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Associate Professor, History Department
Director, Judaic Studies Program
Interim Director, Center for Jewish Studies

Academic Employment

September 1 2010-Present, Interim Director, University at Albany Center for Jewish Studies.

January 2010-Present. University at Albany, Associate Professor.

January 2004-2009. University at Albany, Assistant Professor.

Fall 2003. University at Albany, Lecturer.

1999-2000. University of California, Los Angeles, Teaching Associate.

Fall 1993, Summer 1994, Summer 1997. The University of Vermont, Lecturer.

Spring 1994. Champlain College, Lecturer.

January 1993-August 1994, 1995-96. Community College of Vermont, Lecturer.

Education

2004. Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles. European Jewish History. Dissertation: "From *Zhargon* to *Visnshaft*: The Generation of 1905 and the Transformation of Yiddish."

-2000-01, 1997-98 (Academic Years). Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Visiting Research Fellow.

-Summer 2000. Goethe Institut, Berlin.

-Summer 1998. Oxford Institute for Yiddish Studies.

-Summer 1996. YIVO Uriel Weinreich Program at Columbia University.

May 1995. Post-Graduate Diploma in Jewish Studies. Oxford University, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. Dissertation: "Stereotypes: History and Representation of the Jews During the Holocaust."

May 1993. M.A. in History. The University of Vermont. Thesis: "Voices of Dissent: Christian Rescuers in the United States During the Nazi Regime."

May 1991. B.A. in English. Glassboro State College (now Rowan University of NJ).

Monographs

“A Bible for the New Age: *The Algemeyne Entsiklopedye* and the Collapse of Yiddish Scholarship” (in process)

The Revolutionary Roots of Modern Yiddish, 1903-1917 (Syracuse University Press, 2008).

Articles in Refereed Journals

“Ber Borochov’s “The Tasks of Yiddish Philology” *Science in Context* 20 (June 2007): 341-352.

“From Edification to Commemoration: *Di Algemeyne Entsiklopedye*, the Holocaust, and the Collapse of Eastern European Jewish Life” *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* Vol. 5, No. 3 (Nov. 2006): 285-300.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Collections

“Jewish Universalism, the Yiddish Encyclopedia and the Nazi Rise to Power.” In Gennady Estraikh and Misha Krutikov, eds. *Yiddish in Weimar Berlin: At the Crossroads of Diaspora Politics and Culture* (Oxford: Legenda Press, 2010) 195-214.

“The Revolutionary Origins of Yiddish Scholarship.” In Stephanie Hoffman and Ezra Mendelsohn, eds. *The Revolution of 1905 and Russia’s Jews* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008) 174-184.

“Inscribing the Yiddish Past: Inter-war Explorations of Old Yiddish Texts.” *Yiddish and the Left: Papers of the Third Mendel Friedman International Conference on Yiddish*. In Gennady Estraikh and Misha Krutikov, eds. (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2001) 208-225.

Articles in Conference Proceedings and Annual Collections

“A Bible for a New Age: a History of the Dubnow Encyclopedia.” *Yearbook of the Simon Dubnow Institute*, Volume 9 (2010) 507-521.

“Dissenting Voices: US Gentile Rescuers in Service Organizations During the Holocaust.” *Confronting the Holocaust: A Mandate for the 21st Century-Part Two, Studies in the Shoah Volume XX*. In Stephen C. Feinstein, et al. eds. (Lanham, MD: University Press of America 1998) 169-181.

Encyclopedia Entries

Entries “Ashkenazic Jews” and “Sephardic Jews” in *World Book Encyclopedia*. (2008)

Revised entries “Max Erik” and “Shmuel Niger” in *Encyclopedia Judaica*, 2nd ed. Fred Skolnik, Editor-in-Chief. (2006)

Book Reviews

Review of Eugene M. Avrutin, *Jews and the Imperial State: Identification Politics in Tsarist Russia*. (Cornell University Press, 2010.) *Slavonic & East European Review* (Forthcoming).

Review of Gabriella Safran, *Wandering Soul: The Dybbuk’s Creator, S. An-sky*. (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2010.) *Slavic Review*. (Forthcoming).

Review of Ari Y. Kelman, *Station Identification: A Cultural History of Yiddish Radio in the United States*. (University of California Press, 2009). *Historical Journal of Film, Radio, and Television*. Vol. 30, No. 2 (June 2010) 250–252.

Review of Jan L. Feldman. *Lubavitchers as Citizens: A Paradox of Liberal Democracy*. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press 2003). *Jewish Quarterly Review*. Vol. 95, No. 2 (Spring 2005) 390-393.

Review of Leonard Jay Greenspoon, ed., *Yiddish Language and Culture: Then and Now, Studies in Jewish Civilization 9*. (Omaha, Ne: Creighton University Press, 1998). *East European Jewry* (Spring 2000).

Popular History

“The Holocaust” (18 Lectures) in David Rubel, ed. *The Bedside Baccalaureate: A Handy Daily Cerebral Primer to Fill in the Gaps, Refresh Your Knowledge & Impress Yourself & Other Intellectuals*. (New York: Sterling Press, 2008)

Research Languages

Yiddish, Hebrew, German, Russian (Introductory)

Seminars & Fellowships

Summer 2009. Research Fellow, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Washington, DC.

Spring 2009. Fellow, The Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Winter 2008. Hess Faculty Seminar, US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Washington, DC.

Summer 1999. International Research Seminar on Yiddish. Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Professional Service

2011. Co-leader with Prof. Doris L. Bergen: two-week Curt C. and Elsie Silberman Seminar for University Faculty, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

2010. External Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities.

Manuscripts/Proposals Reviewed

2010. Manuscript for Oxford University Press.

2009. Manuscript for University of Toronto Press.

2005, 2008. Manuscripts for SUNY Press.

2007. Reissue for Thompson Wadsworth.

2005. Reissue for Routledge Press.

2005. Proposal for Routledge Press.

2004. Proposal for Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

2004. Manuscript for University of Nebraska Press.

Grants, Fellowships

2011, 2010, 2007, & 2005. Individual Development Award, New York State/United University Professions

2009. Jack and Anita Hess Seminar Follow-up Grant. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Washington, DC.

2008. National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Research Grant

2008 & 2005. Faculty Research Award Program (B), University at Albany

2007, 2005, & 2004. Travel Award: College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany

2006. Release-Time Program: College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany

2005. Maria Salit-Gitelson Tell Memorial Fellowship, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

2002. Dissertation Fellowship: National Foundation for Jewish Culture

2001 & 2002. Dissertation Fellowship: Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture

Lectures: Invited

January 2010. "Culture in Exile: The Yiddish Encyclopedia, the Holocaust, and the Displacement of Jewish Scholarship." University of North Carolina, Wilmington.

December 2009. "Yiddish Intellectual Culture on the Eve of the Nazi Holocaust." Amsterdam Yiddish Symposium, University of Amsterdam.

October 2009. "War, Revolution, and the Making of Modern Yiddish." Russell Sage College.

May 2009. "Bearing the Heaviest Responsibility': European Yiddish Serials in Post-War America." "Transforming a Culture between Soft Covers: Yiddish Journals in the New World." Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles.

April 2009. "Culture in Exile: The Yiddish Encyclopedia, the Holocaust, and the Displacement of Jewish Scholarship." Georgia State University.

March 2009. "The Revolutionary Roots of Modern Yiddish." University of Michigan.

July 2008. "The Holocaust in Yiddish." Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages at Indiana University, co-sponsored with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

July 2008. "The Yiddish Encyclopedia and the Holocaust" Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature and Culture, New York University, co-sponsored the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research.

March 2007. "From Edification to Memorialization: *Di Algemeyne Entsiklopedye*, the Holocaust, and the Changing Tasks of Modern Yiddish Scholarship." State University College at Oneonta.

April 2006. "Ber Borochov and Romantic Yiddishism." Maria Salit-Gitelson Tell Memorial Lecture, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York.

September 2005. "The Revolutionary Roots of Yiddish Scholarship." Williams College.

October 2004. Panel Chair & Respondent. "*Lang lebn zol yidish: Has Yiddish Said Its Last Word?*" Conference in Honor of Janet Hadda at University of California, Los Angeles.

June 2000. "Secularizing the Jewish Past: The Yiddishist Turn to History." Annual Abraham and Rachela Melezin Lecture, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York City.

Conference Talks

December 2011 (Scheduled). Respondent: "Comparing Pogroms and Anti-Jewish Violence in Russia and East Central Europe, 1881-1946." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. Washington, DC.

October 2009. "Weimar and Yiddish Universalism: the making of *Di algemeyne entsiklopedye*." Transforming Berlin's Urban Space: East European Jewish Migrants in Charlottengrad and the Scheunenviertel, 1918-1939. Freie Universität Berlin.

September 2009. "From a Jewish Encyclopedia to an Encyclopedia in Yiddish and Back Again: *Di algemeyne entsiklopedye* and the Legacy of the Nazi Holocaust." "Kaleidoscopic Knowledge. On Jewish and other Encyclopedias in Modernity." Workshop at the Simon Dubnow Institute. Leipzig.

October 2008. "Write and Record! The Yiddish Encyclopedia and the Holocaust." German Studies Association. St. Paul, Minnesota.

December 2007. "*Tsvishn toyt un lebn*: Metaphors of Death and Life in Yiddish Nationalist Discourse." INST Conference, "KCTOS: Knowledge, Creativity and Transformations of Societies." Vienna.

May 2007. "Laying the Cornerstones of Yiddish Scholarship." "Scholarship On and In Yiddish: Fifth Annual Yiddish Studies Conference." University of California, Berkeley.

March 2006. "Yiddishism, Philology, and the Nationalization of Russian Jewry." Association for the Study of Nationalism. Columbia University.

February 2006. Chair, "Responses to the Holocaust." Yiddish/Jewish Cultures: Literature, History, Thought in Eastern European Diasporas. New York University.

November 2005. "'Ber Borochoh and the Task of *Yidishe Visnshaft*." "Looking Backward—Looking Forward: A Conference Commemorating the Centenary of the Birth of Dr. Shlomo Noble." Ohio State University.

October 2005. "The Revolutionary Roots of Modern Yiddish." "The Russian Revolution of 1905: Impacts, Effects, "Shock Waves." Moscow, Russia.

August 2005. "Mixed Blessing: Insularity and Accommodation in Kiryas Joel." 14th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.

June 2005. "Post-Holocaust Reconstruction of Hasidic Life in the United States." Sixth Biennial Conference of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. Boca Raton.

December 2004. "Shmuel Niger and the Canonization of Yiddish Literature." Modern Language Association. Philadelphia.

October 2004. "The Revolutionary Origins of Yiddish Scholarship." Inaugural Lecture for the Professorship in European Jewish Studies, University at Albany.

May 2004. "The Revolutionary Origins of Modern Yiddish: 1903-1913." "The Revolution of 1905—A Turning Point in Jewish History?" Jerusalem.

December 2003. "Society and Politics in Contemporary Kiryas Joel." Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Boston.

December 2002. "Revolutionary Scholarship: The Political Origins of *Yidishe Vitsnshaft*." Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Los Angeles.

November 2001. "The Generation of 1905: The Founders of Modern Yiddish Scholarship." "Beyond the *Shtetl*: Yiddish Language and Culture in Twentieth Century." Indiana University, Bloomington.

December 2000. "Inscribing the Yiddish Past: Interwar Explorations of Old Yiddish Texts." Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Boston.

March 1996. "Dissenting Voices: US Gentile Rescuers in Service Organizations During the Holocaust." 26th Annual Scholars' Conference on the Holocaust and the Churches, Minneapolis.

Community Lectures

November 2011 (Scheduled). With Chris McKenna, "On Investigating Kiryas Joel." Albany Jewish Community Center. Albany.

March 2011. "Yiddish, the Ever-Dying Language: Reflections on the Modern Language Movement." Schenectady Jewish Community Center.

May 2008. Guest Speaker. "The World that was Destroyed: European Jewry on the Eve of the Holocaust" Yom Ha-Shoah Lecture. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York.

January 2007. Guest Speaker. "Live and Become" Schenectady Jewish Community Center Film Festival.

April 2005. Guest Speaker. "Jewishfilm.2005: From Auschwitz to America and Israel." Talk given on the film "In Satmar Custody." Brandeis University.

March 2005. "What We Talk About When We Talk About Antisemitism." Agudah Achim Synagogue, Schenectady, NY.

January 2005. "Times Like Those: Nazism, Conformism, and the Invention of Enemies." Capital Repertory Theater, Albany, NY.

January 2005. Panel Discussant with the Actors/Director of John O'Keefe's play "Times Like These." Capital Repertory Theater, Albany, NY.

May 2004. "Contemporary Life in Kiryas Joel." Albany Jewish Community Center. Albany.

April 2004. "Moral Responsibility after the Holocaust." University at Albany. Albany.

January 2004. "Kiryas Joel." University at Albany's Center for Jewish Studies. Albany.

March 1994. "The Ultimate Ethical Question." Panel Discussant, University of Vermont.

Courses Taught:

University at Albany:

Secular Jewish Identity and Culture (JST/REL 145)

Jewish Civilization: From the Birth of the Israelites until the Present (JST 150)

The American Jewish Experience (JST 221)

Imagining the Jewish Nation (JST 245)

Holocaust in History (JST/HIS 250)

Medieval Jewish History (JST/REL 253/343/343z)

The Jews in the Modern World (JST/REL 254/344/344z)

The Holocaust: Lessons and Legacies (JST/HIS 255)

World Jewry Since the Holocaust: The Question of Faith (JST/REL 256)

Radical Jews (JST/HIS 258)

Antisemitism in Historical Perspective (JST/HIS 275)

Jewish Autobiographies: The Nazi Holocaust (JST 360)

Writing and Rewriting the Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century (JST 499/HIS 531)

University of Vermont:

European Jewish History

Modern Eastern European Jewish History

United States since 1876

Champlain College:

Modern European History

Community College of Vermont:

Dimensions of Learning I

Dimensions of Learning II