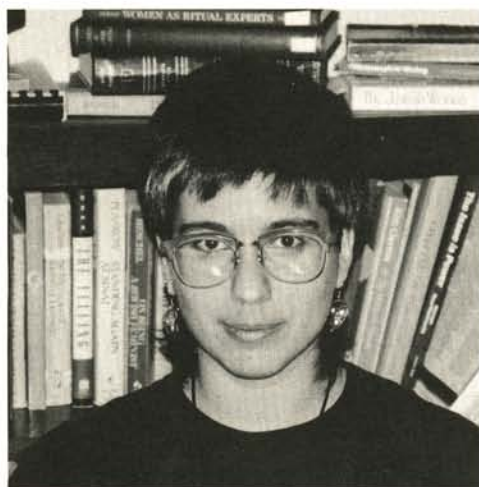




## New Faculty Appointments in Jewish Studies

Two searches for new faculty positions in Jewish Studies were successfully completed during the past academic year. The Department of Religion appointed Dr. Miriam Peskowitz, a recent Ph.D. graduate from Duke University. The Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures appointed Dr. Galia Hatav, who, having received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from Tel Aviv University in 1990, taught there until coming to Gainesville.



*Dr. Miriam Peskowitz, Assistant Professor of Religion*

Dr. Peskowitz specializes in Roman-period Judaism, giving us the teaching coverage in Classical Judaism which is essential for a Jewish Studies program. Her research focuses on the construction of gender in early Rabbinic Judaism in light of literary and archaeological sources. She is generally interested in the construction of gender throughout Jewish history. She moves beyond examining images of women and their status in

Rabbinic law to investigate the historical production of notions of masculinities and feminities as categories within Jewish religion. Her work is innovative and remarkable for its synthesis of primary textual analysis with archeological data in the context of a highly sophisticated theoretical sensibility. Dr. Peskowitz is active in the American Academy of Religion and the Association for Jewish Studies. Above all, she is a dedicated teacher.

Dr. Galia Hatav, an accomplished and experienced teacher of Hebrew, specializes in Linguistics. She has published in theoretical linguistics and has authored Hebrew training materials. Her book on linguistic aspects of Biblical prose has been accepted for publication. Dr. Hatav's research focuses on linguistic representations of time. While her presence strengthens the University's offerings in theoretical linguistics, more cru-



*Dr. Galia Hatav, Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Hebrew Language*

cial for Jewish Studies is the expertise and energy she brings to Hebrew language instruction. Even with Dr. Hatav on board, the demand for introductory Hebrew exceeded the capacity of our teaching staff, thus forcing us to open an extra section.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Jewish Studies Instructional Staff

- Warren Bargad, Director (On Sabbatical)  
(Modern Hebrew Language and Literature)
- Sheldon Isenberg, Acting Director  
(Jewish Mysticism; Classical and Modern Judaism; Women in Judaism)
- Avraham Balaban (Modern Hebrew Language and Literature)
- Dora Friedman (Hebrew)
- Geoffrey Giles (History of the Holocaust)
- Andrew Gordon (American Jewish Literature)
- Howard Greenstein (American Jewish Experience)
- Galia Hatav (Hebrew)
- Allan Lehmann (Classic Jewish Texts; Hasidism)
- James Mueller (Hebrew Scriptures; Judaism and Christianity)
- Melvyn New (The Modern Jewish Novel)
- Miriam Peskowitz (Rabbinic Judaism; Gender and Judaism)
- George Pozzetta (Immigration and Ethnicity in American History)
- Daniel Schroeter (Jewish History)
- Harold Stahmer (Modern Jewish Philosophies)
- Claude Sturgill (Jewish Military History)
- Kenneth Wald (Religion and Politics)

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## Eminent Researcher in Holocaust Studies Visits UF Campus

In February, 1993, Deborah Lipstadt, professor of history at Emory University, presented a lecture on "Denying the Holocaust: The Secret Assault on Truth and Memory." She told an audience of about 200 people, "Ours is not to debate with the deniers, but to serve as the beacon to alert the public of these deniers." She continued to suggest to the audience the steps to be taken to fulfill this role.

The first step, emphasized by Prof. Lipstadt, is not to call the denial movement revisionist. This term indicates that the deniers can revise history and challenge the past. Extremist groups and deniers (e.g. Neo-Nazis, Skinheads, White Supremacists and right-wing fundamentalists) tend to argue that Germans were the victims, that Jews falsified the documents, and that history currently is relying on "survivor testimony." Our job, she stated, is to prevent these groups from denying actual history.

The denial movement has many dangers. Prof. Lipstadt noted that many people manifest what she calls the "yes, but" syndrome. These deniers accept the occurrence of the Holocaust, but they lessen its impact by doubting certain historical aspects. Extremist groups such as Holocaust deniers tend to be low in numbers but high in exposure — permeating campuses, politics and the media. Paying attention to these groups, in turn, legitimizes them.

Often these extremists use denial of the Holocaust as a mechanism for anti-Semitism and anti-Israel campaigning. By giving them press time and speaker forums, we tend to elevate the denial movement to the level of legitimate ideas and theories. The attention also results in people taking the deniers more seriously and allowing the ideas to flow into mainstream society and everyday life.

Prof. Lipstadt concluded by offering one main solution: never to forget. Making a special plea to the students, Lipstadt told the younger members of the audience that they will be the last generation to hear firsthand accounts of the survivors. Such a learning experience is rare, and it is up to the students to teach future generations about the atrocities of the past. Prof. Lipstadt also encouraged the growth of archives, learning centers and teaching outlets to encourage a better understanding of what happened.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the Harry Rich Visiting Professor Endowment in Holocaust Studies.

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## Poet Marcia Falk Speaks

Dr. Marcia Falk, Arthur and Violette Kahn Visiting Scholar for 1992-93, spoke to an appreciative audience of one hundred and fifty on March 17, 1993. Her provocative presentation was entitled "Sensuality and Spirituality: Women's Voices in Jewish Literary Tradition." A gifted poet, a creative scholar, and an inspired translator, she is a leader in current efforts to transform Jewish ritual through the addition of women's voices to, and the depatriarchalization of, traditional and current liturgy.

Reading from her translations of the Biblical Song of Songs and of Hebrew Yiddish poets, Dr. Falk offered powerful evidence for her thesis, that when women's voices are heard, a far more positive view of the relationship of sensuality and spirituality in Judaism emerges than if we consider only the male authored and male oriented texts that constitute the vast bulk of Jewish literature before the modern period.

She is currently affiliated with Stanford University's Institute for Research on Women and Gender, and the Bain Research Group at Berkeley.

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## New Appointments *continued*

Our joy about these coveted appointments is tempered by the imminent departure of our Melton Historian of Judaism, Professor Daniel Schroeter, to the University of California at Irvine at the end of the 1993-94 academic year. We hope to be authorized to search for his replacement next year, but there are no guarantees in these difficult times. However, we are applying for a Fulbright scholar in Jewish history for Spring, 1995.

This year's Fall Jewish Studies lecturers included Dr. Louis Feldman of Yeshiva University, Professor Robert Chazan of New York University, and Professor Arthur Green, currently President of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College who will be moving to Brandeis next year. Professor Green inaugurated a series of annual lectures on the topic of Judaism in the Twenty-first Century.

Jewish Studies enrolls more than 750 students a year in approximately 12-15 courses each semester. This past year five students graduated with a major and seven with a minor in Jewish Studies. Currently we have 16 students majoring and approximately 60 minoring. It is clear that for the majority of Jewish students taking our courses, the Center for Jewish Studies provides them with most of the formal Jewish learning they are likely to receive in their lives. The academic study of Judaism is not deliberately designed to serve that function, yet the current state of Jewish education is such that the transmission of Jewish cultural awareness has fallen heavily on the shoulders of Jewish Studies courses.

—Sheldon Isenberg

# Price Library of Judaica

The year 1993 marks the twentieth anniversary of the site visit by Dr. Charles Berlin (Lee M. Friedman Bibliographer in Judaica at Harvard University) to evaluate the Rabbi Leonard C. Mishkin library in Chicago on behalf of the University of Florida. This collection, the largest private collection of Judaica and Hebraica in the United States at the time and estimated by Dr. Berlin to contain 40,000 items, was subsequently purchased by the University of Florida to form the core of the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, dedicated in 1981. In his analytical report, Dr. Berlin surveyed the subject strengths and overall rarity of the Mishkin library while pointing out the major responsibilities that would be assumed by the University of Florida should it acquire the library, then in Chicago.

The Jewish Studies Bibliographer, Robert Singerman, came to the University of Florida in 1979 to tackle the considerable challenges of cataloging the unpacked and sorted Mishkin collection, integrating the recently-acquired Shlomo Marenof library and the inventory of Bernard Morgenstern's Lower East Side bookstore, identifying retrospective gaps in these collections, and actively ordering or soliciting desirable materials from around the world. Today, slightly over 50,000 volumes in the Price Library are fully cataloged and classified and available for circulation and use. Dr. Berlin's high estimate of 40,000 items undoubtedly took into account all the ephemera and offprints that are now organized without separate, item-level bibliographic analysis.

As is familiar to veteran readers of *Amudim*, our subject strengths include Jewish History, Jewish bibliography, Israel and Zionism, serials, Hebrew and Yiddish linguistics and literature, German Judaica, memorial books of East European Jewish communities, rab-

binics, and Hebrew Scriptures. Local history, including the published histories of synagogues, is well represented, as is Latin American Judaica. Rabbi Mishkin's specialized collection of *Festschriften* (commemorative or memorial volumes in honor of an institution or renown scholar) has been carefully maintained and brought up-to-date. Areas that were under represented in the 3-M (Mishkin, Marenof, Morgenstern) collections: namely, Jewish art, music, contemporary Jewish affairs, demography, sociology, Southern States Jewish history, and Sephardic Jewry, have been enhanced to appropriate levels of comprehensiveness.



Newly published books in Hebrew from Israel are acquired as resources permit; these volumes are seemingly not being routinely collected by any other library in Florida or, for that matter, in the entire southeastern United States. Our commitment to keeping abreast of the most significant Israeli literary creativity and Jewish Studies scholarship on a current basis is severely hampered by the inadequacy of state support for library funding; this undisputable fact suggests an endowment opportunity of high importance to the Price Library's mission and the community of researchers it serves.

A similar opportunity worthy of donor consideration for endowment support is acquiring histories of German-Jewish communities. A recent issue of the *Leo Baeck Institute Library & Archives*

*News* (no.32; Spring/Summer 1993) takes note of these important community histories, their diverse publishing origins (municipal councils, city archives and museums, regional historical societies, universities, Jewish-Christian friendship groups, etc.), and their proliferation beginning in 1988 with the fiftieth anniversary of "Kristallnacht." The Price Library has an extensive collection building on the solid foundation laid by Rabbi Mishkin but it is increasingly difficult to acquire them now with so many demands on our budget and with the needs of undergraduates also in mind to collect research literature in English.

A major gift of 250 books, including a bound set of the *Southern Jewish Weekly*, was received from Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Moscovitz, of Jacksonville, in November, 1993. The passing of Berl Kagan (Brooklyn) earlier this year is noted with sadness; over the years, Mr. Kagan favored our library with gifts of Yiddish books he received from authors for inclusion in his *Lexicon of Yiddish-Writers* (1986).

Gifts are especially welcomed in this era of economic retrenchment. Donations of Jewish fiction and popular works aimed at the general public, for instance, are areas where readers of *Amudim* can certainly help the Price Library of Judaica in a most meaningful way. If you are contemplating an endowment opportunity or if you have a sizeable collection of Judaica you would like to donate, please contact Mr. Robert Singerman, 406 Smathers Library, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, or call (904)392-0308, to discuss your contemplated gift. Smaller gifts of materials can simply be mailed to Mr. Singerman without prior consultation; gifts from benefactors and donors will be acknowledged in accordance with library policy.

# UF Scholars Speak Out

**Dr. Ralph Lowenstein**, *Dean of the College of Journalism and Communication*

In November 1977, I watched on television as Anwar Sadat stepped down from his Egyptian plane at Ben Gurion Airport and proceeded to shake hands with Menachem Begin, Golda Meir, and Moshe Dayan.

The Middle East has never been the same with no major wars and Egypt removed as one of the potential participants. I did not feel the same deep emotions when I watched Yitzhak Rabin shake hands with Yasser Arafat. But I knew it was the next step on the road to peace.

In 1977, Anwar Sadat exhibited intelligence, pragmatism, and courage when he made that incredible trip to Israel. I believe Shimon Peres is the key player who did the same in his trips to Norway to hack out an agreement with the PLO.

Courage, intelligence, and pragmatism will be needed if both sides are to move forward from Gaza and Jericho. I find it difficult to believe that both sides did not agree upon broad principles that will govern further Israeli withdrawals from much of the West Bank. I would not be surprised to see Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights within five years, with a concomitant “pax Syriana” in what is now Israel’s security zone in South Lebanon.

With maximum flexibility, Israel and the Palestinians can even find a solution to the Jerusalem problem. Why not a unified municipal government under Israeli control, with a Vatican-type sovereignty for the Arab portion of the Old City? And let that part of the Old City even be the “capital” of the Palestinian portion of the Jordanian-Palestinian confederate state, with the main capital remaining in Amman.

In 1948, when I was a soldier in Israeli uniform, my mother wrote me: “The Israelis and Arabs will be fighting each other for a hundred years.” Today I would like to think that my mother, uncharacteristically, was only half right.

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**Dr. Stuart Cohn**, *Professor of Law*

I was powerfully moved by the White House signing ceremony, stirring emotions for a land without war and bloodshed. Unfortunately, thoughts of euphoric composition disappeared later that same day when I read the newspaper. Two teenage boys were shot and hacked to death while hiking near Jericho in an area that had always been regarded as safe. Two Israeli soldiers were wounded by an ambush in Southern Lebanon. In both cases, militant PLO factions opposed to the peace process claimed credit.

Violence by anti-peace groups does not mean that accords should not be signed or that negotiations should be stopped. In fact, I am naive enough to believe that Arab terrorists might some day be outcasts within their own communities. But I am not so naive as to believe that the road ahead is golden. Peace is also state of mind and requires courageous leaders. Peace is a condition borne out of mutual respect and tolerance, not merely a sense of security achieved by military might and anti-terrorist operations.

Unfortunately, nothing has occurred since the White House ceremony to bolster hopes for a long term peace. There appears to be no effort to call the plenary session Arafat alleges is necessary to amend the PLO charter calling for the destruction of the State of Israel. Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and other Arab nations have not rescinded their long-time declarations of war. The Arab Boycott remains formally in effect. Damascus and Amman continue to give

shelter and support to terrorist, anti-peace groups. The PLO insists that there can be no peace without Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital.

Despite all negative signs, I want to be optimistic. I want to believe that an era of good will is possible among people who have known only hatred. I firmly believe that Israel should do everything it can within the restraints of its own security to make peace possible, even if that means occasionally turning the other cheek. Arduous times are ahead for both Israel and the Palestinians.

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**Dr. Kenneth Wald**, *Professor of Political Science*

After all the euphoria is discounted, it still remains undeniably true that the mutual Israeli-PLO recognition presents an unparalleled opportunity to break a half-century logjam. By extending a limited kind of recognition to the PLO when it was at its weakest point in decades, Yitzhak Rabin has taken an important step toward the normalization of daily life in Israel. Of course, what was agreed to in Washington was simply the first stage in an ongoing process of negotiation. The subject of this agreement, a limited form of autonomy for Gaza and part of the West bank, is probably the easiest part of the process.

The danger is that Palestinian rejectionists—those who are unwilling to settle for anything less than an apocalyptic “recovery” of all the territory that Israel now occupies—will react so violently that they torpedo any hopes for successful implementation of the accords. We have already seen an escalation in attacks on Israelis by the Hamas fundamentalists. These efforts are directed both against Israelis, whom Hamas will attempt to goad into severe retaliation, and against PLO supporters in the Territories who endorse the accords.

# t On Middle East Peace

Not all the potential violence will come from the Palestinians. Within Israel, those opposed to any territorial compromise have threatened campaigns of civil disobedience and pledged to shoot on sight any Palestinian carrying a weapon—including the Palestinian police who will be empowered to enforce the laws against their brethren. The unmasking of a violent “Jewish Underground” among West Bank settlers some years ago shows that these are not empty threats. This extravagant rhetoric aside, it is not clear how the main opposition forces are likely to react. If they simply endorse the agenda of the extremists, they are likely to lose for the simple reason that most Israelis want the accords to work. Several Likud legislators abstained from voting on the accord in the Knesset, widening its margin of victory. Some of the brightest young stars in the Likud bloc have even left the party to protest its opposition to the accords. But it is not clear that the opposition to Rabin can sell its membership on the alternative strategy of working to improve the accords and forestall other compromises.

Thus, the historic events in Washington will reverberate for years to come not only on the Israeli-Arab conflict but in domestic Israeli politics as well.

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**Daniel J. Schroeter**, *Melton Professor of Jewish History*

The agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization came as a great surprise to me, but it was bound to happen eventually. With the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the end of the cold war, the Arab-Israeli conflict had become a kind of anachronism. I have believed for a long time that the establishment of a fully independent Palestinian state is the only way that the

long term security and prosperity of the Jewish state could be guaranteed. Such ideas, especially among American Jews, have been seen as heretical. Most Israelis today, if not supporting the idea, see the creation of a Palestinian state as inevitable.

The agreement is, in effect, a return to the idea of the partition of Palestine between Jews and Arabs endorsed by the United Nations in 1947. Since 1967, Israel has controlled all the territory that was intended to be included in Arab Palestine, but only in recent years has sought a solution to the conflict that recognizes the Palestinians as a national group. Israel had no choice but to deal with the Palestinian problem face to face. The intensified effort to settle the West Bank and Gaza by the previous Likud government under Prime minister Shamir was a failure.

The liabilities of maintaining control over more than 1.5 million Arabs far outweighed the benefits, as Palestinian resistance to Israeli occupation showed no signs of diminishing. For the PLO, the continuation of the status quo that could only strengthen the hands of the most uncompromising extremists, was far more dangerous than the alternative of trying to come to terms with Israel.

Jews outside Israel have been very uncertain how to react to recent events. The two things that define the American Jewish identity more than anything else is support for Israel and remembrance of the Holocaust. I think that most American Jews are not yet prepared for the idea of an Israel free from the constant threat of war. What is at stake for American Jewry is the maintenance of Jewish identity, threatened by affluence and assimilation. For Israelis, the greatest threat still lies in the untenable situation of continued strife with Palestinians and the Arab states, and for this reason

the majority are willing, with considerable courage, to embark on this process of historic change that has the potential for a real and lasting peace. Do we, as American Jews, have the courage to re-evaluate what constitutes our Jewish identity?

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**Dr. Galia Hatav**, *Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Hebrew Languages*

The recent peace agreement between Israel and the PLO is what I had been hoping for for many years. It is a real step towards peace in the Middle East, not just some minor achievement. First, it is a turning point in breaking the psychological block which Israelis have had in talking to the PLO, thinking of them only as murderers. It is a turning point for the Arabs too, since they have begun to acknowledge that Israel, the Jewish State, is not going to vanish; it is a fact, and the Jews have no intention of giving their state up.

Once the Arabs have accepted, however reluctantly, the fact that Israel exists and is going to remain, they will start trading with Israel and will participate in other kinds of economic activities. This will mean an economic flowering in Israel.

Giving up the occupied territories is a good idea, even without the peace treaty, since our young ones have started to become “South African whites” within these territories. A more serious concern I have heard from some Israeli Jews is that they are afraid that other Jews will not feel committed to Israel without wars. Is that what connects us all together—danger?! Our people’s blood being shed?!

Continued on Page 7

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# Faculty News

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**Warren Bargad** is currently on sabbatical leave for the year and has traveled to Israel researching treatment of the holocaust in Israeli literature and culture. A manuscript, *To Write the Lips of Sleepers: The Poetry of Amir Gilboa*, is in press at the Hebrew Union College Press.

**Avraham Balaban's** *Between God and Beast: An Examination of Amos Oz's Prose* has been published by Pennsylvania State University Press. He also contributed an entry, "Hebrew Literature," to the *Encyclopedia Britannica 1992 Book of the Year*. Prof. Balaban's article, "Rahel Halfi's Poetry" has been accepted for publication in *Siman Keriya*. He regularly publishes book reviews of Israeli literature in literary supplements of newspapers such as *Yediot Ahronot* and *Ma'ariv*, etc.

**Geoffrey Giles** recently published "Schooling for Little Soldiers: German Education in the Second World War" in Roy Lowe (Ed.), *Education and the Second World War: Studies in Schooling and Social Change*. He was a commentator at the international symposium, "The Spirit of Heidelberg and the Future of Germany in 1945," at the University of Heidelberg. Prof. Giles has been appointed co-chair of the Holocaust Educational Foundation's national conference, which will take place at Dartmouth College in October 1994.

**Andrew Gordon** has two articles forthcoming. The first is on Saul Bellow's 1992 visit to the University of Florida, which will be published in the *Saul Bellow Journal*. The second on Cynthia Ozick's "The Shawl," will appear in *Literature and Psychology*. An essay, "Acting and Authenticity in the Novels of Saul Bellow," appears in an anthology entitled *Saul Bellow A Mosaic*. Dr. Gordon will be teaching

a graduate course in the Spring on the development of Jewish American fiction.

**Galia Hatav** has recently published an article in *Linguistics*. It is entitled, "The Aspect System in English: An Attempt at a Unified Analysis." She is currently updating her dissertation on Verbal Aspects of Biblical Hebrew for publication. Dr. Hatav is preparing materials for a Hebrew language lab, so students can work on their language skills.

**Sheldon Isenberg** presented a paper on "Kabbalistic Images of Unity" at a conference organized by the Inter-religious Research Foundation in France in May 1992. Another paper on "Kabbalah and Deep Ecology" was presented at a conference in New Delhi, India in 1993. Dr. Isenberg organized and spoke as a member of a panel entitled "Return to the Center: Spirituality and Aging" at the March 1993 meeting of the American Society for Aging. He has been awarded a Sabbatical leave for 1994-95 to pursue his research on the phenomenon of aging in Judaism.

**James Mueller** has recently made five presentations throughout the U.S. and one in Israel. He was a National Endowment for Humanities participant in a Summer Institute in Hawaii. He presented a series of lectures on UF campus for the Elderhostel Program in February 1993. He plans to lead two travel tours to Israel this Spring.

**Miriam Peskowitz** is preparing for publication a manuscript titled, "Stories About Spinners and Weavers: Gendering The Everyday in Early Rabbinic Judaism." Dr. Peskowitz's article, "Family/ies in Early Rabbinic Religion and Roman Galilean Culture," was recently published in *The Jewish Family in Antiquity*. In April, she delivered a

paper, "Engendering Jewish Religious History," at the Gender and Judaism Conference at Ohio State University. Her article, "Spinning Tales and Crafting Identities: Gender, Otherness, and the Interpretation of Tannaitic Texts From Roman-Period Judaism," will appear this Spring in *The 'Other' in Jewish Thought and History*.

**Daniel Schroeter** attended a conference in Israel in May and presented a paper entitled "The Remaking of the Moroccan Jewish Community at the Beginning of the French Protectorate." He gave a course "Jews of Spain and the Sephardi Experience" for the Elderhostel in February, 1993 on the UF campus. He has recently published four articles.

Professor Schroeter was a Scholar-in-Residence at Temple Beth-El in Ormond Beach, Florida, in April 1993 where he gave two talks.

This year he will give a lecture at the University of California, Irvine on "The Sephardim and Arab History." He is continuing his joint research with Professor Joseph Chetrit of the University of Haifa on the Moroccan Jewish Community.

**Harold Stahmer's** *The Correspondence Between Martin Buber and a German Roman Catholic Benedictine Monk from Maria Laach Abbey* will appear next year. He will offer a seminar this Spring called "Dialogue, Orality, and Religion" dealing with the writings of Martin Buber and Franz Rosenzweig.

*Continued on next page*



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**Kenneth Wald** has presented two conference papers this year. "Religious Influence in Electoral Behavior: The Role of Institutional and Social Forces in Israel" (to the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 15-17, 1993) and "Inter-Religious Conflict in Israel: The Group Basis of Conflicting Visions" (to the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 2-5, 1993).

Dr. Wald is in the early stages of research on two book-length projects. The first, a collaborative effort with Lee Sigelman of George Washington University, explores the political behavior of modern American Jewry. In the other project, he is working with David Legee of Notre Dame on the political mobilization of cultural conflicts in American politics.

After a five year term, Dr. Wald has announced his retirement from the chairmanship of the Department of Political Science effective August, 1994.

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### Graduate Assistant

Stephen Saft is serving as the Graduate Assistant to the Center for Jewish Studies. Stephen's duties include the editing of *Amudim*. He is completing both his B.S. and Master's of Accounting at the Fisher School of Accounting in a five-year program.

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## Major Jewish Studies Donor Dies

Samuel M. Melton, one of the major donors to the University of Florida Judaic Studies program, died at his home in Columbus, Ohio, in July 1993. Mr. Melton spent several decades of his life giving away the large fortune that he accumulated as an astute businessman during the early years of his life. Mr. Melton was born in Czechoslovakia. A graduate of Ohio State University, he started a small business in his father's garage fabricating threaded pipe fittings for plumbers. A few years later, this had grown into a major manufacturing company.

Mr. Melton and his wife Florence aided dozens of organizations, financing buildings and libraries. He supported research and scholarship throughout the United States and Israel. When Mr. Melton was approached to support the program at the University of Florida he agreed without hesitation. He later added to his initial gift, creating the Samuel M. Melton Professorship in History. Dr. Daniel Schroeter currently holds this position.

Mr. Melton's oral history, conducted by Dr. Samuel Proctor, is in the University of Florida Oral History Archives.

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### Scholars *continued from page 5*

I feel very strongly Jewish, because of heritage and cultural bonds, not because of the blood shed! But if people still need the excitement of the danger of losing the Jewish State, recall that Israel is still surrounded by many Arab countries, who have accepted us reluctantly. Without non-Israeli Jewish support, the economy will not be strong in Israel and the American government will not be very supportive. I hate to think about the consequences.

I have heard from a Likud diplomat an even more frightening concern. He believes that we should continue to have wars for many years to come in order to crystallize as a nation. I can not decide if this idea is more frightening or insulting. Can't we build a nation on the foundation of peace? Can't we strengthen our state with peace? I know we can.



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## 1992-93 Graduates in Jewish Studies

Five students graduated with majors in Jewish Studies in the 1992-93 academic year: Eitan Dagan, Brett Goetz, Mitchell Levy, Amy Reynolds and William Wigutow.

The Center for Jewish Studies congratulates them all, and wishes them good luck in their future endeavors.

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## 1992-93 Certificates Awarded

Seven students were awarded the Certificate (Minor) in Jewish Studies in the 1992-93 academic year: Harold Augenstein, Rachel Cohen, Stacey Lakind, Valerie Mittleman, Ari Schantz, Dana Schindler, and Carol Strauss.

Congratulations!

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## 1993 Bnai Zion Award

Mr. Justin Davis of Archer, Florida, received the 1993 Bnai Zion Award for Excellence in Hebrew. The award is made possible by the Bnai Zion Foundation of New York.

## Fall Semester Courses

The courses in Hebrew language and literature include: Beginning Hebrew, 2nd Year Hebrew, 3rd Year Hebrew, Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature, and Readings in Modern Hebrew Literature.

The courses in Jewish culture, history and thought include: American Jewish Experience, Origins and Development of Modern Israel, History of the Holocaust, Modern Jewish History, Hebrew Scriptures, and Military History of the Jewish People.

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## Spring Semester Courses

The course offerings for Spring 1994 include: Beginning Hebrew, 2nd Year Modern Hebrew, 3rd Year Modern Hebrew, Advanced Hebrew Composition, Introduction to Judaism, History of the Jews, Hasidism, Jewish Mysticism, and Gender and Judasim.

### 1994 Spring Lecture Series

**January 11, 1994**

**Prof. Steven Katz, Cornell University**

“The Uniqueness of the Holocaust”

Location TBA

8:00 P.M.

**March 2, 1994**

**Prof. Laura Levitt, Temple University**

“Jewish Feminism(s): Towards the 21st Century”

Location TBA

8:00 P.M.

**April 5, 1994**

**Prof. Aharon Appelfeld, Ben Gurion University**

“Illusions and Wishful Thinking—

A Jewish Motif”

Location TBA

8:00 P.M.



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