Another semester has gone by. The pandemic is still with us. And yet in Jewish Studies it appears we are not only on the right path to return to normalcy, but also looking at significant growth even beyond pre-pandemic times. We welcomed 20% more Jewish freshmen this fall than in fall 2020. Our faculty have taught more students this semester alone than they did in both semesters last year. We have more Jewish Studies majors and minors than we have had in a while. And, in thanks to our “Best Second Major” campaign that has emphasized Jewish Studies as the best way for students to stand out once they have selected a primary area of study, such as business, psychology, biology, finance, or political science.

In recent months, our faculty and staff have been engaged in multiple projects. While space won’t permit to mention them all, let me share a few of the high-lights I am most excited about. Our Program has continued to develop its national reputation, via our many events and deep involvement in the Association for Jewish Studies. Our faculty have been finding new ways to engage students while conducting cutting-edge research. Professor Joshua Shemtov has founded a new program that leads a research team of over 30 scholars from many universities devoted to the study of Orthodoxy. Their work has generated significant national interest. Professor Ashley Walters is bringing back the popular course on Southern Jewish History, while her project on Jewish women writers, another collaborative initiative across institutions, is now under contract with a publisher. Professor Chad Gibbs, in his first year at CoC, will soon launch a project documenting the experiences of second- and third-generation survivors. He will also spearhead the Post and Courier’s special section on the Holocaust this spring, which our program is taking over from the Charleston Jewish Federation. Our three academic centers (Zucker/Goldberg Center for Holocaust Studies, Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture, and the Norman and Gerry Sue Arnold Center for Israel Studies) have expanded their work dramatically in recent months via new webinars, guest speakers, and research collaborations.

As you will see on p. 2, Hillel continues to grow. Our offers have expanded from two weekly meals and an occasional event to having at least one activity for students – from Jewish learning to social justice initiatives – every day. For this past semester, attendance at Hillel functions has swelled to over double what it used to be 3 years ago. This to a large extent is due to the wonderful work of our Hillel staff, as well as our recruiting efforts that have brought more Jewish students to CoC.

Professor Ezra Cappell and I have recently revamped the Perlmutter Fellows Program, our signature academic enhancement and leadership development opportunity. After being mostly put on hold during the pandemic, we welcomed five new fellows this fall, allowed existing fellows to stay on for the duration of their time at CoC (previously, this was a two-year program), and planned a year full of events with faculty and community members to help fellows prepare for their future and grow as leaders in their communities.

As I write to you, the search for a permanent kosher supervisor (mashgiach) for Marty’s Place, continues. All products sold at Marty’s are kosher and the staff has maintained all previous practices, but currently it is not under formal supervision. Hiring for this position has proven more challenging than we had anticipated, due in part to the lack of suitable candidates in Charleston and the ongoing shortage of workers in the restaurant industry. While it may take a bit longer to fill, I can report that the College’s services are rapidly returning to normalcy and keeping Marty’s Place kosher and has already allocated significant funds for this purpose. Marty’s Place will be re-certified soon, with delectable new options added to the menu.

Finally, we have reintroduced in-person events, attendance at which has been on the rise. Our Sunday Brunch series is back, as are our other mid-week talks, all offered now with a remote option via Zoom. Charleston Jewish Film Festival returns this spring too, with a combination of movies to watch online and in-person.

Jewish Studies is a wonderful place, unlike any other, where students and community members come to socialize and learn. It is also the center of creativity Jewish Studies is a wonderful place, unlike any other, where students and

d as well.

A NOTE TO SENIOR CITIZENS: AUDITING COURSES

Spring classes start on Monday, January 10, 2022. Registration closes on January 18, 2022 for the Spring 2022 semester! Before attempting to register to audit a course at the College of Charleston, you must apply and be accepted. For more information, go to cofc.edu/courseauditing.

For Jewish Studies courses: you must have permission from each instructor to audit any course. Some courses are not available for auditing.

Contact Einid Idelson at idelson@cofc.edu with any questions.
A NOTE FROM JAMIE:

When I first started at CoC Hillel, I couldn’t have imagined the profound impact this community would have on me personally and professionally. Together, Deb, the students, and I have had the ability to create something exceptional. CoC Hillel has embodied what it means to provide Southern Hospitality in the past year and a half. Our First-Year Students of Hillel program ensures that every incoming Jewish student has the opportunity to be welcomed into our community personally with outreach from returning Jewish students. We’ve also added the Engagement Internship where involved Jewish students notice who is missing from our community, reach out to them, and welcome them with open arms over a free cup of coffee. In 2021 our four Interns have engaged over 160 individual Jewish students.

We also provide several enriching opportunities for Jewish students to engage in Jewish life. Our campus community gathers together for inclusive Shabbat services and meals each week. During my time at CoC Hillel, I’m proud to say that we’ve increased Shabbat Service attendance by approximately 300%. Additionally, our student board and different student interest groups continue to provide high-quality social and educational programming for our campus community.

I am constantly in awe of the incredible students I am blessed to work with daily. The students and staff at CoC Hillel inspire and challenge me to continue growing as both a professional and human being. As I move onto the next chapter of my life, I will take with me all of the lessons I learned at the College of Charleston. I’ll remember the office laughs, meaningful conversations, and deep connections I have been able to form. I’ll never forget how this community took a chance on a fresh college graduate from New Jersey in the middle of a pandemic. Since I moved down south, I have been welcomed, supported, and pushed to become the best version of myself I could be. So I would like to say thank you to the entire staff of the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program, the students, and the Charleston Jewish community. I will forever be grateful for the time I’ve spent here.

Jamie Gottlieb  
Assistant Director, Hillel

2022 HILLEL STUDENT BOARD

President: Shira Finke - Potomac, MD  
Vice President: Sophie Baron - Dallas, TX  
Israel Chair: Hayley Korn - Long Island, NY  
Jewish Education Chair: Beyla Bass - Potomac, MD  
Outreach Chair: Abby Limor - Dunwoody, GA  
Social Chair: Jack Entes - Fesco, TX  
Tikkun Olam Chair: Katie Hurwitz - Johns Creek, GA

To find out more about Hillel events, go to cofchillel.org

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUGGEST AN EVENT?

We will consider all submissions. Contact Kim Broudy (843-953-4930 or ksbroudy@cofc.edu) with any questions.

THREE RABBI PANEL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 AT 7:30PM

JEWISH SPIRITUALITY: WHAT DOES JUDAISM BELIEVE ABOUT THE BIG QUESTIONS?

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

Since the Middle Ages, Jews have argued about big theological questions to which its foundational texts provided no clear answers. This includes questions like what is the nature of God and his providence? What is the difference between Jews and non-Jews? Why must Jews observe Jewish ritual and with what intention? What exactly is the Torah? Today’s denominations continue this healthy and vital debate. This semester Rabbi Greg Kanter (Reform), Rabbi Evan Ravski (Conservative), and Rabbi Shalom Minman (Orthodox) will explore the big questions and how they see their respective movements answering them.

Rabbi Shalom Minman  
Congregation Dor Tikvah

Rabbi Evan Ravski  
Synagogue Emunah

Rabbi Greg Kanter  
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim

THE KRONSBERG LECTURE

TUESDAY, APRIL 19 AT 7:30PM

A CONVERSATION WITH ILANA KAUFMAN

Ilana Kaufman is the executive director of the Jews of Color Initiative, an organization working to build a truly multiracial, anti-racist Jewish community in which Jews of Color can experience joy and reach their full potential and belonging as leaders and community members. Her work sits at the center of Jewish community, racial equity, and justice. It is anchored by the voices and experiences of Jews of Color, and is focused on grantmaking and community education.

The Milton Kronberg Lecture Series began in the Fall of 1999 as a result of a generous endowment by the Kronberg family. In the Fall of 2002, the series became the Milton and Freddie Kronberg Memorial Lecture Series because of the passing of Freddie Kronberg abm. The series honors the Kronbergs’ lifelong commitment to Jewish ideas and values.

For event updates, follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/cofcjwst or check our website at jewish.cofc.edu/events

HEBREW FOR THE COMMUNITY

MONDAYS, JANUARY 10 – APRIL 25, 2022

5:30 – 6:45pm in JSC210

No class will be held on January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Join Noa Weinberg every Monday to learn how to read and speak Hebrew. The Ulpan course expects students to do the assigned work on a regular basis and come to class each Monday prepared to participate. This class is for all ages and experience levels. Register to attend at bit.ly/hebrewforthecommunity Students must be fully vaccinated to attend. Please contact Kim Broudy ksbroudy@cofc.edu or call 843-953-4930 with any questions.

STUDENT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Three years ago, the College of Charleston Hillel Student Board and the Jewish Studies Program came together to establish the Three Rabbi Panel in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Rabbi Greg Kanter’s arrival at CofC. Since then, this event has grown into a powerful interfaith event that provides a forum for students from a wide array of faiths and backgrounds to discuss and share the beliefs and practices that define our world. The Three Rabbi Panel is supported by the Stanley and Charles Karesh Family Fund, an endowment given by the Karesh family in the Spring of 2015 in support of Jewish Studies’ community outreach programming. We are incredibly grateful for their support, and for their broad vision of tikkun olam.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23 AT 10:00AM IN ARNOLD HALL
JEWISH COMEDY: IT'S SERIOUS

Comedy has been central to the development of a distinct Jewish American identity and Jewish comedic and satirical works have helped shape the larger American culture. From its beginnings in the shtetls of Europe, to the golden age of the Catskills Borscht Belt, and right up through today, Jewish comedy has confronted difficult and challenging topics, such as poverty, immigration, gender, sex, anti-Semitism, and the catalyptic event of the Holocaust. Join writer and Jewish Studies Professor Ezra Cappel as we sample and discuss key moments of Jewish comedy and discover why laughter might be a deeply serious form of empathy and understanding.

Register: https://bit.ly/spring22jewishcomedy

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:00PM
A CONVERSATION WITH ILAN YONA

In 2022 eating Jewishly and Islamically is more than just a matter of keeping Kosher or Halal, and more than just a festive meal at Passover or Eid. Environmental and ethical issues of factory farming and food insecurity, and newer food developments such as veganism and sustainable agriculture, present new challenges for Muslim and Jewish clergy. Featuring a conversation between Imam Abdel Majid of the Central Mosque of Charleston, Rabbi Evan Ravski of Synagogue Emanu-El, and Aaron Rock-Singer (U of Wisconsin-Madison) as she shares her research on the role of women in producing American religion. Her book project, Love Letters of a Socialist: Jack London, Sinclair Lewis, and the Strunsky Sisters, which served as conduits of cultural, political, and linguistic knowledge of the country of their birth, and in addition to their objectification in the eyes of their American-born contemporaries and romantic partners.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 AT 10:00AM
MUSIC IN THE SHOAH: SAVAGERY AND SURVIVAL
A CONVERSATION WITH TERYL DOBBS

Throughout the darkness and breadth of the Holocaust, music found its way into every crack and corner, from the well-documented cultural life in Theresienstadt to singing prisoners in Sachsenhausen, to children’s choirs in Lodz to recently discovered music written by a 12-year-old girl in the Warsaw Ghetto. Music was used as a means of violence by the Nazi SS as well. Join Professor Teryl Dobbs (U of Wisconsin-Madison) as she shares her research on music in the Shoah.

The Nemirov Lecture is sponsored by the Nemirov Endowment Fund for Holocaust Studies, which supports Holocaust education initiatives for students and the community.

Sponsored by the Zucker/Goldberg Center for Holocaust Studies

SPRING 2022 EVENTS

Events will take place in-person at Arnold Hall at the Jewish Studies Center, unless specified otherwise. Most events will also be live-streamed. Attending our events in-person is only open to fully vaccinated guests who have received a booster shot, and face masks are required. For up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook, join our email list, or see jewish.cofc.edu/events.
SPRING 2022 COURSES

Elementary Modern Hebrew II
HBRW 102.01 CRN 20447 MWF 10:00-10:50am and T 9:25–10:40am, JSC237
Instructor: Noa Weinberg

Intermediate Modern Hebrew II
HBRW 202.01 CRN 20448 MWF 11:00–11:50am and T12:15–1:30pm
Instructor: Noa Weinberg

Topics in Jewish Studies: A History of Lies
JWST 201.01 CRN 219 MWF 10:00–10:50am, JSC337
Instructor: Chad Gibbs

Topics in Jewish Studies: Race and World War II
JWST 201.02 CRN 21999 MWF 11:00–11:50am, JSC337
Instructor: Chad Gibbs

Jewish History I: Ancient to Modern
JWST 210.01 CRN 21001 T, Th 10:50–12:05pm, JSC333
Instructor: Yaron Ayalon

Jewish History II: Modern to Contemporary
JWST 210.02 CRN 21002 T, Th 12:15–1:30pm, JSC237
Instructor: Yaron Ayalon

The Jewish Tradition
JWST225.01 CRN 23172 T, Th 12:15–1:30pm, Online Synchronous
Instructor: Joshua Shanes

Introduction to Jewish-American Literature
JWST245.01 CRN 23173 Tuesdays 5:30 - 8:15pm, JSC337
Instructor: Ezra Cappell

Special Topic: Doing Business in Israel
JWST 300.01 CRN 21188 Tuesdays 4:00 – 6:45pm, JSC 210
Instructor: Joshua Shanes

Special Topic: Holocaust Legacies and Oral History
JWST 300.02 CRN 21189 MWF 1:00–1:50pm, JSC237
Instructor: Chad Gibbs

Southern Jewish History
JWST 315.01 CRN 23174 T, Th 1:40–2:55pm, JSC237
Instructor: Ashley Walters

Tradition and Innovation in the Jewish World
JWST 404.01 CRN 23175 T, Th 9:25—10:40am, JSC237
Instructor: Yaron Ayalon

JEWISH FILMFEST 2022

The Charleston Jewish Filmfest will screen Final Account, a documentary featuring interviews with the last living generation of Hitler’s Third Reich. The film raises vital questions about authority, conformity, national identity, and their own roles in the greatest human crimes in history. Join us on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 6:00 PM in Arnold Hall to watch the movie followed by a conversation with the Director of the Zucker/Goldberg Center for Holocaust Studies, Chad Gibbs.

Filmmat will also be screening Yerusalem: The Incredible Story of Ethiopian Jewry. The date and time will be announced soon, keep an eye on facebook.com/CharlestonJewishFilmfest for updates. Please email Sandra Brett at sbrettfilm@gmail.com with any questions.

Sponsored by the Stanley Farbstein Endowment Fund and the Charleston JCC Foundation.

JHSSC to Meet in Beaufort June 10-12, 2022

Beaufort, South Carolina will be the destination for the spring/summer meeting of the JHSSC. It has been two years since an in-person gathering and plans are in place for a wonderful weekend in South Carolina's second oldest city. Jewish Beaufort will be the topic on Saturday, June 11 with discussions and panels of members of Beaufort's Jewish community. On Sunday, June 12, a lecture, and tour of Reconstruction Era National Historic Park will be offered. Registration will open by March 1, 2022. See jhssc.org for agenda and to register.

Stay up to date on JHSSC events by signing up for the JHSSC newsletter at jhssc.org. You will receive monthly updates on events, programs, and more!