Yaschik/Arnold
Jewish Studies Program

from generation to generation

FALL 2014

 Architect’s rendering of the new Jewish Studies Center building addition, scheduled to open August, 2015.
Reflections

Martin Perlmutter, Director, Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program

Summer is a time to reflect. That has always been the luxury of the academic life. The old joke was that the three best things about a teaching career were June, July and August. Our year at Jewish Studies is busy even after the academic school year, with graduation events, Jewish Historical Society meetings, and A World of Jewish Culture at Piccolo Spoleto, but we still have two months of luxury.

The College of Charleston will see dramatic changes in leadership in the fall. President Benson is stepping down as President; David Cohen will no longer be Dean of LCWA, the school which oversees Jewish Studies; and Jenny Fowler, LCWA's former development officer, has taken on different responsibilities in the College's Foundation. David’s retirement in particular is a huge personal and institutional loss, as he has been a real advocate for the College and for Jewish Studies for many years. He is also a close personal friend. Jenny will remain an asset as she is broadening her responsibilities, reaching out for the College to regional markets in Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, constituencies that will help Jewish Studies.

I am altogether confident that the new leadership will continue the College’s support of Jewish Studies. Glenn McConnell brings a wealth of South Carolina experience to his new position as President and Antonio Tillis won everyone over in the search for David’s successor. To my mind, the College’s support of Jewish Studies is a no-brainer. Jewish Studies attracts lots of good students, excellent faculty, and extensive community support to the College. Without any question, Jewish Studies is a feather in the College’s cap.

In truth, I am far more concerned about colleges as we have come to know them. As state tax dollars for higher education decrease, the college experience is becoming cost-prohibitive, increasingly sustained by unsustainable student debt. Less expensive alternatives are emerging, with online education a big part of the emerging reality. That issue is well above my pay grade, but reflects real challenges for the College of Charleston looking forward, perhaps especially for Jewish Studies which attracts a disproportionate share of out-of-state students to the College.

Within my pay grade, Jewish Studies is doing very well. It has a “dream team” faculty and staff who keep me thinking of new projects we should take on. I have said many times that I enjoy trying new things, and the Program is finally well positioned to be creative and entrepreneurial. Our newest initiative is increasing the number of Jewish students at the College, with Helen Slucki and Caroline Eichholz as excellent resources to bring about that reality. The Admissions Office has been altogether supportive of that project.

A quick update on Jewish Studies: Jewish student life is on a roll, with more students, more extensive programming, and new national recognition as an up-and-coming Hillel... The College still has the only Jewish Studies major in South Carolina, and our courses are well subscribed, with many senior citizens complementing our college-age student enrollment... Community outreach is still the Program’s hallmark, with the community providing incredible support for Jewish Studies, both in attendance and financial support... Our new kosher vegan/vegetarian dining hall, scheduled to open in August 2015, will be a big boost for Jewish Studies, providing another opportunity for our students and the larger community to come together, this time over food. It will also make the College more competitive on the national stage for the Jewish high school student, showing that it has even more “skin in the game.”

It is hard to reflect without a great deal of gratitude. We have come a long way together and are creating a lasting legacy to benefit the College of Charleston and the larger community. It is a fun ride for me, and an important one for Charleston’s future. Many, many thanks to all of you who have helped make that happen.

On the cover: Architect’s rendering of the new Jewish Studies Center building addition, scheduled to open Fall 2015.
This page: Photo by Adam Chandler for CHARLIE.
GREETINGS
Glenn McConnell, President, College of Charleston

I am excited to serve my alma mater as president of the College of Charleston. The College has played an important role in my life and the lives of my brother and three sisters — all of whom are alumni of this historic and great institution. I often say with immense pride that the College of Charleston is in my family’s DNA. I am pleased to come full circle in my life. I started my professional life at the College, and I look forward to finishing my career at the College.

The Jewish community in Charleston has a long and rich history that is woven into the fabric of this great city. The Jewish Studies Program at the College is increasingly connected to that history, both as a chronicler through our excellent Jewish Heritage Collection at Addlestone Library, and as a participant that provides remarkable opportunities in academics, student life, and community outreach.

For the past several years, I have had the privilege to speak at Chanukah in the Square, one of the Program’s many community outreach events. At this event, I have met many outstanding leaders of the Jewish community and learned of their invaluable contributions to Charleston, South Carolina, and the College’s Jewish Studies Program. Last year, I shared the podium with Anita Zucker, the chair of the Jewish Studies Advisory Board. I’ve had the pleasure of knowing Anita for many years and consider her a tireless crusader in improving education at all levels. I appreciate her many contributions to the College and look forward to working with her and the Advisory Board to bring the transformational experience of Jewish history, life, and culture to new generations of students.

When I was a student at the College, the Jewish Studies Program did not exist. Since its founding, the Program has made significant progress. Today, it serves as an example of the boundless opportunities that are available at the College as we think creatively about our future.

Thank you for all you do for the Jewish Studies Program and the College of Charleston.

LILMOD V’LA’ASOT - TO LEARN AND TO DO
Anita Zucker, Chair, Jewish Studies Advisory Board

Anyone who knows me knows that education is at the center of all I do. To accomplish anything worthwhile, one must learn and do. The beauty of learning and doing is that they must stand together to be effective. To simply learn without applying or sharing that knowledge is fruitless, and to do something without planning or instruction can lead to unnecessary risk or repetition.

The Jewish Studies Program has become an important resource for our students and for the community. To be able to instill in students of all faiths, and in students without any religious commitment, an appreciation of the unique history, culture, and religion of the Jewish people is both humbling and exhilarating. For many, it is a genuine introduction to cultural literacy and religious diversity, while for others it is a deepening of their understanding of their own faith tradition. I hope such learning will bring about positive changes: increasing understanding, encouraging diversity, and broadening knowledge.

By the time you read this, I will have traveled abroad in order to learn more about my own Jewish heritage, having visited Prague and areas of Poland this summer. I hope to enrich my understanding of my Jewish roots, with the Holocaust as part of my family’s recent history. Some places will be inspiring and uplifting, while others will be sad, sobering, and tearful. But, they will all have played important roles in the life of my family and will be invaluable aspects of my journey of discovery. With these new experiences in hand, I look forward to bringing deeper meaning to my chairmanship and doing even more to further the Jewish Studies Program at the College of Charleston.

I will miss President Benson and am grateful for all he has accomplished, but also look forward to learning more about President McConnell’s plans for the College of Charleston, and for Jewish Studies in particular, and to working together with him in making the College and Jewish Studies yet better. We also bid a very fond farewell to David Cohen who has done so much, and we welcome Dr. Antonio Tillis as the new Dean of the School of Languages, Cultures, and World Affairs. I believe together with this new leadership we will continue to do great things for our students and for the larger community.
SHALOM Y’ALL
Antonio D. Tillis
Professor of Hispanic Studies
Dean, School of Languages, Cultures and World Affairs

Shalom! I am delighted to greet you as the new Dean of LCWA and want to thank you for your support of Jewish Studies at the College of Charleston. It is largely because of your generosity and interest that Jewish Studies as an academic unit and the Sylvia Vlosky Yaschik Jewish Studies Center continue to be central to the academic and cultural mission of LCWA and the Charleston community at-large.

As I transition from Dartmouth to the College of Charleston, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. With a new President and the impending launch of the capital campaign, the opportunities for positioning LCWA’s priorities are ripe, as internationalism and cultural awareness are pivotal to the identified aspirational goals of the College. As we forge ahead, I look forward to working with many of you as we strive to build an even stronger Jewish Studies Program and Center in the years to come.

Finally, congratulations on the many years of academic and cultural excellence at Jewish Studies! The Program has enriched the intellectual and cultural mission at the College of Charleston for the benefit of students, faculty, and staff. Furthermore, its commitment to community outreach continues to make a difference in the Charleston community made manifest by your support. Thus, I anticipate partnering with you to assure continued growth and collaborations during my tenure as Dean of LCWA.

BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES
CONTEMPORARY WORLD JEWRY: A GLIMPSE AT THREE CITIES
PROFESSORS ADAM MENDELSOHN, DAVID SLUCKI, AND OREN SEGAL

Wednesdays, September 17, October 15, and November 19, 2014
12:00–1:00pm in Arnold Hall

As the American Jewish community continues to change and adapt to modern trends, most recently exhibited in the 2013 Pew Research Portrait of Jewish Americans, so too have Jewish communities around the world experienced significant transformations in demographic and communal identity. Join three of Jewish Studies’ professors as they explore the issues and subsequent shifts occurring in their native communities.

September 17 – Cape Town, South Africa (Adam Mendelsohn)
This session will trace how the Jewish community of Cape Town, the oldest and second largest in South Africa, has been shaped by recent political and social trends within South Africa and the wider Jewish world.

October 15 – Melbourne, Australia (David Slucki)
Melbourne is home to over four million people, with an estimated Jewish population of roughly 60,000. Although Melbourne Jewry is today well-integrated into its local surroundings and comparatively affluent, it is historically a community made of up of migrants and refugees, dating back to the founding of Melbourne in 1835 with the most important growth coming in the decades after the Holocaust.

November 19 – Tel Aviv and the Palestinian Nakba (Oren Segal)
Named after Herzl’s utopian novel Altneuland, Tel Aviv became a symbol of liberal Zionism. In recent years, the concept of The First Hebrew City as a model for Jewish exclusivity is being challenged by left-wing activists and organizations. This session will introduce the growing visibility of this paradigm shift by analyzing street art and Alon Hilo’s 2010 controversial bestseller “The House of Rajani.”
THREE RABBI PANEL
THE DAY OF REST:
SHABBAT OBSERVANCE IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 7:30pm
Stern Center Ballroom (4th Floor)
Corner of Glebe and George Streets

The centrality of the Shabbat is a pivotal part of the history of Judaism, so central that it is taken to be both a reflection of the very creation of the world and the freedom from slavery in Egypt. Its observance is one of the Ten Commandments, and a distinguishing feature of the Jew who continues to think of Saturday as the “day of rest.”

Like many commandments, the Sabbath’s centrality is clearer than its proper expression. How is Shabbat, Shabbos, or the Sabbath to be observed? Some adhere to strict rabbinic regulations which forbid all sorts of “work,” thinking of automobiles, electricity, and carrying parcels as forbidden activities, thereby clearly delineating the consecration of Shabbos. Others think of those restrictions as archaic, and think that the modern world needs a more contemporary expression of Shabbat’s significance. And there is lots of room in between those views.

Join three of Charleston’s gifted leaders as Rabbis Stephanie Alexander (KKBE), Adam Rosenbaum (Emanu-El) and Moshe Davis (BSBI) reflect on Shabbat observance, both as it is practiced within their own communities and as their denominations describe its significance.

This is our chai year for the Three Rabbi Panel, the eighteenth year of bringing the community together and showcasing Charleston’s Jewish leadership. After the event, Jewish Studies will host a reception for this milestone event. Please join us for the celebration.

CHANUKAH IN THE SQUARE
Sunday, December 21, 2014, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Marion Square Park

Join us for the tenth annual Chanukah in the Square extravaganza. Once again the Yschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program will team up with Chabad of the Lowcountry, the City of Charleston’s Office of Cultural Affairs, and many other community organizations to create our most festive celebration yet. Chanukah in the Square is the largest annual Jewish event in the state of South Carolina, and is a wonderful, kid-friendly way to come together as a community.

Our local Holocaust survivors will continue the tradition of lighting the candles. Mayor Joe Riley and College of Charleston President Glenn McConnell will once again make welcoming remarks. Please plan on being there with your neighbors, friends, and family. Bring an appetite and your dancing shoes. We will supply the hot food, the live music, and the festive atmosphere!

Last year Bi-Lo became the presenting sponsor of Chanukah in the Square, reaching out to the Jewish community of South Carolina. We are deeply appreciative of Bi-Lo’s support and look forward to many years of working together with them. Many thanks to Berlin’s Restaurant Supply, Eli and Ann-Therese Hyman, and the T-Bonz Foundation for their continued sponsorship.
Sunday brunches are a hallmark of the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program, and this semester they are poised to be better yet. To attract a younger demographic and in response to community requests, especially from KKBE parents who drop their children off at religious school at 10:30am, we have made some changes. Please note the following time changes: a full brunch will be served in Arnold Hall beginning at 9:45 am. All talks begin at 11:00am on the first floor of the Jewish Studies Center, with overflow space available in our second floor library. The talks will be live-streamed to the library and food will be available there, so latecomers can be accommodated. Our brunches are free and open to the public. Immediately after the presentations, Sig Schildcrout will host an informal discussion with the speaker in the Rabbi Hirsch Levin Library.

Free parking is available for Sunday morning events (only) in the Wentworth Street Garage on the corner of Wentworth and St. Philip. Bring your parking ticket to the talk for validation. The parking lot adjoining the Jewish Studies Center will be closed during construction of the addition.

Many thanks to our cadre of dedicated long-term volunteers for their ongoing commitment, hard work, and good humor while preparing for and serving our many brunchgoers. Childcare will be available during each Sunday brunch this semester. Please contact Mark Swick to RSVP so that we have adequate childcare staffing. You may reach him at swickmn@cofc.edu or at 843.953.4930.

“BUT IS IT GOOD FOR THE JEWS?”

SOUTHERN JEWS AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

CHERYL GREENBERG

PAUL E. RAETHER DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, TRINITY COLLEGE

Sunday, September 21, 2014 at 11:00am

American Jews were more deeply engaged in the civil rights movement than any other white group in the U.S. – in part because Jews did not in fact consider themselves to be white. But that “alliance” or “natural relationship” masked deeper divisions and tensions between the black and Jewish communities. It also masked tensions within each community, as black nationalists challenged black integrationists, and northern Jews called on Southern Jews to engage more forthrightly with the civil rights struggles in their communities. Fifty years after President Johnson signed the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964, Cheryl Greenberg will examine both the overall trajectory of the national black-Jewish “alliance,” and the relationship of Southern Jews to that alliance.

Cheryl Greenberg has taught and written extensively on topics in African American history, Jewish American history, black-Jewish relations, and civil liberties and civil rights. Of particular note, she is the author of Troubling the Waters: Black-Jewish Relations in the American Century, published in 2006 by Princeton University Press. Cheryl has given talks and taught courses on three continents; she is most proud to have offered lectures on the Civil Rights Movement at a school for Tibetan girls in Beijing.

TRAGEDY TOMORROW, COMEDY TONIGHT:

BRINGING BIBLICAL STORIES TO LIFE IN THE SYNAGOGUE

LAURA LIEBER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES, DUKE UNIVERSITY

Sunday, October 12, 2014 at 11:00am

For over two millennia, Jews have read from the Torah every week in the synagogue, but each generation finds new and creative ways to make the stories their own. Whether it is imagining Queen Esther as a medieval “crypto-Jew” or Joshua as a proto-Zionist, the biblical characters are imagined in ways that make them speak to their new audiences, generation after generation. In this talk, we’ll explore together some of the poignant, startling, and laugh-out-loud ways the stories of the Torah have been retold in synagogues since antiquity.

Laura Lieber is an associate professor of Religious Studies at Duke University, and co-director of the Center for Jewish Studies. She received her BA in English and Classics from the University of Arkansas (her home state), her rabbinical ordination from HUC-JIR in Cincinnati, and her PhD from the University of Chicago. Her most recent book is A Vocabulary of Desire: The Song of Songs in the Ancient Synagogue; her current research is on theater and performance in Jewish antiquity.
**ETHICS, SCHMETHICS:**

**ARE THERE SUCH THINGS AS JEWISH VALUES?**

**DAVID BENATAR**  
Sunday, October 26, 2014 at 11:00am

It is common for Jews to say that they are motivated by Jewish (or Torah) values or that they seek ethical guidance in Jewish teachings. This is even true of many who have no interest in Jewish rituals. But are there any such things as Jewish values? In this talk Professor David Benatar will examine this and related uncomfortable questions about the relationship between ethics, on the one hand, and Judaism (and religion more generally) on the other.

David Benatar is Professor and Head of Philosophy at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He is the author of *Better Never to Have Been: The Harm of Coming into Existence* (Oxford, 2006) and *The Second Sexism: Discrimination Against Men and Boys* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2012). He is currently an ethics research fellow at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

**REMEMBERING THE NINTH OF NOVEMBER**

**CHRISTOPH SANDER,**  
**CONSUL GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**  
Sunday, November 9, 2014 at 11:00am

November 9, 1989 was the momentous day in recent German history—the Berlin Wall fell, the Cold War ended, and Germany was to be reunited within one year. Nevertheless, when Chancellor Helmut Kohl looked for a date to formally consummate unification, he categorically ruled out Nov 9 as that date— for it is also the date of “Reichskristallnacht”, the pogrom foreshadowing the Shoah. November 9 is also the date when Kaiser Wilhelm was deposed in 1918 and the first German republic proclaimed, and this date also stands for the defeat of the German revolutionaries who tried to found a liberal democracy in 1848. Consul General Sander will address the shortcomings and horrors of Germany’s past, before commenting on the 25 years since the fall of the Wall. What is Germany’s responsibility and what are the challenges facing Germany today?

Christoph Sander lives in Atlanta where he took office as Consul General of Germany in 2012. Previously, Mr. Sander was involved with many international positions including Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Economic Section at the German Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela (2009-2012), Deputy Head of Mission and Head of the Political Section at the German Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan (2003-2006), Head of the Economic Section at the German Embassy in Budapest, Hungary (1999-2003), and Consul at the German Embassy in New Delhi, India (1986-1989). A native of Düsseldorf, Consul General Sander earned a law degree from the University of Hannover.

**BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:**

**REALIGNING INTERESTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

**RABBI RACHEL NUSSBAUM,**  
**KAVANA COOPERATIVE**  
Sunday, November 23, 2014 at 11:00am

It is clear that we live in an era of challenge and also of great opportunity for the American Jewish community. Last year, the Pew Study demonstrated many of the ways in which the identity, needs, and interests of American Jews of today differ from those of previous generations. If Twentieth Century Jewish institutions (synagogues, JCC’s, federations, etc.) are to succeed, they will need to adapt dramatically. In this talk, we will explore what it might take to “realign” the institutional models of our contemporary Jewish community with the populations they want to serve, in order to ensure a vibrant Jewish future.

Rachel Nussbaum is the Rabbi and Executive Director of the Kavana Cooperative, an independent Jewish community in Seattle, Washington, which she co-founded in 2006. She has received numerous accolades and awards for her innovative work in Seattle, and also for pushing forward a national conversation about reinvigorating the American Jewish community. She is a native of Charleston, and is excited to be returning “home” for this lecture.
Historical and cultural highlights) will find suggested routes. A tourist curious about a particular site will be able to pull up Southern Jewish Culture, we expect even more excitement ahead.

What is the Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture planning for the coming year? As is fitting for a Center rooted in Charleston but with regional reach, our new initiatives focus on both the local and the further afield. Since the Holy City is a hot destination—everyone, it seems, wants to holiday here—we are in the early stages of preparing a user-friendly informational tourist map to sites of Jewish interest in Charleston. The printed map will point visitors towards places of cultural and historical significance, highlighting sites that are still in existence, and revealing those that have since disappeared.

Our longer term ambition is to transform the printed map into a mobile app that will make the city and its Jewish sites accessible to anyone with a smartphone. A visitor in search of a themed tour (Jewish immigrant life in the city; Jewish merchants of King Street; synagogues of the Holy City; historical and cultural highlights) will find suggested routes. A tourist curious about a particular site will be able to pull up additional information and historical photographs. While we have many of the raw materials required to tell the story of Jewish life in our city, we are eagerly looking for partners to aid our efforts.

Another new initiative seeks to expand our regional role. The Jewish Heritage Collection in the Addlestone Library is a pioneer in the collection and digitization of archival material relating to Jewish life in the South. But our focus has primarily been on South Carolina. Many other organizations—local and state historical societies, museums, and archives—have collected and continue to collect material elsewhere in the region. We all share a common purpose and agenda, but so far there is no formal mechanism for us to systematically collaborate. We are in the early stages of forming a regional consortium with an eye to working together to collect, protect, and preserve Jewish heritage across the South, and to make our collections easily accessible to students and scholars. We might, for example, create a shared Internet portal that would become a one-stop-shop for those looking for archival and other research resources; finding aids, inventories, and digitized documents from all the partner organizations would be available and searchable on the same site. Museum exhibitions could, in future, travel between partner organizations. And we will share strategies for promoting our fascinating subject to the wider world.

These new initiatives, only two among many fresh ideas that we are pursuing, will take some time to reach fruition. In the meantime expect a busy roster of walking tours, speaker series, and films in the year ahead. All of this is made possible because of the generosity of the Pearlstine and Lipov families. With the backing they have provided to the Center for Southern Jewish Culture, we expect even more excitement ahead.

**MONDAY NIGHT**

*Each semester, the Yeschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program presents a series of films on a different topic. Join us this fall for a series of six Israeli films showcasing various topics and subcultures within modern Israeli society. A discussion after each screening will be led by Professor Oren Segal. Screenings are free and open to the public. All films are in Hebrew with English subtitles.*

**September 8 - STRANGERS NO MORE** (2010, 40 min)
In the heart of Tel Aviv, there is an exceptional school where children from forty-eight different countries and diverse backgrounds come together to learn. Strangers No More follows several students’ struggle to acclimate to life in a new land while slowly opening up to share their stories of hardship and tragedy.

**September 22 - JAMES’ JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM** (2003, 87 min)
James is a devout Christian who becomes part of Tel Aviv’s migrant force after making a pilgrimage from his African village to the Holy Land in director Ra’an Alexandrowicz’s cinematic look at the contrast between aspirational Western values and cultural Israeli divisions.

**October 6 - PAPER DOLLS (Bubot Niyar)** (2006, 80 min)
This documentary delves into the lives of societal outcasts searching for freedom and acceptance. Follow the lives of transgender migrant workers from the Philippines who labor as health care providers for elderly Orthodox Jewish men and perform as drag queens during their spare time.
### AT THE MOVIES

**All films start at 7:00pm, and will be shown in Arnold Hall.**

**Popcorn and refreshments will be served.**

**Screenings are free and open to the public.**

#### October 27 - THE ASSASSIN NEXT DOOR (Kirot) (2009, 102 min)
In an old apartment building on the wrong side of the tracks, two women, unknown to each other, live across the hall on the second floor. Galia and Eleanor don’t know each other, but as neighbors they share two things: an adjoining wall and a strong need to plan their escape.

#### November 10 - NOODLE (2007, 90 min)
At thirty-seven, Miri is a twice-widowed El Al flight attendant. Her well-regulated existence is suddenly turned upside down by an abandoned Chinese boy whose migrant-worker mother has been summarily deported from Israel.

#### November 24 - THE JOURNEY OF VAAN NGUYEN (2005, 90 min)
A poignant portrait of the kind of cultural displacement only history can create, Duki Dror’s documentary follows a father and daughter as they travel from their adopted home in Israel to his Vietnamese birthplace.

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Waiting at the entrance to Auschwitz was Anna F., guide extraordinaire, who had come from her home “in the mountains” some 20 miles away to lead us on a six hour study tour of the site. I’d met Anna three years ago and the first thing she said when she saw us was, “I remember.” I remembered, too. Anna does not waste words or time, and we headed immediately through the gate under the infamous inscription, Arbeit Macht Frei, “Work Makes You Free.” We were 30 people in all, including 11 students from the College of Charleston, and 13 from the University of South Carolina. Anna led us through the barracks or blocks that make up what is known as Auschwitz I, the former concentration camp for political prisoners. Each brick building is a free-standing museum, a gallery of horrors that recalls the pain and suffering the Nazis inflicted on their enemies, including but not limited to Jews. We’d hoped to get into Block 10, the cellblock where women and men from all parts of Europe were subjected to cruel pseudo-medical experiments at the hands of German doctors, but Block 10 had never been open to the public and it stayed closed to us.

Two new exhibits organized by Israel’s Holocaust Authority, Yad Vashem, pulled us like iron filings to a magnet—a long room with life-size home movies from the 1930s projected continuously on the walls, capturing the familiar, happy lives of doomed people and inviting you to join in a picnic or a swim in a lake—and a massive vertical book of the names of four million murdered Jews, not merely the one million or more consumed at Auschwitz. Turn the pages and you are likely to find your family name. I found two pages of Rosengartens, starting with Aaron, Abigail, Abraham, and Ada, and running through Zacharia, Zaida, Zelda and Zofia. There were two Theodores and many Hannahs and Carls—my parents’ names. I know the names of individuals that belong on this list but have not yet been added and I vowed to come back in a year or five years and see that they are.

In the afternoon, Anna led us through Auschwitz II, better known as Birkenau, the killing grounds of the Auschwitz complex. There was an Auschwitz III that went by the name Buna, or Buna-Monowitz, a vast sub-camp of industrial plants where German corporations set up shop. Hardly a trace of this criminal enterprise remains. But Birkenau endures in all its shame and mystery. Anna started at the ramp where Jews were unloaded from the cattle cars and she marched us to openings in the woods that most people who arrived at the camp never got to see, and that even visitors today do not know exist. These nooks and crannies are part of the mystery that I will address when this story continues in the next newsletter.
LEGACY GIVING TO JEWISH STUDIES: WHY DO IT?
Michael and Beth Neboschick

Humans are perfectly designed imperfect beings with a built in hierarchy of needs from basic to higher order. Our creator provides us with a “playground” of resources, from which we are invited to borrow and improve. Ultimately we must all return these gifts, hopefully in better condition than we discovered them. Three of the most important of these needs are actualizing our God-given talents, sharing those talents and resources in meaningful ways, and transcending ourselves by leaving a legacy that improves our world and the lives of others after we have gone. As professionals Beth and I are pleased to have influenced the lives of thousands of others.

Beth and I have looked ahead and focused on what we truly value and on the legacy we want to pass on. My brother, sister, and I attended the College in the 60’s with about a dozen other Jewish students. Opportunities for Jewish students to interact on campus were very limited then. I still remember my sister coming home crying because she was told Jewish girls were not accepted into any sororities at the College. Obviously this has all changed through the planning and targeted actions of Jewish Studies.

But what to do with our financial assets upon our death? For us we just needed to look at what we value and want to preserve. At the top of our vision is Charleston’s very own Jewish Studies Program to which we have chosen to leave a legacy gift. Since returning to our home city nine years ago, we have attended many wonderful programs offered by Jewish Studies, and have come to truly appreciate the enrichment that is provided to the College students and the Charleston community through the tireless efforts of Marty, the Advisory Board, faculty, staff, and volunteers. Jewish Studies, through its programs such as the Three Rabbi Panel, the Sunday brunch series, the Brown-Bag lunches, and other presentations and discussions which bring us together, the physical presence of a campus building, and the positive energy generated though the collective efforts of the Program give our Jewish community a needed grounding and cohesiveness that can’t be fully provided by our respective synagogues. Supporting the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program and keeping the vision of its founders alive through legacy giving is something that goes beyond taking care of ourselves by enriching our Charleston community long into the future. Beth and I are proud to be able to give of ourselves and benefit the community with our legacy gift.

STANLEY FARBSTEIN z”l
November 11, 1925 - February 23, 2014

Stanley Farbstein z”l passed away in his beloved Beaufort, after an extended illness. A life-long bachelor, a proud alumnus of Clemson, and a career-long engineer for B.F. Goodrich, Stanley was a long-time member of the boards of both Jewish Studies and the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina. Stanley initiated the archiving of cemetery records for JHSSC and devoted many hours to documenting the burials at the Beth Israel Cemetery in Beaufort. In his estate, Stanley established an endowment fund in his memory to benefit the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program at the College of Charleston, as well as endowments at the Coastal Community Foundation to benefit Beth Israel Congregation in Beaufort and at Clemson University. Stanley also bequeathed his residence at the Ashley House in downtown Charleston to Jewish Studies, thereby enabling the Program to provide extended stays to visiting fellows, scholars, and teachers at the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program.

BEYOND THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE
David Masich, Director of Gift Planning, Development
College of Charleston Foundation

At some point we all think about the legacy that we are leaving.....to our families, to our friends, and to our communities. You’ve seen on this page that Stanley Farbstein and Michael and Beth Neboschick have chosen to make the Jewish Studies Program a part of their legacies. Defining one’s legacy is certainly a very personal decision, a decision which reflects one’s most central values. However, if you would like ideas about ways to leave a legacy, please contact Marty Perlmutterm or me. We would both be honored to help you brainstorm about “what if”. Contact information: perlmutterm@cofc.edu or 843.953.7625; masichd@cofc.edu or 843.953.1835.
The Henry and Sylvia Yaschik Foundation has been the largest contributor to the annual operations of Jewish Studies, ever since the Foundation was established shortly after Henry’s death in 2000. Henry and Sylvia were grateful for the quality of life that they enjoyed in Charleston, were strong believers in “giving back to the community,” and thought that their legacy should be improving the lives of others, long into the future.

Gravestones tell a story. While Sylvia’s epitaph extols her virtues as a loving mother, grandmother, and wife, Henry’s emphasizes the importance of giving back, of planting seeds that will be joyfully harvested. The Henry and Sylvia Yaschik Foundation has become a giving tree, benefiting many worthwhile endeavors in the Lowcountry, a reflection of their gratitude and love.

Education was a high priority for them, as was Jewish life, so the Jewish Studies Program at the College which they founded in 1984 is a perfect expression of their values. Although neither Henry nor Sylvia graduated from college – Henry joked that he went to the school of hard knocks – both of them respected higher education, thinking that it was the best expression of human achievement. Not only would Henry and Sylvia be happy with the Program’s impact, they would be thrilled to know that they are continuing to give back to a community that treated them so well. Zichronam Livrocha; their memory is a blessing.

Since its humble beginnings in 1984, the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program has been nurtured by philanthropy. Time and time again we have celebrated and risen to new heights on the backs of our incredibly generous donors, during our annual campaigns, during our campaign to build the Center, and most notably during Jewish Studies’ ambitious $10 million capital campaign, A Time to Build, which was launched in 2011, coinciding with a visit to campus by Elie Wiesel. We are incredibly proud to have done so well, with gifts from Gina and Sam Shapiro establishing a fund for Jewish student life, the Norman and Gerry Sue Arnold Distinguished Visiting Chair in Jewish Studies, the Zucker/Goldberg Center for Holocaust Studies, and most recently, the Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture. By the time you are reading this, or very soon after, we will have broken ground on the extension to the Jewish Studies Center, which will include our kosher vegan/vegetarian dining hall, also a significant component of A Time to Build. Many others have joined them to make our A Time to Build such a successful campaign, so there are lots of thank you’s to go around.

With such incredible success behind us you might think we’d give our development initiatives a rest; but those of you who have encountered Marty’s tenacious determination would know otherwise. On November 1st, 2014 the College of Charleston will launch its $125 million comprehensive campaign, in order to support broad areas that are vital to the College’s envisioned future, including scholarships, faculty enhancement, and upgraded facilities. Realizing that this is an opportunity for Jewish Studies to reach and succeed further still, we will launch simultaneously A Time to Keep Building, Jewish Studies’ $5 million capital campaign whose major initiative will be to offset funds currently accounted for in our annual budget (and raised in our resultant Annual Campaign). We recognize very well that as the Program grows, so too does our budget, and for that reality to remain sustainable we must seek permanent funding sources and endowments. A Time to Keep Building includes allocations for our Core Mission Funds, a Sunday Morning Lecture endowment, faculty and staff enhancements, scholarships, Israel Studies, and more. Securing these funds in perpetuity will significantly decrease our reliance on annual fundraising, and allow us to serve our students and community with the best education and programming possible. I am incredibly proud of what this Program has and will continue to accomplish, and so hugely grateful for the donors who have created that reality. Thank you.
READING HEBREW
INSTRUCTORS: HANNAH RUBIN-SCHLANSKY AND SHULA HOLTZ
Mondays, August 25 - December 1, 2014
5:25-6:40pm in Room 209/323, Jewish Studies Center

Reading Hebrew is an informal, weekly course teaching students how to read Hebrew. It is aimed at beginners and those who have rusty skills and are interested in developing more skills. The focus is reading, not language comprehension. There will be beginning and intermediate levels offered at the same time. Participants are requested to attend all class meetings. Registration is not required. The course is free of charge, and open to the entire community.

It cannot be taken for college credit. There will be a small charge for the text used in each class. The sessions are weekly 75-minute classes, taught by native Hebrew speaker Shula Holtz, who has been teaching the class since its inception, and by Hannah Rubin-Schlansky, a St. Louis native and graduate of Hebrew Union College. Hannah moved to Charleston in the summer of 2014 with her husband, Rabbi Andrew Terkel, the new assistant rabbi at KKBE.

THOUGHTS OF THE REBBE
TRANSFORMATIONAL TEACHINGS OF THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE
RABBI HESH EPSTEIN
Mondays, August 26, September 15, October 20, and November 17, 2014
7:00-8:30pm in Arnold Hall

Known to many simply as “the Rebbe,” Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson assumed leadership of the Chabad Lubavitch movement in 1950, when it consisted of a small group of European refugees struggling to rebuild their lives after the war. Over the next four decades, the Rebbe established a worldwide network of educational, social, and religious institutions. This course coincides with the 20th anniversary of the Rebbe’s passing and addresses the following questions: What are the Rebbe’s central teachings and contributions to Judaism and society? What was his understanding of the human being and what were his aspirations for humanity? What accounts for the continued success of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement? And most importantly, how can we apply these insights toward living a more purposeful life?

August 25 - Seeing a Beautiful Garden
September 15 - Realizing Your Potential
October 20 - Minding Your Mission
November 17 - Opening Our Eyes

Rabbi Hesh Epstein has been the Executive Director of Chabad Lubavitch of South Carolina since 1987. His evening courses have become a regular and popular fixture of Jewish Studies community education offerings.

CALL FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND ALUMNI

The College of Charleston has become an excellent choice for students interested in attending a college with a Jewish Studies program with both an academic major and minor, an active Jewish student life, a significant Jewish student population, and a supportive larger Jewish community. The kosher vegan/vegetarian kitchen will make the College even more attractive to many prospective students. Jewish Studies has a Parent Network in place, with parents and alums helping us in cities around the country. We can use your help. Please let us know of prospective students who might have an interest in the College. Our offices will take it from there. Contact Helen Slucki at sluckihe@cofc.edu or 843.953.5657.

We are also working to develop our alumni connections. To join our Facebook alumni group go to www.cofc.edu/~jsuhillel and click on the “alumni” link. To receive our publications, please send us your snail-mail address or just call the office to be added to our list: 843.953.3917. If you have ideas to share about improving our alumni network, please contact Caroline Eichholz at eichholzcm@cofc.edu or 843.953.3894.
As a seventh-generation native of Savannah, Georgia, Caroline Eichholz did not venture far from home as she has spent the last four years as a student at the College of Charleston. Shortly after graduating this past May, Caroline accepted a position with the Jewish Student Union/Hillel as the Jewish Student Engagement Coordinator. In this position Caroline will focus on reaching out to and engaging Jewish students on campus, as well as revamping the JSU/Hillel social media presence, relying on the skills she acquired as a Communications major at the College.

Caroline is familiar with all things happening around the Jewish Studies Center, having been on the JSU/Hillel Executive Board for the past two years as a Student Engagement Coordinator and the Vice President/Social Media Intern. While in school, she was a regular at the Jewish Studies Center, whether enjoying JSU’s weekly meals or studying late nights in the lounge during finals. Caroline is so excited to extend her time in Charleston! As the Jewish Student Engagement Coordinator, she will engage freshmen during summer orientation sessions and throughout the year. Caroline will also reach individually to those students who are trying to find their way into the Jewish community on campus; promote the JSU/Hillel on various social media platforms; and help Marsha Alterman with alumni outreach. As a recent alum, Caroline is excited to continue working closely with new, current and former Jewish students!

MEET OUR ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR
Caroline Eichholz

A native of Melbourne, Australia, Helen Slucki arrived in Charleston in August of 2013 and promptly fell head over heels in love with the city. Before arriving in Charleston, Helen worked in various human resource management roles. Most recently she led the HR and payroll teams for three leading Australian retail brands. Prior to that, Helen worked as an organizational development specialist for a publicly listed company with over 12,000 employees. There she was responsible for the creation, development, and promotion of strategies to recruit, engage, and retain employees across the business. Helen also provided pro-bono HR advice for a local Jewish elementary school, and a local fast food retail chain. From January through June 2014, Helen was the receptionist at KKBE, Charleston’s Reform congregation.

Helen is thrilled to be joining the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program and is looking forward to building on the work that has already been done to put the College of Charleston on the list of colleges that Jewish high school students simply must consider. She will be focusing on developing our relationship with the Office of Admissions, as well as other programs and departments on campus, including the Honors College.

Helen will also be working to expand our student and parent involvement in showcasing everything the College has to offer, and would love hear from you! Additionally, please don’t hesitate to reach out to her if you know any high school juniors or seniors who would be a great fit for CofC!

MEET OUR CHEF
Dee Dee Arthur

Growing up on Sullivan’s Island in a big Jewish family, Dee Dee Arthur was making brisket and challah in her teens, which led to cooking school in New York at Peter Kump’s (now Institute of Culinary Education). She made a lot of fancy food as actor Michael Douglas’s private chef and has worked in restaurant kitchens and private homes in Manhattan, Mallorca, South Beach, Atlanta, Telluride, Asheville, and the Bahamas.

Dee Dee has a history/political science degree from UT-Austin under her belt, and stints at both Penland (bookmaking/photography) and Haywood Community College’s Professional Craft program for pottery. Dee Dee writes about progressive culture and the arts for local magazines in Charleston.

This will be Dee Dee’s fourth year as chef for the Jewish Studies Program, cooking international and Southern cuisine with lots of traditional Jewish dishes like rugelah, kugel, latkes, and matzo ball soup. Dee Dee’s meals are beloved during JSU/Hillel Shabbat dinners and Wednesday night Meet To Eats, a tradition that will continue in Arnold Hall even after the opening of the kosher, vegan/vegetarian dining facility next door. In the coming year, the kitchen adjoining Arnold Hall will be getting a small renovation of its own so that Dee Dee and Jewish Studies’ fantastic student workers will have better facilities to serve delicious meals to students and community members alike.
ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS

FYSM 143.01 and FYSM 143.02  
**Remembering Conflict, Seeking Justice**  
David Slucki  
T, Th 9:25 - 10:40am and 10:50am- 12:05pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

This course will examine how societies have rebuilt in the wake of genocide and civil war. Looking at testimonies of survivors, perpetrators, and bystanders, we will look at how genocides came to be remembered. We will also consider the vexed question of achieving justice for the victims. By considering how the world has responded to genocides and crimes against humanity since the Holocaust, we will come to understand how contemporary discussions, such as the responses to the current civil war in Syria, have been shaped by a century of genocide and civil war throughout the world.

FYSM 142.03  
**Children and the Holocaust**  
Ted Rosengarten  
MW 4:00- 5:15pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

Why did Nazi Germany target Jewish children with such special ferocity? A small number escaped or were rescued and lived to write their recollections which are just now surfacing. The ordeal of non-Jewish children in war-time Europe-German, Polish, Ukrainian—a story long buried in silence, is also finding a voice in film and literature today. This seminar will investigate the experiences of children who were swept up in the “Final Solution” and ask questions they might have asked about the world that produced the catastrophe whose meaning eludes us still.

HBRW 101.01  
**Elementary Modern Hebrew**  
Oren Segal  
MWF 10:00 - 10:50am and M 9:00 - 9:50am  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

An introduction of fundamental language structures with emphasis on acquisition of basic language skills: reading and listening comprehension, oral and written expression, including speaking. No prerequisite.

HBRW 201.01  
**Intermediate Modern Hebrew**  
Oren Segal  
MWF 11:00 - 11:50am and W 12:00 - 12:50pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

The object of this course is the development of basic proficiency through practice in the use of basic language skills emphasized in previous courses, and the acquisition of new vocabulary. Prerequisite: HBRW 102.

HBRW 313.01  
**Advanced Modern Hebrew: Conversation and Composition**  
Oren Segal  
MW 2:00 - 3:15pm + extra class time to be arranged  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

The goal of Hebrew 313 is to facilitate students in developing communicative competence in Hebrew and a deeper understanding of modern Israeli culture. This course is designed for students who have completed successfully Hebrew 202 or its equivalent. See JWST300.01 for a more complete description.

JWST 210.01 and JWST 210.02  
**Jewish History I: Ancient to Modern**  
Adam Mendelsohn  
Tu, Th 12:15 - 1:30pm and Tu, Th 1:40 - 2:55pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Arnold Hall (Room 100)

A survey of the social, economic, religious, and political experience of the Jewish people in the pre-modern world (from biblical origins through 1700). The course begins its focus just before the before and after the destruction of the Second Temple (70 C.E.), and continues through the medieval period - paying equal attention to the Jewish experience in the Christian and Moslem worlds - and ends in the seventeenth century, in northwestern Europe, where the transformations of Jewish life in the modern era were already beginning.

JWST 300.01  
**Special Topic: The Israeli Army**  
Oren Segal  
MW 2:00 - 3:15pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)

This course examines various cultural representations of the Israel Defense Forces from before and right after the War of Independence, through several military campaigns in the 1960s and 1970s, to the Palestinian uprisings and terror attacks of the 1990s. This course inquires how historical and cultural representations of “the people’s army” reflect, but also create, dramatic changes in Israeli society.

ATTENTION: SENIOR CITIZENS

South Carolina residents who are over 60 years old are eligible to enroll in regular College of Charleston courses on a space-available basis for a fee of $25 for the semester. Permission of the instructor is required for Jewish Studies courses. Call 843.953.5620 for details.
JWST 300.02
Corey Twitchell
Special Topic: German-Jewish Writing and the City
Tu, Th 10:50am - 12:05pm
Robert Scott Small, Room 249
How have German and Austrian Jews as a minority grappled with the complexities of identity throughout European history? How have literature and languages, such as German and Yiddish, served as sites for exploring and mediating Jewish identity? How have space and place, such as the city (or Stadt) and the shtetl, contributed to this negotiation? This course will explore how German- and Austrian-Jewish writers such as Jurek Becker, Franz Kafka, and Joseph Roth depict the urban, the rural, and the in-between, and how these depictions are interconnected with struggles for emancipation, civil equality, religious freedom, and identity.

JWST 320.01
Adam Mendelsohn
Topics in American Jewish Culture: Race and Religion in American History
Tu, Th 9:25 - 10:40am
Jewish Studies Center, Arnold Hall (Room 100)
Focusing on the experience of African Americans and Jews in the United States, this course will examine how and why the trajectories of these and other minorities have intersected, overlapped, and diverged over the last two centuries.

JWST 335.01
David Slucki
Modern Jewish Politics
Tu, Th 1:40 - 2:55pm
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 209)
This course explores the rise and development of Jewish political movements (Zionism, socialism, liberalism and more) in Europe, Palestine/Israel, and the United States over the course of the twentieth century. These movements answered fundamental questions of identity for their followers - what did it mean to be a Jew in the modern world - but also played a critical role in broader historical events, most obviously in the Middle East, but also as a disproportionately politicized minority in Europe and the United States.

THE QUEST FOR THE MAN ON THE WHITE DONKEY

Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 6:00pm
Recital Hall, Simons Center for the Arts
Reception following in the Halsey Institute, 161 Calhoun Street

Inspired by the Orthodox tradition of the Messiah, who will arrive riding on a white donkey, this 10-year photographic project features portraits and landscapes made in Israel. This project is the result of Yaakov Israel’s search for a deeper understanding of his country and an attempt to relay his personal experiences on the Israeli reality with a broader sense of belonging to the global human collective.

Curated by Halsey Institute Director and Senior Curator Mark Sloan, the exhibition consists of 42 images, printed in various sizes. Though his work has been shown widely in exhibitions throughout Europe, this will be Yaakov Israel’s first exhibition in the United States. Israel will deliver a thirty minute lecture discussing his artistic evolution and its relationship with his home country, before a guided tour of his installation and book signing. A reception will follow.

Yaakov Israel was born in Jerusalem where he lives and works. A 2002 graduate of Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, he has been teaching photography since 2004. In his work he constantly investigates the Israeli identity as perceived through architecture, landscape, and the people living in his country. He finds that he is drawn to photograph places that are from one point of view characteristic of the Israeli landscape but on the other hand are not noticeable to most. His work has been the subject of solo and group shows in museums and galleries in Israel and internationally, and has been featured in many publications.
JEWSH STUDENT UNION/HILLEL
Andrew Spector, President

My name is Andrew Spector ’15, and I am excited and honored to serve as the 2014-2015 President of the JSU/Hillel. A native of Bedford, Massachusetts, I’m an Honors student at the College majoring in Psychology, a proud brother of Alpha Epsilon Pi, and the founder of an interfaith dialogue program on campus called the Religious Life Exchange.

The past year was incredible for the JSU/Hillel. We remain the largest and most active student-run organization on the CofC campus, bringing together an average of 70 students to the Jewish Studies Center for our weekly Meet-to-Eat dinners and Shabbat celebrations. On any given day you will find students at the Jewish Studies Center studying, socializing, or simply stopping by for a snack. The JSC is a home for Jewish students on campus in every sense of the word. We held Shabbat services before dinner every Friday night, organized walking groups and rides to the different congregations for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, orchestrated two Passover Seders, provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner for students every day during Passover, and enjoyed our first Shabbat potluck lunch at the Battery. Our Israel programming remained strong as well, with a very successful Israel Week in February culminating in our second annual Avi Schaefer interfaith program, which involved nearly a hundred people from different backgrounds and faiths in the Charleston area. We have continued to exercise our Jewish commitment to tikunik olam (“repairing the world”) by collaborating with the Red Cross and other student organizations to host campus blood drives, facilitating a donor campaign for the Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation, and continuing our Challah for Hunger campaign, in which students made and sold challah, donating profits to the Lowcountry Food Bank and Crisis Ministries. We also continued our biannual “carnival” for the children at the Carolina Youth Development Center, a residential program for kids from abusive homes. Besides our weekly Meet-to-Eat dinners and Shabbat celebrations, students have socialized at bagel brunches on Sunday mornings, at “noshes” at different locales on Thursday afternoons, at parties for Rosh Hashana and Purim, and so much more.

Our ’14–’15 Executive Board members are thrilled about what we have planned for the upcoming year, and we have high hopes for our most successful and engaged year to date. I pledge to build upon the current success of the JSU/Hillel by empowering and increasing its membership, expanding and improving its programs, and connecting with other organizations on campus. I hope you will join me!

Creating A Connection
Dara Rosenblatt, Jewish Student Program Coordinator

Greetings from Israel, where Taglit-Birthright Israel Bus 1152 recently completed a ten-day tour of this wonderful, nuanced country. Bus 1152 was composed of students from the College of Charleston, the Citadel, and Ohio University. Ten days felt like ten weeks, each day was so packed with activities, and filled with a variety of emotions, lots of photos, and of course numerous bottles of water! By staffing this trip I had the amazing opportunity to get to know forty unique individuals, each and every one with their own Jewish story. Questions like “why did you decide to come on Birthright?” and “How do you see this trip impacting your future Jewish identity?” led to deep and powerful discussions. The students opened up to me, to each other, and connected to what it means to be in Israel and what it means to be Jewish.

I am reassured by these conversations: our students love feeling connected to Israel and to Judaism. This connection is the common thread that binds each Taglit-Birthright participant to each other and to Israel. They’ve created a connection that has them wanting to return here for internships, semesters or years abroad. Some even consider making aliyah and joining the IDF. Thanks to Taglit-Birthright for providing our students with an experience that not only develops a connection to Israel, but contributes to their interest in being Jewish. The journey does not end after ten days; it is often just the beginning of a path of discovery and growth as young Jewish adults.

Just as it is for students, it is important for me as a young Jewish professional to be growing and cultivating a connection to Israel and to Judaism. As I write this letter in June, I have the blessing of extending my trip in Israel for two months, taking part in multiple professional development opportunities, including studying Hebrew at an ulpan in Tel Aviv, and studying at the Pardes Institute in Jerusalem. If you are ever interested in talking about opportunities in Israel, please reach out to me at rosenblattds@cofc.edu.
NEVER WOULD I EVER!
Marsha Alterman, Jewish Student Life Advisor

A common “ice breaker” when meeting new people is “Never Would I Ever” – You find out things about people you never would have expected. Following in that fashion, Never Would I Ever have thought that the Citadel would have a female, Jewish Regimental Religious Officer, but Sarah Katchen served during the 2013-14 school year. I would have never believed a Rabbi would participate in The Citadel’s Baccalaureate service, but Rabbi Alexander addressed the graduates on May 8th. For years, the cadets felt out of place when they attended events at the JSU/Hillel. Last year local Jewish organizations and families made it possible for the cadets to host JSU students once a month for dinner on The Citadel campus. These monthly gatherings brought our students together, making it more comfortable for the cadets to attend programs at the College.

Progress continues to be made on The Citadel campus for Jewish cadets, and none of it would be possible without the support of the community: Rabbis, educators, and community members taking time out of their busy schedules to lead programs; Jewish organizations and individual families sponsoring monthly dinners on campus; and the Jewish Studies Program at the College providing staffing and snacks. We could not have done it without you! In order for Jewish student life on The Citadel campus to remain vibrant, we need the continued support of the community. Whether it’s sponsoring a meal, making a financial donation, or speaking at a meeting, your assistance is greatly needed and appreciated! Thank you!

NELA EPSILON PI
Benjamin Shimmel ‘15

Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity has a lot planned for the Fall 2014 semester. We intend to hold an eventful, safe and fun week to welcome new members, hoping to bring a great group of new brothers who can uphold the AEPi Chi Omicron values. We plan on hosting social gatherings, as well as our annual Splash Bash Philanthropy, which raises money for the Save A Child’s Heart Foundation. Last year we raised $5500 at this event and look forward to raising even more next year. Additionally, our first ever dog show, held last year raised $1000 for the Charleston Animal Society.

Later on in the semester we hope to host a JSU/Hillel Shabbat dinner in addition to a few Shabbat Kiddush celebrations with Rabbi Refson, the Chabad shaliach in Charleston, further establishing a strong bond with our Jewish community. Towards the end of the semester we will be hosting Parents’ Weekend to have our members’ parents visit and enjoy Charleston for a weekend. As usual we will have various social events (semi-formal and formal) in the city as well as our annual Mountain Weekend trip later in the fall.

SIGMA DELTA TAU
Kayla Sculnicky ‘15

The Delta Eta Chapter of Sigma Delta Tau has finished its tenth year on campus at CoC. After beginning the rejuvenation process at the commencement of the Fall ‘13 semester, we proudly boast about our accomplishments. Philanthropy remains a big part of what we stand for. In 2013 we raised over $1200 for Prevent Child Abuse America, our national philanthropy, and have also begun a regular volunteer schedule at a local no-kill animal shelter. We had our first ever Thanksgiving meal as a sorority, and in honor of our tenth anniversary, we hosted an alumni dinner and sent out cards to our sisters. Our Father-Daughter weekend was a great success, bringing in almost every father, even from as far as the West Coast.

We are very grateful for our JSU/Hillel and community support and look forward to spending another wonderful year with y’all!

DELTA ETA EXECUTIVE BOARD:
President: Erika Lax, Orlando, FL
Vice President: Sofia Frommer, Houston, TX
Social Chair: Claire Warshauer, Atlanta, GA
New Member Educator: Sara Paris, Lexington, SC
Recruitment Chair: Ellen Taylor Davis, Easley, SC
Panhellenic Delegate: Sofia Frommer, Houston, TX
Treasurer: Kayla Sculnicky, Sunnyvale, CA
Secretary: Arianna Santos, Goose Creek, SC
Philanthropy Chair: Emma Gibson, Boise, ID
Scholarship Chair: Katharine Kiser, Charleston, SC
Norman and Gerry Sue Arnold are very generous supporters of the Jewish Studies Program which bears their name, The Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program. They served together as the third chairs of the Advisory Board, succeeding Henry Yaschik, z”l, and Jerry Zucker, z”l. Their endowment of a visiting chair enables Jewish Studies to bring a world-class scholar, politician, journalist, or Jewish leader to the College of Charleston each year. Ruth Ellen Gruber is the College’s Spring 2015 appointment, and will teach a course titled: Memory, Heritage, Identity, and Renewal. American author and journalist Ruth Ellen Gruber has chronicled Jewish developments in Europe for more than 25 years and also studies the European fascination with the American Wild West, its mythology and its music. Her books include Virtually Jewish: Reinventing Jewish Culture in Europe; National Geographic Jewish Heritage Travel: A Guide to Eastern Europe; Letters from Europe (and Elsewhere), and Upon the Doorposts of Thy House: Jewish Life in East-Central Europe, Yesterday and Today. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Poland’s Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit, and other awards and honors, she currently coordinates the web site www.jewish-heritage-europe.eu. She has homes in rural Umbria in Italy and in Budapest’s Seventh District Jewish Quarter, but is on the road much of the time.

The College of Charleston’s new dining facility is scheduled to open in August 2015 for the beginning of the academic year. The contract for construction was awarded to MB Kahn Construction, the builders of the Sylvia Vlosky Yaschik Jewish Studies Center.

The facility is slated to be kosher, have a vegan/vegetarian menu, and use foods that are sensitive to environmental concerns. It will be open to the public, with walk-in traffic encouraged, but also on the College of Charleston’s meal plan. The dining hall will be administered by the College of Charleston’s Dining Services, not the Jewish Studies Program.

Martin and Julie Klaper established the Klaper Jewish Studies Fellowship at the College of Charleston to fund students to undertake creative and transformative summer projects that advance Jewish life and values. Projects might include, but are not limited to, internships, summer study, travel, community service, interfaith dialogue, arts, and research.

This past summer there were two Klaper Fellows: Gabe Davidson worked with the Gabriel Project Mumbai, providing informal education and nutrition to children in India, and Marla Topiol interned at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.
NEWS NOTES

Adam Mendelsohn is back full-time after a one-year leave of absence. In his absence Professor Mendelsohn was promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure at the College. Adam will direct the Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture, with Dale Rosengarten as the Center’s Associate Director. See story on page 8.

Joshua Shanes will be on a leave of absence this fall, joining his wife Elisheva as she begins her pathology residency in Chicago. He will return to teach in Spring 2015.

Kayla Sculnick ’15 from Sunnyvale, CA will serve as a Grinspoon-Morningstar Fellow for CofC’s JSU/Hillel. The Grinspoon-Morningstar Fellowship will offer Kayla the opportunity to have a profound impact in support of Israel through coalition building, research, and civic engagement.

Dara Rosenblatt led a group of College of Charleston and Citadel students on a Birthright trip to Israel this May. She remained in Israel for the rest of the summer, studying Hebrew in Tel Aviv in June and Jewish Studies at the Pardes Institute in Jerusalem for the month of July.

Helen Slucki and Caroline Eichholz joined the staff of Jewish Studies in July. Helen will work on attracting incoming students to the College and Caroline will work on student engagement for JSU/Hillel, developing our web and social media presence, and creating an alumni network. You can learn more about both Helen and Caroline on page 13.

CofC’s JSU/Hillel has been named by Reform Judaism Magazine as one of “the top seven Hillels you haven’t heard of.” But we’re glad you’ve heard of us! Please spread the word.

Morgan Koerner (German), Malte Pehl (International Studies) and Joshua Shanes (Jewish Studies) traveled to Berlin this summer to explore possibilities of programmatic ties between the German Department and the Jewish Studies Program here at the College. Many thanks to former dean David Cohen and LCWA for sponsoring the trip. The German Department suggested a joint initiative with Jewish Studies to highlight the long history of successful Jewish involvement in German culture, which ended abruptly and awfully with the Holocaust. Jewish Studies is working together with the German Department to make that happen.

Corey Twitchell is a visiting assistant professor in the German Department this academic year. His interest is German-Jewish literature, with his thesis focusing on the German-Jewish Post-Holocaust novel.

The Jewish Studies Advisory Board will have its fall meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2014 at 1:00pm, after David Benatar’s talk. President McConnell will host a reception for the Board and their spouses at the President’s House, immediately after the meeting.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

ALEX GREEN ’08
A native of Spartanburg, SC, Alex graduated the College with a business and hospitality major. While at the College he was president of Alpha Epsilon Pi, was active in JSU/Hillel, and was on the CofC EMS squad. Since graduating Alex has worked in both the retail and pharmacy departments of CVS. He lives in North Charleston with his fiancée, Natanya Miller, whom he met through Charleston YAD, and their dog Hudson.

JORDAN HOWARD ‘11
Jordan graduated with a BA in Political Science, and while at the College was an active member of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity serving as Vice President. Jordan worked at the Stern Student Center for three years, and since graduating moved to DC to work in politics. He is currently working as a finance associate for Connie Pillich, Democratic nominee for State Treasurer of Ohio.

HANNAH MURRAY ’13
A native of Little River, SC, Hannah graduated from the College of Charleston Honors College with a dual degree in Computer Science and Computing in the Arts. During her time at the College, she was a member of Charleston 40 tour guide association and the JSU where she also served as the Marketing and Social Media intern. She currently lives in New York City, working as an Assistant Web Developer for Time Inc.
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