

Yeshiva College, Revamped and Revitalized

New Dean's Suite, Faculty Offices in Belfer Hall Create a Community of Scholars

Yeshiva College starts the 2006–2007 academic year with new leadership and a bustling home address on the fifth floor of Belfer Hall. The appointment of David Srolovitz, PhD, previously chair of Princeton University's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, as the school's dean heralds exciting changes ahead for the school.

With plans in place to significantly expand the faculty and review the curriculum—"a huge job" in Dean Srolovitz's words—it became clear that the college needed a physical makeover, too.

The spacious offices in Belfer include a dean's suite, 30 faculty offices, offices for program directors, and three conference rooms providing

space for study groups and meetings.

The new facilities will allow greater interaction between students and faculty.

"The professors now have individual offices, so they can sit down with students one-on-one and work with them there," Dean Srolovitz said.

The remaining faculty offices in Furst Hall will also be converted into single offices.

"We want our professors to use their offices as a place to do scholarly work—we don't want them to teach and leave," said Dean Srolovitz. "We want them to stay on campus."

Joining Dean Srolovitz at the school's helm are Joanne Jacobson, PhD, as associate dean for academic affairs, and Fred Sugarman, PhD, as asso-



Associate Deans Fred Sugarman and Joanne Jacobson and Dean David Srolovitz in what will be the new offices in Belfer Hall.

ciate dean for operations. Previously chair of the English department, Dr. Jacobson will chair the curriculum review in the coming year—a chance to define what the curriculum

will look like for the next generation of YC students.

Dr. Sugarman, who was previously interim dean, is in charge of the day-to-day running of the college.

"This frees me to focus on the big, strategic issues," said Dean Srolovitz.

To learn about his plans for the college, turn to the Q and A on page 4.

YU ISRAEL

YU Israel Campus Offers Shelter from Falling Rockets

With Hezbollah rockets falling in northern Israel, Yeshiva University's Israel campus in Jerusalem opened its doors for three weeks to people living in the north seeking refuge.

The YU Israel (YUI) apartments, dormitories, and facilities were offered to alumni and their families as well as others, including groups of students and children in need of relocation. The majority of those seeking temporary relocation came from Tzfat and Haifa.

Concerned staff members began contacting YU alumni in the north as soon as the crisis broke out, spreading the



Children staying at the Israel campus enjoy some entertainment.

word about housing availability at YUI in Jerusalem. The YUI campus absorbed 22 families, including more than 100 children.

The Levy family from Safed contacted the YUI office right after a rocket fell about 160 feet from their apartment *continued on page 4*

A New Year at YU

Dear students,

It is both an honor and a source of pride and excitement for me to welcome you to Yeshiva University. You are embarking on a special journey, in an academic environment that elicits respect for the human spirit, the pursuit of knowledge, and the love of learning. As tour guides on this life-enriching journey, we're committed to ensuring its success for you. Thus we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the resources listed in this issue and take full advantage of them.

Yeshiva University is the leadership incubator for the Jewish people and the resources of our university represent our investment in your success.

Our best wishes for your intellectual and spiritual fulfillment.

President Richard M. Joel

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Summer Brings New Opportunities for Study

While college students across the US escaped their books for the beach, many Yeshiva University students discovered that summer can be the ideal time for a different type of learning.



University Summer Research and Roth Scholars (L-R, front): Joshua Kra, Ephraim Hollander, Louise Soussan, Yelena Kozirousky, Michaela Goldberg, Elizabeth Ravkin (standing); (L-R, back): Georgiy Natanov, Jessica Feig, Michal Cohen, Elliot Steinberger.

Budding Scientists Do Research

Ten Yeshiva University undergraduates, pictured above, spent the summer doing research with top scientific scholars at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The eight students in the Roth Scholars program and the two students in the University Summer Research Scholars program were paired with scientists at Einstein to learn about cutting-edge scientific research, said Barry Potvin, PhD, professor of biology at Yeshiva College. They conducted research in the departments of neuroscience, molecular genetics, molecular pharmacology, pathology, anatomy and structural biology, and biochemistry. Most of the students are considering pursuing medical degrees, but the experience often piques their interest in research.

Women Make Time for Talmud

For several Stern alumnae and students, free days in the summer meant extra time to devote to in-depth Talmud study in the June Learning Program at Stern College for Women. They explored topics in *Massekhet Brakhot*, a section of the Gemara, in *chavrusa* (partner) style learning sessions and *shiurim* (classes) taught by Rabbis Aaron Cohen and David Pahmer, both instructors at Stern's Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies. "This is not for credit, just for knowledge. The students are here purely of their own volition," said

Rabbi Pahmer. While many women learn with a partner independently during the year, they are not always able to devote so much class time to exploring texts related to one topic. The program was created five years ago as a result of students' requests.

Under the Sea and the Microscope

Students in the S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program at Stern College for Women took to the ocean over the summer to explore marine biology in a course taught by Stern biology professor Joseph DeSantis,



S. Daniel Abraham Honors students in marine biology course.

PhD. The course included a week at the Darling Marine Center in Walpole, Maine, the marine laboratory of the University of Maine. "Students met with local marine biologists, conducted research on the open ocean, studied the intertidal zone and mudflats, dredged in the Damariscotta River, and collected live specimens for laboratory analysis," Dr. DeSantis said.

High Schoolers Sample YU

High school juniors from Los Angeles to Miami got a taste of what YU has to offer when they spent the month of July at Yeshiva University, meeting other Orthodox high school students, enjoying cultural attractions in New York City, and taking classes on campus. The young men and women, who stayed in dorms on the Wilf and Beren campuses, participated in a Beit Midrash program in the morning. Afternoons were spent in one of three courses: "The World of Finance and Investment,"

"Explorations in Genetics and Molecular Biology," or political science/pre-law. The program was capped off with a barbeque at President Richard M. Joel's home.

Digging for Biblical Remains

Back on dry land, a group of students from Stern and Yeshiva College took a course in Biblical archaeology at Tel es-

Safi, which the Bible identifies as Gath of the Philistines, in Israel. The course offered students both academic and practical experience in the recovery and analysis of the material remains of an ancient culture. During the day, students participated in all aspects of the excavation, such as digging, surveying at the site, and washing and reading pottery at the base camp. Evening lectures and field trips to nearby historical and archaeological sites and museums rounded out the course. Aren Maeir of Bar-Ilan University, Jill Katz of Yeshiva University, and Jonathan Price of Tel Aviv University co-taught the course.

Brushing up on High Art

Closer to home, art lovers at Stern College dosed up on culture in "Art of New York," taught by Jacob Wisse, PhD, associate professor of art history. The three-week course offered an intensive investigation of the visual arts of New York through firsthand experience of the city's most important museums, galleries and private institutions, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Frick Collection, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and the Jewish Museum. Through readings, critical analysis, discussions and firsthand research, stu-

dents considered issues pertaining to the collection, preservation, and display of art in the modern world.

Nanoscience Offers Fuel for Thought

Two unusual science courses offered in conjunction with Brookhaven National Laboratory introduced science lovers and non science-lovers alike to nanoscience. "Nanoscience for Poets" taught by Anatoly Frenkel, PhD, associate professor of physics at Stern College, was geared toward non-science majors. "Why shouldn't bright poets, social scientists, and humanists understand science in a meaningful way, not just superficially?" Dr. Frenkel said. The second course, "Discover Nanoscience" taught by Gabriel Cwilich, PhD, associate professor of physics at YC, and Fredy Zypman, PhD, professor of physics at YC, introduced students to alternative energy sources, one of the most urgent scientific and technological challenges. Students worked in teams on the design, synthesis, manipulation, and characterization of nanoparticle catalysts, which are key components of hydrogen fuel cells. Both courses featured a weeklong stay at Brookhaven National Laboratory and experiments at its National Synchrotron Light Source. ■

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YESHIVA UNIVERSITY TODAY

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ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Einstein and Montefiore Receive \$2 Million to Train Doctors to Care for Elderly

A \$2 million grant has been awarded to Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation of Las Vegas to develop a program to train doctors in caring for the elderly.

The initiative, known as the GeriEd Program, will contain both educational and clinical components.

"Almost all physicians will be caring for older adults in the years to come," said program co-leader, Laurie Jacobs, MD, division chief of geriatrics at Montefiore and director of the Resnick Gerontology Center at Einstein, while noting that there are currently only about 6,000 geriatricians physicians who specialize in the care of the elderly in the nation.

"Our goal," Dr. Jacobs said, "is to improve physicians' skills in medicine as well as in navigating the healthcare system so they can expertly and appropriately access available

services and programs for their elderly patients."

The GeriEd Program is highly innovative. It addresses fragmentation in geriatric care by targeting physicians who provide acute or chronic primary care for the elderly—including doctors who care for hospitalized patients, emergency room physicians, internists, and family practitioners. They, in turn, will influence and improve geriatric care provided by Montefiore now and in the future.

"The program allows us to bridge the academic and research environment at Einstein with the clinical and patient care settings throughout Montefiore, offering innovative mentoring and research opportunities that hopefully will lead some to consider geriatrics as a focus for their careers at a time when we find ourselves treating more and more patients who are elderly," said Joe Verghese, MD, the grant co-leader and associate professor

of neurology at Einstein, who is active in research regarding aging, falls, and dementia, as well as in clinical care and training.

"Also, by teaming neurology with geriatrics, we will work toward increasing awareness and recognition by medical students, residents, and physicians of such common neurogeriatric syndromes as dementia," Dr. Verghese said.

Montefiore Medical Center, which is the main teaching hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, houses one of the largest residency programs in the United States and will develop the GeriEd Program. The program will target 157 practicing physicians and residents and 750 medical students annually. ■



GeriEd Program co-leaders Dr. Joe Verghese and Dr. Laurie Jacobs (inset).

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW

Michael Herz Named Vice Dean

Michael Herz, JD, professor of law at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and director of the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy, has been appointed vice dean after Laura Cunningham decided to resume her full time duties as a professor.

"Professor Herz served the law school with distinction as senior associate dean for four years in the late 1990s and his track record as an exceptional public servant to the law school since then is well known," said David Rudenstine, JD, dean of the school.

Professor Herz specializes in environmental, administrative, and constitutional law. He came to Cardozo in 1988 from the Environmental Defense Fund, where he was a staff attorney for three years. Previously, he clerked for Associate Justice Byron R. White of the US Supreme Court and for Chief Judge Levin H. Campbell of the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.



Michael Herz

Professor Herz, who was comment editor of *The University of Chicago Law Review*, has written widely on a variety of public law topics. He taught at New York University School of Law in 2000–01 and 2005–06, and has been a visiting professor of public and international affairs at Princeton University three times. He is a member of the Council of the ABA's section of Admini-

strative Law and Regulatory Practice.

Dean Rudenstine thanked Professor Cunningham for her five years of service.

"Laura shares responsibility for all of the important changes that have occurred during that period. Her uncompromising commitment to academic excellence and in strengthening the educational program is inspiring." ■

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW

Cardozo Graduate to Clerk for Supreme Court Judge

Sara J. Klein, a 2005 graduate of Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, has won a clerkship with US Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens for the 2007 term. Ms. Klein is the second Cardozo graduate to clerk for the US Supreme Court. Cliff Elgarten, a 1979 Cardozo alumnus, clerked for Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.

Ms. Klein, who was an outstanding student at Cardozo, was executive editor of *Cardozo Law Review* and received the Louis D. Brandeis Award for the best academic record over three years as well as the Felix Frankfurter Award for outstanding academic achievement, maturity, responsibility, diligence, and judgment. She is currently clerking for the Hon. Maryanne Trump Barry, US Court of Appeals, Third Circuit. In September 2006, she will clerk for the Hon. John C. Lifland, US District Court, District of New Jersey.

Upon hearing the news of the clerkship in July, Ms. Klein returned to Cardozo to thank some of the professors who helped her candidacy, including Stewart Sterk, Lester Brickman, Melanie Leslie, and Kevin Stack. ■



Sara Klein

YESHIVA COLLEGE

‘Hold on to Your Hats!’

Incoming Dean David Srolovitz
Talks About His Plans to Hire Faculty
and Review Curriculum*Why did you take the position of dean of Yeshiva College?*

As a modern Orthodox Jew, as a parent of three YU students, and as an academic, I saw Yeshiva University as a place with a unique history and, with a new president, unique opportunities. President Joel asked me to help him build the institution to achieve a higher level of excellence. I became dean to have a lasting impact on students like my own children, and because the president and the trustees were willing to give me the mandate and tools to build. Finally, I became dean because I believe in Torah Umadda [the study of Jewish texts coupled with secular learning].

What's top of your agenda now that you're in place?

The number-one goal is to build a community of scholars and intellectual role models. This means expanding the faculty and putting professors in front of our students who live and breathe the subject they teach. I am committed to



Yeshiva College Dean David Srolovitz

bringing at least 12 new tenured or tenure-track faculty members to campus for each of the next five to seven years.

We have selected several departments to rebuild from the ground up and several to build to national prominence. We will work to attract academic luminaries as a complement to the excellent teachers in our yeshiva. We have the will, we have the green light

from the president, and we have partners in the community who will help make this happen.

My second goal relates to what Yeshiva University is and why students come here. It is the yeshiva that makes our university unique and it is because of the yeshiva that our students choose Yeshiva College over other schools. But it is not just the yeshiva; it is the integrated college experience

—Torah Umadda. My goal is to design and implement a program that enables students to reach for great heights, both in their Torah learning and secular education. I want to make sure that this applies to all of our students, our best and brightest as well as those who are not among the highest achievers.

In the coming year, we will begin a curriculum review that will be the most important change to undergraduate education at Yeshiva College in a generation. My goals here are flexibility, intellectual rigor, a close relationship between students and their professors, and national recognition for producing the best graduates in the country. The new curriculum will be phased in beginning in fall 2007.

My remaining goals are operational. We need improved technology in every classroom, many new and improved laboratory spaces, classrooms that are designed for a new style of teaching, new offices for the faculty. Hold on to your hats!

That's an ambitious agenda. When will all of this happen?

We are making spectacular progress even now. The classrooms in Furst Hall have computers, CD/DVD players, ceiling-mounted LCD projectors, and new boards/screens. We're going to build more

labs in the cellar of Belfer Hall.

We have several major searches for new faculty under way. We are almost ready to announce some major changes in academic Jewish studies that will reach beyond Yeshiva College. Watch out for some big announcements very soon!

What else does the future hold in store?

We're thinking very hard about a new program in Israel studies and a minor in education that leads to certification in teaching. We're considering how to apply educational models from the yeshiva and around the world to our education—for example, chavrusa-style learning and a version of the Oxford Tutorial.

How do you see Yeshiva College in the wider context of the university?

Yeshiva University won't thrive if Yeshiva College doesn't thrive. Yeshiva College won't thrive unless the yeshiva thrives. The university as a whole has a commitment to these two flagship institutions. We will see more and more integration of Yeshiva College with the graduate programs. I see a tighter interaction between Yeshiva College and Israel. We must think outside the box and plan for a future that honors our past but is not unduly constrained by its structure. ■

SY SYMS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Syms School Appoints Seven Professors

Sy Syms School of Business has appointed seven professors who will “dramatically change the faculty profile of the school,” said Morton Lowengrub, PhD, vice president for academic affairs. The appointments are in the areas of marketing, finance, accounting, and management science.

“These new faculty will significantly enhance the quality of course offerings and the scholarly makeup of the school,” said Dr. Lowengrub.

KISEOK NAM, PhD from Texas A&M University, associate professor of finance, has taught at the doctoral, master, and undergraduate level, most recently at the University of Texas—Pan American. His research is widely published in journals.

STEVEN NISSENFELD '75E, PhD from Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, clinical professor of management science, is a partner at the Hay Group, a global management consultancy. His corporate experience will be useful in finding speakers for the school's Kukin Entrepreneurial Lecture Series and job placements for students.

TAMAR AVNET, PhD from Columbia University, assistant professor of marketing, is a behavioral marketing researcher. She taught at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto.

MURUGAPPA KRISHNAN, PhD from University of Pennsylvania, associate professor of accounting, has extensive teaching experience at schools including Rutgers University and

the University of Minnesota.

LISA ROSH, PhD from Yale University, visiting assistant professor of management science, previously taught at George Washington University and Singapore Management University.

DANIEL LAUFER, PhD from the University of Texas at Austin, associate professor of marketing, has taught at the University of Cincinnati and State University of New York at Buffalo. He is widely quoted in the media as an expert on consumer reactions to current events.

XIAOJUN HE, DBA from Syracuse University, assistant professor of finance, taught at The College of New Jersey and California Polytechnic State University. ■

Israel Campus Offers Shelter,
continued from p. 1

building. Chaim Levy expressed gratitude at being able to escape the danger. “We have two small children and were living in fear and staying in a crowded, hot bomb shelter,” he said. “We're so grateful to YUI for housing us.”

Others who took advantage of YUI's hospitality learned about it through YU students living and studying at the Jerusalem campus this summer. Vicky Lukacs, a student from Montreal, Canada, heard about the offer from a friend participating in the YU Yavneh Olami Summer Internship Program.

Ms. Lukacs was volunteering for Magen David Adom (MDA) in Tiberias. She was in Jerusalem for Shabbat when Tiberias was hit by Hezbollah rocket attacks. Unable to return to Tiberias, Ms. Lukacs found herself stranded in Jerusalem and quickly contacted YUI. She stayed on

campus and volunteered at the MDA Jerusalem branch.

“Everyone at YUI was so eager to help,” Ms. Lukacs said. “This is a scary situation. We're in a war and no one can predict what will happen, but on the YUI campus I felt safe.”

YUI originally planned for the families to stay on campus until July 31 to allow time to prepare its facilities for arriving RIETS kollel students. However, that deadline was extended another week as the war continued. YUI then helped families who chose not to return home to find alternate temporary housing.

“Even though it put pressure on us to get housing ready for the fall, we decided unanimously that since we had vacant facilities, we wanted to offer them to northern residents,” said Scott Apfelbaum, director of YU Israel Operations. ■

STERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Changes Bring New Look to Beren Campus

The fall semester begins with new quarters for many of the deans and administrative offices at Stern College for Women.

Students looking for Dr. Karen Bacon, The Dr. Monique C. Katz Dean at Stern College for Women, or Associate Dean Ethel Orlian will find them on the 14th floor at 205 Lexington Avenue. The Center for Academic Advisement, the S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program, Student Accounts, and Pre-Health Advisement are also in that new suite of offices.

People may walk into the first floor of 245 Lexington Ave. and wonder where the Department of Student Affairs has gone. "Student Activity Central" has been relocated to the 7th floor of 215 Lexington Avenue, where Associate Dean of Students Zelda Braun has installed a human-sized bubble gum dispenser for student visitors.

The 12th floor of 215 Lexington Avenue has also been renovated and will house Career Services, the Sy Syms School of Business Beren



(L-R): Rochelle Mogilner, academic advisor, Dean Karen Bacon and Miriam Schechter, director of the Academic Advisement Center, in the new offices.

campus offices, and the Registrar's office. A new conference center and the Gottesman Board of Trustees room are also on that floor.

What will occupy the first floor of 245 Lex? The entire entranceway is being redone and modernized with a larger lobby area, including seating

areas and plasma screen information boards. The facade of the building will be changed to glass, to let in more natural light. The rest of the entrance-level floor will contain two large classrooms with multimedia capabilities. These classrooms will be separated with a movable, soundproof

wall that, when opened, will create one very large room that will be used for special events. This work is scheduled for completion by late fall.

Plans are under way for an expanded Beit Midrash in 245 Lexington. With greatly increased seating capacity and creative design, the new Beit

Midrash will be "reflective of the seriousness of Torah study at Stern College," Dean Bacon said.

As the campus continues to expand, faculty offices will be grouped by departments with the Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies and the departments of psychology, political science, sociology, speech pathology and audiology, biology, chemistry, and physics located at 245 Lexington Avenue. Other departments including art, English, philosophy, history, math, and speech will be located at 215 Lexington Avenue.

"Grouping departments in this fashion will enable students to consult more easily with professors and will help to create a community of scholars for the various academic disciplines," Dean Bacon explained.

"Without a doubt, these major physical enhancements will lead to an even more invigorated and supportive environment for faculty and students to interact both inside and outside of the classroom." ■

YU Continues to Expand Full-Time Faculty

Yeshiva University has hired 20 faculty members to teach in the undergraduate schools as part of the school's long-term plan to replace many of the adjuncts with full-time faculty. The graduate schools—including Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Wurzweiler School of Social Work, and Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies—have also added excellent faculty at various levels, bringing the number of professors joining the university to a total of 37.

"Our goal with these appointments is to make our undergraduate schools among the finest in the country and enhance excellence in our graduate and professional schools," said Morton Lowengrub, PhD, vice president for academic affairs, adding that he focused on recruiting faculty in tune with the mission of the university.



Shalom Holtz Saul Andron

The undergraduate appointments—six at Stern College, seven at Sy Syms School of Business, and seven at Yeshiva College—will bring luster to all three schools, Dr. Lowengrub said.

The new faculty members have strong scholarly and teaching records at a wide range of institutions, including Rockefeller University, State University of New York at Albany, George Washington University, University of Cincinnati, and Singapore Management University.

In addition, six professors have joined the undergraduate schools as visiting faculty for the year. ■

NEW FACULTY 2006-2007

YESHIVA COLLEGE

Shawn Zelig Aster, assistant professor of Bible (effective Sept. 2007)

Sumanta Goswami, PhD, assistant professor of biology

Shalom Holtz, assistant professor of Bible

Aaron Koller, instructor of Bible

Gabriele LaNave, PhD, assistant professor of mathematics

Chaviva Levin YH,'93S, BR, instructor of Jewish history

Eliezer Schnall '00Y,R,F, PhD, instructor of psychology

STERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Dennis Engel, PhD, instructor of physics

David Glaser, DMA, assistant professor of music

Miriam Hirsch, PhD, assistant professor of education

Marina Kaufman Holz, assistant professor of biology

Lana Schwebel, PhD, assistant professor of English

Margarita Vigodner, PhD, assistant professor of biology

For new Sy Syms faculty, see article on page 4.

ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Stefanie Gaupp, PhD, instructor, pathology

Sumanta Goswami, PhD, assistant professor, anatomy and structural biology

Henry Hasson, MD, assistant professor, neurology

Michal Melamed, MD, assistant professor, medicine

Anjana Nemkal, PhD, associate professor, pathology

Kakuri Omari, PhD, instructor, pathology

Kelly Ramsey, MD, instructor, medicine

Rachel Wildman, PhD, assistant professor, epidemiology and population health

Xiao Ping (Michelle) Zhang, MD, associate professor, medicine

Molly Zimmerman, PhD, assistant professor, neurology

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW

Margaret Lemos, JD, assistant professor

Max Minzner, JD, assistant professor

BERNARD REVEL GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES

Jonathan Dauber, PhD, assistant professor

WURZWEILER SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Saul Andron, PhD, visiting associate professor

Lynn Levy '98W, instructor

Gary Stein, JD, associate professor

Jessica Strolin, associate professor

People in the News

Shani Bechhofer, PhD, '86S, assistant professor of Jewish education at AGS, spoke on "Why Educate: Bais Yaakov and the Problem of Purpose" at the Network for Research in Jewish Education in June; and on "Collective Memory and Bais Yaakov Education in North America" at Reframing Day School Education Worldwide, held at The Hebrew University in June.

J. David Bleich, PhD, Herbert and Florence Tenzer Professor of Jewish Law and Ethics at CSL, spoke on "Civil Marriage and Mamzerut" at the 14th Biennial Conference of the Jewish Law Association, Jerusalem.

Dmitry Fyodorov, PhD, assistant professor of cell biology at AECOM, has received a prestigious Kimmel Scholar Award in support of his research in biochemistry and genetics of chromatin assembly. The award, which includes a two-year grant from the Sidney Kimmel Foundation for Cancer Research, was created to advance the careers of young, gifted physicians and PhDs involved in cancer research.

Scott Goldberg, PhD, assistant professor of education and psychology at AGS, spoke on "The Subjectivity of Behavior: A Study of Community Definitions of Prosocial and Anti-social Behavior and the Impact on Student Classification" at Reframing Day School Education Worldwide, held at The Hebrew University in June.

Prof. Edith Lubetski '68B, head librarian at Hedi Steinberg Library at SCW, chaired a panel, "Epigraphical and Paleological Studies Pertaining to the Biblical World," at the 2006 International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in July.

Chaim Nissel, PsyD, director of the Confidential Counseling Cen-

ter, presented to therapists on the topics of "No Progress in Therapy? What's Getting in the Way?" and "Managing Difficult Behaviors in Preschoolers" at the Wellspring Early Intervention Spring Training Seminar, Rockland County, NY.

David Schnall, PhD, YH, '69Y, R, AGS dean, chaired a panel, "Reconstructing Relationships Between Parents and Schools," at Reframing Day School Education Worldwide, held at The Hebrew University in June.

Mareleyn Schneider, PhD, associate professor of sociology, was among 34 international and local educators selected to participate in a three-day training program in Eastern European Jewish history and Yiddish culture. The program, held in June, was sponsored by YIVO and held at the Center for Jewish History (home of YU Museum).

Moshe Sokolow, PhD, YH, '69Y, B, Fanya Gottesfeld Heller Professor of Jewish Education at AGS, spoke on "The Educational Philosophy of Rabbi Hayyim Hirschenson and Religious Zionism" at a conference on Modern Orthodoxy, 1940-1970, at the University of Scranton in June.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

David J. Azrieli, YU trustee and Canadian Friends of Yeshiva University vice president, on being honored in August at the Jewish National Fund of Montreal 2006 Negev Dinner at which General Colin Powell was keynote speaker.

Dr. David Schnall, AGS dean, represented the university at the event. Mr. Azrieli was recognized for his international role on behalf of Israel, where he is a foremost builder and developer of the largest shopping centers in the Middle East. Currently, he is developing the David J. Azrieli Amphitheatre in Be'ersheva River Park, Israel, which will be a cultural cen-

ter for residents of Be'ersheva and other Negev communities.

CONDOLENCES TO

Carl Feit, PhD, '67Y, associate professor of biology, on the loss of his mother, Gertrude.

Howard Hirsch on the loss of his father, Irving. The Hirsch family has supported biomedical research at Einstein for two decades.

Doreen Jacob, a YU Guardian with husband Albert, on the loss of her sister, Nancy Berger. The Jacobs have established scholarships for deserving and needy Sephardic students.

Hedda and YC Board member **Sheldon Rudoff**, YU Guardians, on the loss of their daughter Shaindy.

WE MOURN

Ursula Merkin, a YU Benefactor. With her husband **Hermann**, former vice chair of the YU Board of Trustees, she named the Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies in the memory of her father.

Joan Hope Silverman, daughter of the late Dorothy Silverman and Marty Silverman, former member of the YU Board of Trustees and Benefactor of YU and Einstein.

Judith Wilf, wife of the late Harry Wilf, who was a YU Benefactor, an honorary alumna, a member of the Board of Directors and a founder of Sy Syms School of Business, a Holocaust Studies Fellow, and a Fellow of RIETS. She, together with her brother-in-law Joseph and sister-in-law Suzie Wilf, established the Harry and Joseph Wilf Scholars Fund at Yeshiva University's undergraduate schools.

BOARD NEWS

Steve Uretsky was elected to the SSSB Board of Directors.



PAULA L. SIMMONDS is Yeshiva University's new director of institutional advancement for undergraduate alumni affairs.

Under Ms. Simmonds' leadership, YU's Office of Alumni Affairs will create a comprehensive program enabling alumni to strengthen their relationship to YU, connect with other alumni here and in Israel, and become acquainted

with initiatives being implemented under the administration of YU President Richard M. Joel.

Ms. Simmonds was most recently executive director of the 1654 Society, founded to preserve the history of the first American Jewish community. Before that, she directed marketing and development at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA).

A graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Ms. Simmonds is a contributing editor at the *Five Towns Jewish Times* in Lawrence, New York. She is married to Isaac Bikel, with whom she shares seven children and eight grandchildren.

We invite alumni to contact Paula by calling her at 212-960-5422, sending an email to Simmonds@yu.edu, or by writing to her at Yeshiva University, 2495 Amsterdam Ave., Belfer Hall, Suite 717, New York, NY 10033.

BBQ Brings Alumni Back to Campus

More than 200 alumni got reacquainted with their alma mater at a recent 'Back to School' barbecue on the Wilf Campus sponsored by Yeshiva College and Sy Syms School of Business.

The program featured an interactive dialogue with Dr. David Srolovitz, YC's new dean, and Rabbi Kenneth Brander, dean of the Center for the Jewish Future. Dr. Srolovitz is the former chairman of Princeton University's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, and one of the country's most distinguished researchers of computational science.

Nachum Segal '84Y, host of the popular "JM in the AM" program on WFMU radio, broadcast live from the event, engaging the crowd as he invited them to join him on his show. Mr. Segal launched his career at WYUR, the university's radio station. He interviewed many alumni, including YU Chancellor Norman Lamm; Daniel Brody '96Y, who was a contestant on *The Apprentice*; several YC board members; and Rabbi Shmuel Solomon, an alumnus who recently helped underwrite the new YC communications lab.

To listen to the show, go to www.nachumsegal.com/archive.cfm?view=2&personality=133 and click on July 12.

Alumni were invited to use the gym, weight room, and pool at the Max Stern Athletic Center. They took a tour of the campus to see the latest improvements and upgrades. ■

A, AECOM Albert Einstein College of Medicine • AG, AGS 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 • CJF Center for the Jewish Future • F, FGS Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology • I, IBC Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies • J, JSS James Striar School of General Jewish Studies • Y, MYP Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies • SBMP Stone Beit Midrash Program • R, RIETS Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary • S, SCW Stern College for Women • SG Sue Golding Graduate Division of Medical Sciences • SB, SSSB Sy Syms School of Business • T, TI Teachers Institute • T, TIW Teachers Institute for Women • W, WSSW Wurzweiler School of Social Work • Y, YC Yeshiva College • YH, YUHS Yeshiva University High Schools (MSTA The Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy) (SWHSG Samuel H. Wang Yeshiva University High School for Girls)



In Memoriam: Abraham Stern, Giant of Jewish Outreach

Abraham Stern, PhD, widely recognized as one of the foremost figures in outreach to youth through Yeshiva University for more than 50 years, passed away July 18 after a lengthy illness. He was the founding director of YU's Department of Youth Services at the Max Stern Division of Communal Services from 1954 to 1981, director of YU's Center for Continuing Education, associate professor at Wurzweiler School of Social Work, and instructor at RIETS. He developed the Torah Leadership Seminars Summer Institute in Europe and Israel, Youth Shabbatonim and Conclaves, and Youth Leadership Training Institutes, and the Counterpoint programs, which did outreach work to youth in North and South America, Australia, and South Africa. He had a profound impact on a generation of

future Jewish leaders and educators.

Among them is President Richard M. Joel, who described Dr. Stern as a "true hero."

"Dr. Stern was the master teacher of informal Jewish education," said President Joel. "He was the enabler of a generation of leadership that saw Jewish education as the key to the future, both in terms of Jewish knowledge and Jewish experience.

"The phenomenon of key synagogues emerging as outreach, user-friendly institutions, indeed the entire *kiruv* (outreach) field, was modeled by the force of his leadership.

"Dr. Stern believed the goal of informal education was not to persuade people to be observant, but to share Torah knowledge, values, and experience in settings that would enable young people to grow closer to Judaism," said President Joel. ■

AZRIELI GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Seminars Help Professionals Confront Problem of At-Risk Orthodox Youth



Dr. David Pelcovitz presented at the Azrieli Summer Seminars.

Jewish professionals in the Orthodox community in North America and Israel are confronting the growing problem of observant adolescents who exhibit antisocial behavior.

Azrieli Graduate School for Jewish Education and Administration, in cooperation with the Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools and Yeshiva High Schools at the Center for the Jewish Future, recently held seminars addressing problems such as drug and alcohol abuse, eating disorders, and sexual promiscuity, for educators, social workers, and psychologists in Los Angeles, New York, and Jerusalem.

"There is increasing awareness and willingness to face the growing problems, which

can no longer be ignored," said David Schnall, PhD, dean of Azrieli.

The school's staff were surprised at the overwhelming attendance at its Azrieli Summer Seminars.

The seminars, whose overarching theme was "Understanding and Intervening with At-Risk Students," were led by Azrieli faculty, who are experts in Jewish education and psychology: David Pelcovitz, PhD, a nationally recognized authority on parenting, adolescent development, and other child-related issues and the Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus Professor in Jewish Education at Azrieli; Scott Goldberg, PhD, assistant professor of education and psychology, and director of the Fanya Gottesfeld Heller Divi-

sion of Doctoral Studies at Azrieli; and Dean Schnall.

Rona Novick, PhD, a senior psychologist in the Division of Adolescent Psychiatry at the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System and a member of the faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, was also a presenter at the New York seminar.

"I now see not only a recognition of the problem, but also a recognition that we need to do something about it," said Dr. Goldberg, who conducted the two-day event in Jerusalem. "It's our responsibility to build a system of support to identify problems before they become a crisis."

This is the fourth YU conference on the subject of at-risk youth since last year. ■

Students Hold Conference on Jewish Law and Organ Donation

How does Judaism view the donation of living organs, such as kidneys or bone marrow? A group of students from Stern College and Yeshiva College are bringing the worlds of Halakha and medical ethics together at a conference, "Organ Donation: A Matter of Life and Death," on the Wilf Campus Sept. 10.

Organized by the Yeshiva University Medical Ethics Society, a student group, and YU's Center for the Jewish Future, the conference will explore misconceptions within the Orthodox community about organ donation, living

organ donation, time of death and the harvesting of organs, and psycho-social issues surrounding donation.

"We want to deepen people's understandings of the complex issues relating to organ donation in Jewish law," said Yeshiva College senior Yonah Bardos, who organized the conference together with fellow biology major Zahava Sinensky.

Rabbi Dr. Avraham Steinberg, director of the Center for Medical Ethics at Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem and physician in pediatric neurology at Shaare Zedek Medical Center, will deliver the con-

ference's keynote lecture.

Topics to be discussed include live organ donation by Dr. Stuart Greenstein and Dr. Edward Reichman, professors at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and cardiac and brain death in both secular and Jewish law by Rabbis Hershel Schachter, Moshe Tandler, and Mordechai Willig. For a detailed schedule and list of topics, go to www.yu.edu/medicalethics.

Attendance at the conference qualifies as continuing medical education for physicians. The credits have been arranged through Einstein and provide 4.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. ■

CENTER FOR THE JEWISH FUTURE

Helping Teachers Step into Administrative Roles

As many Jewish day-school principals and administrators retire over the next decade, the profession will look to the next generation of Jewish educators to take their place.

This issue was addressed for the first time at a *Yarchei Kallah* (gathering for learning) held in Teaneck, NJ, in June, which offered a group of educators training in school administration.

The conference was organized by Support for Educational Leadership Advancement (SELA), an initiative of the Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools and Yeshiva High Schools (AMODS) at the Center for the Jewish Future (CJF).

"This is the first step in preparing professional Jewish educators for the roles they will play as administrators," said Toby Goldfisher Kaplowitz, SELA's director.

Workshops focused on pressing issues facing future school administrators, from ethical leadership to interpersonal communication.

Small mentoring groups led by older professionals, as well as informal discussion time, offered participants opportunities to share their individual concerns and learn from each other's experiences.

"The relationships we are developing as peers will be most helpful as we strive to advance in Jewish education," said Rabbi Daniel Loew, principal of the Hebrew High School of New England in West Hartford, CT.

Workshops were led by prominent educators, scholars, and psychologists, including YU President Richard M. Joel; Rabbi Kenneth Brander, dean of CJF; David Schnall, PhD, dean of Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration; Rabbi David A. Israel, director of AMODS; Rabbi Jacob J. Schacter, PhD, senior scholar at CJF; David Pelcovitz, PhD, Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus Professor of Jewish Education at Azrieli; and Frank Pignatelli, professor at the Bank Street College of Education. ■

Dudu Fisher to Perform at Beren Campus

The international performer Dudu Fisher will give a special concert for Yeshiva University students on Tuesday, October 24. The concert is the inaugural event of the Lori Schottenstein Annual Cultural Festival, a new four-year program established with a gift from Lori Schottenstein of Columbus, Ohio, in memory of her father, Jerome Schottenstein.



Lori Schottenstein

Tickets to the concert, at 8 p.m. in the Geraldine Schottenstein Cultural Center on the Israel Henry Beren Campus, will be distributed through the Student Affairs Offices on the Beren and Wilf campuses.

Dudu Fisher is known for his stirring performances, on Broadway and throughout the world, as Jean Valjean in the hit show *Les Miserables*. He began his career in his native Israel, where, after serving in the IDF, he studied at the Tel Aviv



Dudu Fisher

Academy of Music with some of Israel's foremost cantors. At 22, Fisher became the cantor of the Great Synagogue of Tel Aviv and recently returned to the pulpit as cantor of the New York Synagogue. He has recorded more than 20 albums, sang the role of Moses in the Hebrew version of the film *The Prince of Egypt*, and performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and for Britain's royal family and President and Senator Clinton. ■



PROFILE: VICTOR SCHWARTZ, MD

Offering Students a Helping Hand

Yeshiva University has tapped as its new university dean of students a psychiatrist who has spent 17 years in educational settings.

Victor Schwartz, MD, who oversees the Office of Student Affairs as part of his responsibilities, is a 1977 Yeshiva College alumnus and graduate of SUNY Downstate Medical Center. In 1990, he became the medical director of NYU's student mental health service, which employed 24 clinicians and saw some 3,500 students a year by the time he left in 2004.

During his tenure at NYU, Dr. Schwartz became involved in student mental health at the national level as a member of the American Psychiatric Association's Presidential Task Force on College Mental Health. In 1996, Yeshiva University asked him to consult on psychiatric treatment for students, and in 2005 invited him on board full-time to create a Counseling Center at the Wilf, Beren, and Brookdale campuses. This past spring, after Dean Efrem Nulman announced he was stepping



Dr. Victor Schwartz

down, the university appointed Dr. Schwartz to replace him.

Dr. Schwartz recently met with *YU Today* to talk about the role of the Office of Student Affairs in enhancing student life at Yeshiva University.

What services does the Office of Student Affairs offer?

Student Affairs oversees all the nonacademic issues that relate to undergraduate and graduate students: health and mental health affairs, disabilities, housing, student discipline, student councils, the *sganei mashgichim* [spiritual

guidance] program at the Wilf Campus, student events, sports teams, clubs, and activities. We have a staff of about 35 professional staff (not including RAs) at the Wilf and Beren campuses, all of whom have direct interaction with students. The graduate schools each have their own deans of students who work with us. Cardozo students come to the Beren Campus for their disabilities and mental health services.

How has the approach to counseling and therapy changed since you came on board?

When I first started consulting for YU, students seeking therapy through the Office of Student Affairs went to the same staff members who worked with them in various other capacities. We created the Counseling Centers to change that. Today, the centers at Beren [239 E. 34th Street] and Wilf [116 Laurel Hill Terrace] are each staffed by a full-time psychologist, a half-time psychiatrist, and senior psychiatric residents from Beth Israel and Long

Island Jewish hospitals. Dr. Chaim Nissel, as the director, oversees both offices.

Also, this year we've created the Office of Health Education, which deals with non-clinical aspects of student health and mental health. Run by Dr. Nulman, it educates students at both campuses about substance abuse, sleep requirements, stress and time management, study skills, and behavioral issues.

How will you enhance interaction between student groups to improve student life for all?

We're talking with the various student council leaders and others to create events and activities that will get students from across social, religious, and national lines involved together. A touchstone experience at YU is Shabbaton-Campus. We'd like to find a way to make it a more engaging experience for all students.

What else do you have planned for this year?

We are looking for ways the Office of Student Affairs can

work better with offices such as the Center for the Jewish Future, to integrate our student events with some of its community programming, for example. Also, we're planning a Web calendar to announce student events and possibly a Web-based newsletter. We'd like to use the Web to help students simplify their lives.

Do you have a message for students arriving on campus for the first time?

In *Making the Most of College*, Prof. Richard J. Light writes that, from among a group he interviewed who graduated from college 10 or more years ago, the majority said that their most important moment during college occurred *outside* the classroom—an intramural game, a conversation, or lunch with a professor. So, I encourage all students to be open-minded about the broader possibilities of learning in an unexpected situation or from people who may be different from you. And I ask them to think about what it means to be part of Yeshiva University—an interesting and complex community. ■