippur address, "Teshuva: The Very Thought of It," at Bet Knesset L'Chu Neranana, Ra'anana, sponsored by Ohel Ari and the Jewish Outreach Center of Ra'anana.

**Aaron Levine**, PhD, Samson and Halina Bitensky Professor of Economics, delivered "Regulation of Advertising in Jewish Law: a Prototype Model—The Kraft Singles Case" at the Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Jewish Law Association, Boston University.

**Rabbi Yamin Levy**, MS, instructor of Bible and academic director, Jacob E. Safra Institute of Sephardic Studies at YU, authored

"Derekh Hakhma: Two Aspects of the Exodus Narrative: Part I" in *Jewish Bible Quarterly*. Part II will appear in the publication's spring issue. He is author of two books: *Confronting the Loss of a Baby: Personal and Jewish Perspective*, and *Journey Through Grief: A Sephardic Manual on Death and Dying*, and is coeditor with Rabbi **Shalom Carmy** '70Y, B, R, assistant professor of Bible, of a forthcoming book on Maimonides.

**Edith Lubetski** '68B, MS, Hedi Steinberg Library head librarian, chaired a session, "Epigraphical and Paleological Studies Pertaining to the Bible World," at the Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting in Groningen, Netherlands.

**Rabbi Uriel Lubetski** YH, '96Y, R, YUHS acting assistant principal, was a scholar-in-residence at Kehilat Chovevei Zion, Scarsdale, New York, last Shavuot. He spoke on "Temimot: Why Aren't We Davening Maariv?" "You Shall Not Murder: The Killing of Yoav in the Eyes of Chazal," and "Societal Obligations through the Story of Ruth."

**Peninnah Schram**, MA, associate professor of speech and drama, is on the advisory board of the journal *Storytelling, Self, Society: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Storytelling Studies*. The first issue of this biannual publication, fall 2004, was published by the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, with support from the National Storytelling Network. She also was quoted in the article "Family Matters: The Logic of Helping Hands," by Rahel Musleah, in *Hadassah Magazine* (Aug./Sept. 2004).

**David Strug**, PhD, WSSW associate professor, spoke on "Change in Cuban Social Work Education: Government Response to Emerging Societal Problems" at the Cuba Today Conference in October at the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies of the CUNY Graduate Center. He also published "An Exploratory Study of Social Work with Older Persons in Cuba: Implications for Social Work in the US" in the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, vol. 43(2/3), 2004.

**Rabbi Moses D. Tendler**, PhD, Rabbi Isaac and Bella Tendler Professor of Jewish Medical Ethics, spoke on "When Curing Becomes Caring: A Torah Perspective" at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh, New Jersey.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

**Adam Gleicher** '86Y, YU investment accounting manager, on his marriage to **Dr. Rose Russo** '95W.

**Stephen Lazar**, EdD, AECOM assistant dean, and wife Marlene on the birth of a granddaughter to children Phil and Bari Aarons.

**Susan (Schlussel) Meyers** '92S, YU director of development, and husband Jeff on the birth of son Joseph Marc.

**Leslie Waltzer Pollak**, director of development, and husband Steve on the birth of daughter Jamie Lauren.

**Mayra Mercado**, WSSW secretary, and **Luis Rodriguez**, Security captain, on their marriage.

**Rabbi Michael Shmidman**, PhD, dean of undergraduate Jewish studies, and his wife, Chai, on the birth of grandson Yehudah Yair to their children Yael and David Zinberg.

**Gillian Steinberg**, PhD, assistant professor of English, and Mark Davis on the birth of a son.

### CONDOLENCES TO

**Connie Beinhaker**, a YU Guardian with her husband, Philip, on the loss of her mother, Janet. The Beinhakers established the Philip and Connie Beinhaker Kollel Fellowship at RIETS.

**Cantor Sherwood Goffin** '63Y, BSJM, BSJM faculty member, on the loss of his father, Hermann.

**Naomi Kapp**, associate director of the SSSB Office of Career Services, on the loss of her sister, Esther.

**Sara Kasher**, lecturer of Hebrew, on the loss of her mother, Rebetzin Pnina Kasher. She was the widow of Rabbi Moshe Shloime Kasher, who, with his father, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Kasher, founded the Torah Shleima Institute.

**Rabbi Yamin Levy** '87Y, R, academic director of Sephardic Studies, on the loss of his mother, Esther.

**Albert and Morris Nasser**, supporters of the Sephardic Students Scholarship Fund, on the loss of their sister, Victoria Hertz.

**Jose Nunez**, coordinator, Facilities Management, on the loss of his sister, Rosa Castilla.

**Richard Orlando**, employment specialist, Human Resources, on the loss of his mother, Emma.

**Bruce D. Shoulson**, RIETS board member, on the loss of his mother, Sonia. In honor of his parents, Bruce and his wife, Robyn, established the Rabbi I. Harry and Sonia Shoulson Seform Fund at RIETS and the Rabbi I. Harry and Sonia Shoulson Scholarship for YU undergraduates.

**Rabbi Yechiel Weiner** '96SB, R, MYP assistant *mashgiach*, on the loss of his mother, Raisel.

**Rabbi Mordechai I. Willig**, MHL, '68Y, R, Rabbi Dr. Sol Roth Professor of Talmud and Contemporary Halakhah at RIETS, on the loss of his father, **Rabbi Jerome Willig** '38Y, R.

**Harvey D. Wolinetz**, former YUHS board member, on the loss of his wife, Naomi. They are both YUHS Fellows.

## YU Today

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YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

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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 Hebrew Studies • J, JSS James Striar School of General Jewish Studies • MSDCS Max Stern Division of Communal Services • Y, MYP Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies • SBMP Stone Beit Midrash Program • R, RIETS Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary • S, SCW Stern College for Women • SG Sue Golding Graduate Division of Medical Sciences • SB, SSSB Sy Syms School of Business • T, TI Teachers Institute • T, TIW Teachers Institute for Women • W, WSSW Wurzelweil School of Social Work • Y, YC Yeshiva College • YH, YUHS Yeshiva University High Schools (MSTA The Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy) (SWHSG Samuel H. Wang Yeshiva University High School for Girls)

## Academic Mentors to Guide Students

### ■ Thea Volpe Leads Wilf Campus Academic Advising Center

Under the direction of Thea Volpe, PhD, the Academic Advising Center on the Wilf Campus will offer Yeshiva College and Sy Syms School of Business students a number of supportive services to help them realize their academic goals.

In keeping with President Richard M. Joel's vision of strengthening the campus community of faculty, staff, and students, the center will use a model of mentorship to guide undergraduates through the academic maze.

Center staff will pair students with faculty mentors who represent the students' interests and who will remain a constant in their college lives—from before they set foot on campus until graduation.

"We play an important role in shaping students' futures," said Dr. Volpe. "It's incumbent upon us to give them excellent advice, listen to them, and help them understand the big picture."

A seasoned educational advisor who prides herself on being an enthusiastic student advocate, Dr. Volpe envisions the center as "a one-stop shop for all student advising concerns."



The center will provide each student with services during three critical phases: upon arrival and throughout the freshman year, during the selection of a major, and in weighing post-college options. The objective is to offer "cradle-to-grave" guidance.

Dr. Volpe earned her doctorate in medieval history from New York University and taught the history of Classical, medieval, and Western civilization at the College of Arts and Science and the School of Continuing Education, both at NYU, and at Lehman College. She directed the post-baccalaureate pre-medical program at Columbia University, served as associate dean at the Scripps Research Institute in California and at NYU's College of Arts and Science, and held other posi-

tions in advising and admissions at NYU.

"We want to provide the best education for all undergraduate students, so they can make intelligent choices about their future," said Morton H. Lowengrub, PhD, vice president for academic affairs. "I would like to see a situation where every first-year student will have a mentor to follow his progress and foster a relationship that gives the student a sense of belonging to the YU community."

Another new focus of the center will be a holistic approach to secular academic life and religious education. Dr. Volpe and her staff will work with *roshei yeshiva* and faculty so that advisors are knowledgeable about students' complete portfolios.

"All advisors will be expected to take into account both secular and Jewish studies in guiding students, and they will interact with *roshei yeshiva* to make them more cognizant of the secular curriculum," Dr. Lowengrub said.

Plans are under way to create a physical space for the Academic Advising Center, and several vacant spaces on campus that require little renovation are being considered for faculty offices. ■

## Fred Sugarman Appointed YC Assistant Dean

His administrative skills and academic experience may have landed him his position as Yeshiva College assistant dean, but it is Fred Sugarman's warm, sincere manner that has earned him the esteem of his colleagues and students since he joined the school at the beginning of the fall 2004 semester.

The assistant dean is responsible for establishing a dialogue between the Dean's Office and YC faculty and students. "I will ensure that our office is open to students and supports faculty so they can teach to the fullest without any worries," Dr. Sugarman said.

He combines an academic's love for learning with the organizational expertise of a skilled administrator. He holds a PhD in 19th-century American literature from Columbia University, but it is his love for the works of William Shakespeare, he said, that drew him into the classroom. He has taught literature at Bar-Ilan University; at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and for the past two years, at Lehman College.

He has 15 years of experience in the field of health management, supervising ambulatory care. Most recently, Dr. Sugarman was practice executive at Mercy OB/GYN PC, in the Bronx, where he managed a 12-physician practice.

"I am delighted to have Dr. Sugarman as a colleague, where he will work closely with faculty, students, and administration in supporting the mission of YU," said YC Dean Norman Adler.

As a member of the YU team, Dr. Sugarman will help chart a course for the future of young Jews. "The two most important things to me are education and Jewish youth," Dr. Sugarman said, adding that he wants to instill a love for both Torah and Mada in the students he encounters. ■



## YC Student Publishes Heart Disease Research

Alex Kushnir's passion for scientific research has taken him far.

The Yeshiva College biology student recently returned from Israel, where he presented his research on heart disease at the "Frontiers in Cardiology" conference sponsored in part by the Israel Atherosclerosis Society and the International Academic Friends of Israel (IAFI). He has also contributed his findings to a textbook released in November at the Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association in New Orleans.

"Writing a chapter for a scientific textbook is very unusual for an undergraduate because it's so competitive," said A.K.M. Mollah, PhD, assistant professor of biology at YC. "Alex is proof that there are no limits for students at this level if they have talent and work hard."

Mr. Kushnir's research became the basis of a chapter in

*Ryanodine Receptors: Function and Dysfunction in Clinical Disease* (Kluwer Academic Publishers), a textbook edited by two scientists he works with at Columbia University's molecular cardiology lab, Andrew R. Marks and Xander Wehrens.

His chapter deals with the evolutionary development of the heart's ryanodine receptor and how this information can be used in the development of treatments for heart failure.

The YU junior's achievements, exceptional for a student at the undergraduate level, earned him coverage in *The Journal News*, a Gannett daily newspaper serving Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland counties in New York.

His accomplishments represent the culmination of two years of ongoing research conducted with Drs. Mollah and Marks, professor and chair of the department of physiology and cellular biophysics at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.



Alex Kushnir is helping to develop possible cures for heart failure.

Mr. Kushnir spends five hours per week and full-time during the summer doing research in Dr. Marks's lab.

Mr. Kushnir is concentrating on the calstabin2 protein, which does not bind to the human heart's ryanodine receptor when the body is overworked, causing uncontrolled release of calcium and an increased risk of heart failure. Dr. Marks's lab successfully

tested a new drug on mice in April that prevented sudden death from arrhythmia, and now Mr. Kushnir is working to understand where on the ryanodine receptor calstabin2 binds to, which could determine the molecular mechanisms of this new drug.

"Working in the lab has taught me how basic laboratory research can help develop possible cures for heart fail-

ure," he said. "This isn't esoteric—it's real because if we're already treating mice with heart failure, who knows where we'll be in 10 years?"

In August Mr. Kushnir and Dr. Mollah presented their research at the International Society for Computational and Molecular Biology convention in Glasgow, Scotland. Before that, Mr. Kushnir made a trip to Ben-Gurion University in Israel, where he met with Rivka Carmi, PhD, dean of health sciences, to discuss possibilities for collaborative research projects between the universities.

Mr. Kushnir's scientific interest and support of Israel have found a joint home at the International Academic Friends of Israel, which promotes an open exchange of ideas with Israeli scientists at a time when many sectors of the academic community isolate them. He is director of development there and is helping to organize a research conference in Israel for 2006. ■

## Rick Annis Takes Top Finance Post

■ *For New Finance Chief, Bottom Line Is Results*



Island Jewish Medical Center. He holds a master's in public administration from C.W. Post College and is a fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

"Finance is finance," he said, referring to his healthcare background. Every industry has its nuances he said, and his experience includes putting together complex finance deals and major bond issues.

Mr. Annis emphasized his reliance on the people who work with him to reach the bottom line.

"I delegate a lot, and I empower people," he said of his management style. "I want my staff to be continually learning."

And for Mr. Annis, the bottom line is results. Because everyone in the university—from employees to students—relies on the finance department, one of his main objectives is to run his department as efficiently and as "customer friendly" as possible.

His mission is to create an efficient balance between the university's educational and financial goals.

In the short term, Mr. Annis plans to send surveys to various YU departments to receive customer feedback. And as a member of President Richard M. Joel's cabinet, Mr. Annis will help provide funding and financing alternatives as well as take on special projects, to help realize the president's objectives.

"If I can improve the university's fiscal performance and financial viability, then I can help further education here," he said. ■

Since taking over YU's head finance post in August, Rick Annis says coming to work here is like coming home.

"I feel like I have been welcomed by a family, from the students and faculty to the administration and boards of trustees," said Mr. Annis, an avid long-distance runner, stamp collector, and volunteer firefighter.

During the past three months, the new vice president for finance and chief financial officer has toured YU's campuses and met with deans, boards, administration, and his staff to ascertain campus-wide needs.

He also attended Orientation, and was impressed by the camaraderie and genuine love for YU that students have.

Before coming to YU, Mr. Annis was the senior vice president and chief financial officer of St. Joseph's Healthcare System, Inc., in Paterson, NJ. He has held similar positions at Catholic Healthcare Partners in Cincinnati, North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, and Long

## Jeffrey Gurock Hits Lecture Circuit for 350th Anniversary

As America's Jews celebrate the 350th anniversary of their forebears' arrival on these shores, Jewish scholars have been touring the country to help communities reconnect with their roots. Jeffrey S. Gurock, PhD, YU's Libby M. Klaperman Professor in Jewish History, has taken center stage, giving seven scholarly presentations at conferences nationwide between March and November, while maintaining his full teaching schedule.

"The 350th anniversary is a time for reflection on the unparalleled level of acceptance and integration Jews have achieved in this country and on the challenges of maintaining Jewish continuity in a welcoming American environment," said Dr. Gurock, who will be expanding on this topic in a forthcoming article in *YU Review*.

After taking Stern College honors students on a walking tour of the Lower East Side in late October, Dr. Gurock made four stops on a two-week whirlwind lecture tour of the country. He spoke on "Crises of Jewish Adjustment to American Society" at the University of Connecticut's School of Social Work in Storrs, CN; "The Crowning of a 'Jewish Jordan': Tamir Goodman, The American Sports Media and Modern Orthodox Jewry's Fantasy World," at Creighton University's Symposium on American Judaism and Popular Culture, in Omaha; and "Immigrant Jews and the Challenge of Athleticism," at Boston University's conference, "Why America is Different."

He was also a keynote speaker at the 150th anniversary of Congregation Brith Shalom Beth Israel, the Orthodox synagogue in Charleston, SC. On his preliminary research visit to Charleston, Dr. Gurock unearthed a vast amount of material to review—enough for a book, he discovered. In October, *Orthodoxy in Charleston: Brith Shalom Beth Israel and American Jewish History*, his 12th book, was published by College of Charleston Library in association with Brith Shalom Beth Israel. "The Orthodox synagogue in Charleston is facing the same challenges as other smaller communities in the US," he said.

Never one to slow down once winter sets in, Dr. Gurock has lectures scheduled in November and December in Allentown and Pittsburgh, PA, respectively. Even next year holds no rest for the not-so-weary professor. Just in time for the World Series in fall 2005, his next book, *Judaism's Encounter with American Sports*, will be published by Indiana University Press.

"Jews' involvement in sports is a lens through which the larger dimensions of Jewish life in America can be understood and taught," Dr. Gurock said. ■



## Happy Returns



Sy Syms School of Business seniors Elli Klapper (second from right) and Isaac Shaer (far right), co-founders of Kaptive Media, present a check to SSSB Dean Charles Snow and President Richard M. Joel representing the first returns from YU's investment in the start-up company. Kaptive Media, an indoor advertising company specializing in placing ads in elevators, is run by students and guided by a board of directors comprised of Syms' faculty. Not pictured are students Aaron Safier and Elliot Rockoff, who are also involved with Kaptive Media, and Dr. Lawrence Bellman, director of the Rennert Entrepreneurial Institute at Syms, which serves as the incubator for start-up student businesses.

### WE MOURN

**Colman Genn** YH'53. He was a member of the MSDCS-affiliated Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools and Yeshiva High Schools (AMODS) advisory council and co-chairman of its finances committee. Condolences to his wife, Brenda, daughter Shari Shapiro, and brother **Emanuel Genn** YH'52.

**Fredda Leff** '78W, WSSW board of governors vice chair and member. Condolences to her husband, Bruce, and children, Matthew and Fara.

**Philip Zaro**, WSSW board member. He and his wife, Dorothy, established the Dorothy and Philip Zaro Endowed Scholarship Fund at WSSW, were YU Guardians and WSSW Fellows. Condolences to his wife; children, Stuart, Andrew, and Joseph; eleven grandchildren; and brother and sister, Sam and Clare.

## Museum Exhibit Celebrates Stern's Rich Legacy

■ Karen Bacon and E. Billi Ivry Receive Awards at Gala Dinner

The Yeshiva University Museum (YUM) is marking Stern College for Women's 50th anniversary with an exhibit that highlights the school's growth and achievements. "Five Decades. One Dream," the history of YU's undergraduate women's college through photos and artifacts, opened October 21 and runs until January 9, 2005.

"The exhibit celebrates the history of Stern as an incubator for scholarship and leadership and as a living example of the synthesis of Jewish and general studies," said Karen Bacon, PhD, The Dr. Monique C. Katz Dean at Stern.

Valedictorian of the Stern 1964 graduating class, she received an award together with E. Billi Ivry, executive vice chairman of Stern's board, at a gala dinner at the museum in recognition of their roles in building the school.

Ms. Ivry is a Benefactor of



L-R: President Richard M. Joel, Doris Travis, Dean Karen Bacon, and E. Billi Ivry.

YU, and was the first woman trustee of YU's board. She established the E. Billi Ivry Chair in Jewish History at Stern.

The exhibit groups items around the conceptual pillars of study, spirituality, social

responsibility, and campus life. A timeline charts Stern's history in tandem with milestones in Jewish life, the nation's history, and international events.

A video, "Portraits of Prom-

ise," brings the Stern experience to life through testimonials by current students, accomplished alumnae, faculty, and college supporters.

At its founding in 1954, Stern became the first college

where modern Orthodox Jewish women could simultaneously pursue Jewish and liberal arts studies in a rigorous academic setting. The first class comprised 33 students, and the campus consisted of one building, at 253 Lexington Ave. Today, the 1,000-strong student body makes full use of an expanded campus of seven buildings in Manhattan's Murray Hill section.

"Stern's Jubilee theme, 'Five Decades. One Dream,' is both a reflection on its illustrious past and a validation of its vibrant growth," Dr. Bacon said.

"In just fifty years, the school has graduated thousands of women who have achieved stellar records in fields such as medicine, law, education, and the liberal arts, and have attained wide-ranging command of the various disciplines within Jewish studies," she said. Stern College board member Doris Travis chaired the gala dinner.

## Ira Millstein and Michael Price Take Key Roles on Einstein Board

Ira M. Millstein, a senior partner in the law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges and a renowned expert in corporate governance, has been elected chairperson of the board of overseers of Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Michael F. Price, a pioneer in the mutual funds industry, was elected chairperson of the board's executive committee, a position previously held by Mr. Millstein.

"I hope to lead new endeavors that will help the college continue to train future physicians and to make major advancements in finding new and better treatments and cures," Mr. Millstein said. He succeeds Robert A. Belfer, chair from 2000 to 2004.

"It is an honor to be affiliated with this world-class center for biomedical research and medical education," said Mr. Price.

Mr. Millstein and Mr. Price take office at an auspicious time in the college's history, as building is about to begin on its Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine, which will be housed in the new Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion (see page 8). Mr. Price made the largest philanthropic gift in the college's history—\$25 million—toward the construction of the facility.

Mr. Millstein is currently serving as *pro bono* counsel to the board of directors of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation. He joined the Einstein board in 1977 and was elected a vice chairman in 1981.

A benefactor of AECOM, he and his

wife, Diane, received the Einstein Humanitarian Award in 1993 for their outstanding public service. His numerous honors include an honorary degree from Yeshiva University. He is a graduate of Columbia University Law School.

Mr. Millstein is the Eugene F. Williams Visiting Professor in Competitive Enterprise and Strategy and the honorary chairman of the board of advisors of the International Institute for Corporate Governance, both at Yale University School of Management.

He serves as chairman of Private Sector Advisory Group to the Global Corporate Governance Forum, founded by the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

An elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Mr. Millstein is a frequent lecturer and author on corporate governance, antitrust and government regulation.

Michael F. Price joined the AECOM board in 2001. A recognized pioneer in the mutual fund industry, he is a global expert in value investing. He is president of the Michael F. Price Foundation, Inc., managing partner of MFP Investors, LLC, and director of LiquidNet Holdings. He serves on the boards of Johns Hopkins University and Jazz at Lincoln Center, among others.

Mr. Price earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Oklahoma. He is the recipient of an honorary degree from his alma mater, where he has endowed the Michael F. Price College of Business. ■



The Honorable John T. Noonan, Jr., Justice for the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals, and Asifa Quraishi, University of Wisconsin Law School, were among the panelists who spoke at "Text, Tradition, and Reason in Comparative Perspective," the inaugural symposium of the Program in Jewish Law and Interdisciplinary Studies at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. The program, which opened in October, brings together scholars of varied legal traditions and fields to contribute a distinctively Jewish legal perspective on issues in law and culture.

### HAFTR continued from page 1

The fellows, who live in the HAFTR community, are an active presence on Shabbat and holidays. The outreach effort addresses the "challenge of living a life fully committed to Torah and to engagement with the modern world," said Rabbi Gidon Rothstein, head of the HAFTR Community Kollel and a 1995 graduate of RIETS.

The Kollel Initiative is not a "one-size-fits-all" model, however; each program must be tailored to the community. "We're a service operation. We work with the professionals and lay leaders to create a program that fits the need," said Rabbi David Israel, director of MSDCS. Other programs have already been established in Boca Raton; Dallas; Cedarhurst, NY; and Baltimore. ■

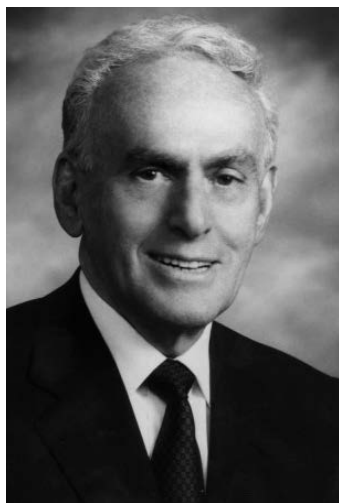
## Joseph Wilf Named Board Vice Chair

**J**oseph Wilf, chief executive officer of Garden Homes Management, a real-estate development, building, and management firm based in Union, NJ, has been elected vice chairman of YU's board of trustees.

Mr. Wilf, a Holocaust survivor, became involved in the university's leadership in 1990 when he joined the board of Sy Syms School of Business. Three years later, he was elected a trustee of the university.

Mr. Wilf and his family are among New Jersey's most prominent leaders and supporters of Jewish education and other Jewish causes. In 1990, he and his brother, the late Harry Wilf, endowed a major need-based scholarship fund for students at Yeshiva College and Stern College for Women.

The Wilf family subsequently endowed a second major scholarship fund for distinguished undergraduate scholars, and in 2002, they made a gift to name the university's main campus, in the Washington Heights section



of Manhattan, the Wilf Campus.

The Wilf Family Foundation, which Mr. Wilf founded, supports United Way, St. Barnabas Medical Center, Elizabeth General Medical Center, the American Cancer Society, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Shaare Zedek Hospital, and Schneider Children's Hospital in Israel.

Among numerous communal affiliations, Mr. Wilf is a leader of the American Society of Yad Vashem, UJA-Federation, State of Israel Bonds, and the Jewish National Fund. He is a board member and past

president of the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey and of the Jewish Educational Center, founder and board member of the Central New Jersey Home for the Aged, board member of Jewish Family Services of Central New Jersey, and former treasurer of the Jewish Horizon.

He also is active in the leadership of the Jewish Agency, Kean University, the Jewish Museum in New York City, and the Joint Distribution Committee. Mr. Wilf is a founder of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and Kean University Holocaust Resource Center, and North American president of the March of the Living.

For his philanthropic and humanitarian endeavors, Mr. Wilf was awarded honorary doctoral degrees from Yeshiva University and the Rabbinical College of America, and received the Louis Brandeis Humanitarian Award of the Zionist Organization of America and the David Ben Gurion Peace Medal of State of Israel Bonds. ■

## Communal Leaders Elected to YU Board

**W**arren Eisenberg, co-chairman of Bed Bath and Beyond, and Matthew J. Maryles, a member of the tax advisory firm of Wolf Maryles and Associates, have been elected to the YU board of trustees.

Mr. Eisenberg became involved in the university's leadership in 2000, when he joined the board of Sy Syms School of Business (SSSB). He has spoken about his company's management philosophy as part of the business school's Dr. Ira and Doris Kukin Entrepreneurial Lecture Series and, with his wife, Mitzi, endowed a major scholarship fund to assist students to attend SSSB. He recently became one of the inaugural supporters of the Graduate Fellowship program.

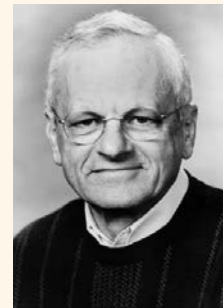
Mr. Eisenberg founded Bed Bath and Beyond with Leonard Feinstein in 1971. Today the home-furnishings retail company operates more than 600 stores in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

A resident of Short Hills, NJ, Mr. Eisenberg is a leader and supporter of several charitable endeavors. He is a director of Berkshire Hills Emanuel Camp and a founder and director of the "I Have a Dream" program of Temple Emanu-El in Westfield, NJ, which subsidizes college expenses and support services for approximately 50 students from Plainfield, NJ. Mr. Eisenberg and his wife have four children and 12 grandchildren.

Mr. Maryles, a Brooklyn resident, became a founding member of the Yeshiva College board of directors in 1990. He also serves as co-chair of the Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools, which is a project of the Max Stern Division of Communal Services at YU's affiliated Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary.

A prominent leader in the Jewish community, Mr. Maryles is president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, a member of the executive committees of UJA-Federation of New York and the Orthodox Caucus, and secretary of the board of the Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Funds, Inc. Among his previous communal activities are Mr. Maryles's service as co-chairman of the Fund for Jewish Education, as president of the Gesher Foundation, and as president of the Yeshiva of Flatbush.

He earned his JD degree from Brooklyn Law School and BS degree from Brooklyn College. His wife, Gladys, is a board member of the Yeshiva University Museum. Their daughter, Julia, is a graduate of Stern College for Women, and several sons-in-law are graduates of YC and Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. ■



Warren Eisenberg



Matthew Maryles

## Einstein on the Cutting Edge

❖ Researchers at Albert Einstein College of Medicine have received a grant of nearly \$1 million from the National Institutes of Health to lead a study testing gene therapy as a new strategy for combating HIV-1, the virus that causes AIDS. Headed by **Vinayaka Prasad**, PhD, AECOM professor of microbiology and immunology, the four-year project will focus on developing novel anti-HIV molecules called aptamers.

❖ The National Foundation for Cancer Research has awarded a \$250,000 grant and named Einstein researcher **Susan Horwitz**, PhD, professor of cell biology and of molecular pharmacology, to its highest distinction, NFCR Fellow. The honor allows Dr. Horwitz the flexibility and capability to explore scientific research over the next five years that will improve treatment options for patients for whom cancer chemotherapy has failed.

❖ **Paula Cohen**, PhD, AECOM assistant professor of molecular genetics and of obstetrics, gynecology and women's health, received a grant from the National Down Syndrome Society to support her research of maternal mismatch repair proteins and their role in the origins of trisomy 21, the chromosome abnormality that causes Down syndrome. Dr. Cohen's research will shed light on the genetic and environmental contributions to Down syndrome predisposition, two factors about which little is known.

❖ Researchers at Einstein have discovered a novel molecular mechanism that controls cell suicide, or apoptosis. The finding, which appears in the September issue of the journal *Molecular Cell*, could have implications for treating major health problems such as cancer and heart disease. The group was led by **Richard N. Kitsis**, MD, professor of medicine and cell biology, Gerald and Myra Dorros Professor of Cardiovascular Disease, and director of the Cardiovascular Research Center at Einstein.

❖ **T. Byram Karasu**, MD, Silverman Professor and university chairman, department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, was the recipient of the John A. Graft Award of the Mayo Clinic for 2004.

## Board News

**Rabbi Howard S. Balter '83Y,R** has been named a member of the RIETS board of trustees.

**Paul D. Brusiloff '91C**, a partner with Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, was elected to the CSL board of directors.

**David B. Chapnick**, **Madaleine Berley**, and **Robin Meltzer** were elected to the WSSW board of governors.

**Henry Kressel '55Y** has been named a member of the SSSB board of directors.

**Matthew J. Maryles** and **Warren Eisenberg** have been named to the YU board of trustees (see above).

**Joseph Wilf**, CEO of Garden Homes Management, was elected vice chairman of the board of trustees (see above).

## Halpert Finds a Full-time Home at YU

### ■ Basketball Coach Takes Over Athletics Department

When it came time to change careers, Jonathan Halpert, PhD, didn't have to look far.

As the popular coach of the Yeshiva University men's basketball team, he has been a well-known face on campus for more than 30 years. Yet his "day job" for most of that time had been as CEO of the Camelot Residential and Education Center, which provides residential care for the developmentally disabled and supports research and training programs for professionals who work with the handicapped.

While Dr. Halpert contemplated retiring from Camelot, a new opportunity sprang up at YU when Richard Zerneck retired as director of athletics. Dr. Halpert, who took over directorship of the department in summer 2004, will remain head basketball coach.

Dr. Halpert's ties to YU run deep: he graduated *magna cum laude* from Yeshiva College in 1966 and earned his PhD from YU's Ferkauf Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (today Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology) in 1978. All five of his children attended YU schools. His alma mater honored him with the Distinguished Achievement in Ath-

letic Education Award in June 2004.

Known affectionately as "Coach," he owns the record for most seasons coached, most victories, and most consecutive winning seasons. Twice, the College Basketball Officials Association voted Dr. Halpert "Coach of the Year." He also founded BackDoor Hoops, a nonprofit organization that serves as a basketball clinic for yeshiva elementary and high-school players and coaches.

"I've been here so long. I thought I knew almost everything there was to know about YU," Dr. Halpert said. "Now that I'm in an administrative position, there are many things I need to address. I was surprised at how much I need to learn about the other teams."

On his agenda as new athletic director are plans to build up YU's volleyball and soccer programs and to establish men's and women's softball teams at the club level. Club-level teams are not as competitive as varsity-level teams, and therefore allow a greater number of

students to participate.

Dr. Halpert said he also wants to improve the men's and women's intramural programs by enlisting the help of outside referees rather than student volunteers. Although students have done a fine job of refereeing, he said, they are not professionally trained and are not immune to partiality.

Like his predecessor, Dr. Halpert sees the role of athletics at YU as primarily educational. "Our focus will be on health and wellness, which in the long run is a significant contribution that we can make to students' lives," he said. ■



### Leadership

*continued from page 1*

vice chairman in March 2000.

"Morris Weiss is a respected philanthropist and leader in his hometown of Cleveland, in the Jewish world, and in the American business community," President Richard M. Joel said. "He will be an important partner in moving the university forward as we embark on the first phase of a new strategic plan to position the institution as America's Jewish university in service to humanity.

"This venture will entail sweeping advancements in academics, and increased services to students as the university begins its repositioning as a leadership incubator for the Jewish people," President Joel continued. "Mr. Weiss, who is deeply involved in Jewish education, has the vision and creativity to lead us into this new era."

Mr. Weiss joined American Greetings, headquartered in Cleveland, in 1961. It is the

world's largest publicly owned creative manufacturer and distributor of social expression products, and employs more than 20,000 associates.

In 1978, Mr. Weiss became president and chief operating officer, and in 1987, was elected chief executive officer. Five years later, he became chairman of its board, while retaining his title of chief executive officer. In June 2003, Mr. Weiss retired as CEO, while remaining chairman of the board.

He also serves as a director of National City Corporation and is on the advisory boards of Primus Venture Partners, United Jewish Communities, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Cleveland Clinic, and United Way, and is on the Listed Company Advisory Committee to the New York Stock Exchange Board.

"I look forward to partnering with President Joel in advancing the important work of YU," Mr. Weiss said. "I am aware that we stand on the shoulders of giants, including Dr. Lamm and many

others. My family owes a great deal to YU."

Mr. Stanton was elected chairman-emeritus. He said he was extremely pleased to have been called upon to help lead the university during its recent transition from former President Norman Lamm to President Joel.

Mr. Stanton's tenure emphasized enhancements to student life, increased scholarships, and major improvements in the campus environment. He also chaired the historic capital campaign that raised more than \$400 million. "It is now time for the new chairman to execute the president's strategic plan with dedication and aggressive action," Mr. Stanton said.

Mr. Weiss's family has longstanding ties to YU through the Stone-Sapirstein-Weiss Family Foundation, which endowed the Stone-Sapirstein Chair in Jewish Education and Stone-Sapirstein Scholarship and Internship Program at YU's affiliated Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. The family

*Sushi continued from page 1*



Molly Fink, Caryn Friedman, and Sherene Nili.

green, and blue tones. A far cry from the small, dark basement it was last year, the contemporary and comfortable hangout offers flat-screen TVs, wireless Internet access, and a place to simply relax.

The \$2.2 million renovation, a much-needed alternative to the crowded Seryl and Charles Kushner Dining Hall, was created in consultation with student leaders.

The café is open Monday–Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.–8:30 p.m., and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m. The lounge is open until 1 a.m.

### Computer Upgrades

Students on the Wilf and Beren campuses will soon be able to log in from any computer classroom, thanks to new servers in the academic computing labs. Replacement of machines in the science labs and classrooms is now under way, with 65 new computers already installed at 245 and 215 Lexington Ave. and 100 slated for the Wilf Campus.

Wireless computer access is being rolled out across the three Manhattan campuses. Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law now has access points on all library floors, in the Jacob Burns Moot Court, and in the main lobby. Wi-fi capability also is available at the new food court and lounge at 215 Lexington Ave., at the Hedy Steinberg Library at Beren, and on the fourth floor of the Gottesman Library at Wilf. Students are able to print from their wireless laptops at these locations through a new, vended pay-for-print service. MIS plans to expand wireless service during the spring semester. ■

also established the Irving I. Stone Beit Midrash Program at YU.

Born in 1940 in Czechoslovakia and raised in Detroit, Mr. Weiss attended Wayne State University and earned a bachelor's degree at Case Western Reserve University.

He received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Yeshiva University in 1994.

He and his wife, Judy, have four sons who are Yeshiva College alumni, three of whom are executives at American Greetings Corp. ■

## Bookshelf

### Voices of Bereavement: A Casebook for Grief Counselors

by Joan Beder '93W, DSW, WSSW associate professor

A collection of compelling case studies drawn from the author's experiences as a grief counselor, each of which reflects on an unusual set of circumstances.

### Eyewitness to Jewish History

by Rabbi Benjamin Blech '54Y,R

John Wiley and Sons

Hoboken, NJ

A unique chronicle featuring excerpts from journals, letters, newspapers, public testimony, and ancient documents, which provide snapshots of daily life from biblical times to the modern day.

### Journal of Jewish Music and Liturgy

edited by Macy Nulman YH, '45Y, former BSJM director

Available through BSJM

Published by the Cantorial Council of America and contains articles about *hazzanut* and cantorial liturgy.



## Einstein Breaks Ground on Biomedical Science Center

■ *Price Center to Double Lab Space, Place Medical School at Frontier of Genetic Research*

**M**ore than 400 people gathered to witness a new chapter in the history of Albert Einstein College of Medicine Oct. 13 when local dignitaries, donors, and staff broke ground on a new \$200-million research facility. Located at the corner of Morris Park Avenue and Eastchester Road in the Bronx, the building will expand the Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus from 16 to 26 acres, and will double the amount of available laboratory space.

"This is a monumental day in the life of Einstein College," said Dominick Purpura, MD, the Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean. "The research that will take place in this new building will be at the frontier of biomedical science and has the potential to impact every area of medicine from cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes to genetic disorders, Alzheimer's disease and many others."

The five-story building will be named in honor of Michael F. Price and Muriel Block and her late husband Harold, who have made the two largest gifts in the 50-year

history of the medical school.

Mr. Price, a pioneer in the mutual fund industry, made a donation of \$25 million toward the creation of the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine at Einstein. The Price Center will be housed in the new Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion, made possible by a \$21 million gift from Mrs. Block.

"With Einstein, I see a support network where anything we do, we'll succeed," said Mr. Price. "The school's vision about where science can go is amazing and what better place to do it all than in New York City and the Bronx."

Mrs. Block said she was proud to be part of "a research project established for the good of mankind."

The 201,000-square-foot building will be the largest medical research facility constructed in the Bronx since the college opened in 1955. Congressman Joseph Crowley highlighted the facility's investment in the borough, lauding the "four hundred additional jobs that will be created once the building is complete." He was among a



L-R: Morry J. Weiss, Dean Dominick Purpura, Michael Price, Ira Millstein, Muriel Block, President Richard M. Joel, Robert Belfer, and Burton Resnick.

group of elected officials from New York City and New York State that included Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Jr.

Slated for completion by 2008, the facility will house 40 state-of-the-art research laboratories, 10 specialized scientific facilities, and a 100-seat auditorium. The laboratories will enable Einstein to

bring together world-class scientists and the most advanced technology to uncover the origins of health and disease at the molecular level.

Each floor will house "open laboratories" where biomedical investigators may easily consult with one another, continuing Einstein's notable history of fostering scientific collaboration among its

own faculty members and with individuals at other institutions around the world.

After the ceremony, which also included speeches from President Richard M. Joel and Einstein's board chair Ira M. Millstein, guests attended a celebratory luncheon on campus. ■