A Word from the Director...

Academic year 2005-2006 was an exciting year for Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies. The number of students enrolling in our courses has grown significantly, and our intellectual contributions to the university, the St. Louis community, and the scholarly world internationally have increased greatly.

The intellectual breadth and dedication to scholarship and teaching by our faculty is very impressive. An extraordinary array of publications, both books and articles, has been produced by our faculty. Professor Fatemeh Keshavarz published *Recite in the Name of the Red Rose: Poetic Sacred Making in Twentieth Century Iran*. Two other faculty members, Professor Ahmet Karamustafa and Professor Erin McGlothlin are putting the finishing touches on their books, *(Sufism: The Formative Period and Second Generation Holocaust Literature: Legacies of Survival and Perpetration)*. The number of articles, scholarly papers, and popular talks given by our faculty is profuse. Professors Gerald Izenberg and Erin McGlothlin were faculty fellows at the Washington University Center for the Humanities, and *AJS Review: The Journal of the Association for Jewish Studies*, the premier journal of Jewish Studies in North American, is published out of our office.

The faculty devote great energy to teaching and are constantly innovating. Their dedication is reflected in the high ratings students give our courses. Many new courses were taught during this past year, and other new courses are in the process of preparation. Our superb faculty, who now number 28 tenured or tenure-track faculty and language lecturers, are recognized internationally for their contributions to scholarship and the university. This year we give an enthusiastic welcome to Abdul Kareem Said Ramadan and Younasse Tarbouni, lecturers in Arabic, Dr. Avraham Shveka, visiting lecturer in rabbinic literature, culture and thought, and Professor David Nachmias, Shusterman Visiting Scholar in Israel Studies. Professor Nachmias’ position was established with the assistance of American Israel Cooperative Enterprise under the initiative of Professor Itai Sened, a member of our faculty and chair of the Political Science department. The Shusterman Visiting Scholar position will be the foundation for a permanent visiting position in Israel Studies that will enable an outstanding Israeli scholar to visit the university on a yearly basis. We also welcome Jaleh Fazelian as the new Islamic Studies librarian and Professor Chen Shuangqing of the China Institute of Contemporary International Relations in Beijing as a Ford Foundation fellow in residence, doing research on the interrelationship between China, the US, and Israel.

We have more undergraduate majors and minors than ever, and more and more students enroll in our courses. They are committed to their studies, and their abilities and achievements are marked by the honors awarded to the students of the class of 2006. In addition to the outstanding courses taught by our faculty, a number of other programs became available to our students. The American University in Cairo became an official pre-approved Study Abroad Program thanks to Dr. Hanaa Kilany, and 5 students attended in 2005-2006. Our Study Abroad program at Hebrew University, a pre-approved program of long standing, had eleven students in attendance, and other students received approval to study elsewhere in the Middle East. For the first time, the St. Louis Jewish Federation offered two fellowships to our students to participate in the Archaeological Expedition and Field School at Tel Megiddo in Israel.

(Continued on page 3)
Summer in Tel Megiddo

The Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies program covers all areas of study, from the history, religion and culture in the diverse areas studied in the program. This summer three students focused on the archeological history in Israel, specifically at Tel Megiddo.

Tel Megiddo is one of the most important archeological sites in the Middle East. Megiddo was a major city in the Near East and Mediterranean world for over three thousand years. It exerted political and economic power, protecting the most important highway in the ancient world, the Via Maris, linking Egypt to Mesopotamia, and many battles were fought at this site. The archeological expedition in Tel Megiddo is run by leading Israeli and American archeologists. Students participated in a three-week session from June 11-29, 2006 and/or in a four-week session from July 1-27, 2006.

St. Louis Jewish Federation Partnership 2000 Tel Megiddo Fellowships were available to Washington University undergraduates and graduate students for summer 2006. Two fellowships of $2500 each were awarded to: Joshua Kursky and Megan Swider. Mollie Spevack also attended the summer program in Tel Megiddo.

Student Reactions

My trip to stay in Israel and dig at Tel Megiddo this summer was an amazing experience. As an anthropology/archaeology major, I jumped at the chance to get field training in a country as beautiful and historically (and presently) significant as Israel. Besides touring the country on weekends, we lived on a kibbutz rather than in a hotel. This meant that I was able to meet and socialize with native Israelis everyday.

It was very interesting performing archeology in a country where it still has life-and-death significance for its citizens. In the United States, archeology is often low profile and out of the public mind. However, in Israel, archeology has long been used to legitimize or protest land disputes between Israelis and Palestinians; unfortunately, this often leads to violence and discord. Despite this bittersweet fact, the excavation was meaningful and enlightening and I am truly grateful to Professor Barmash and the St. Louis Jewish Federation for the opportunity.

- Josh Kursky

I dug at Megiddo this past summer for both the first and second sessions from June 11th until July 27th. I worked in Area J, which houses the remains of a number of different temples. Digging primarily in the early Bronze I period, our temple was dated to 3,100 BCE. Volunteers helped uncover a plaster floor, monumental outer walls, and six pillar bases that composed the temple. In addition, we often found heaps of broken pottery, flint pieces, and animal bones. Digging at Tel Megiddo was a once in a lifetime experience.

- Mollie Spevack

Photos courtesy of Mollie Spevack
American University in Cairo Becomes an Official Study Abroad Program

American University in Cairo became an official pre-approved study abroad program this year, and several students attended the university. Katharine Howard attended there in the fall semester, while Brittany Bandy studied there in the spring. Over the summer Andrea Holmes, David Allen, and Nicolas Hirst attended the Arabic Intensive program there.

A Word from the Director...

(Continued from page 1)

Our graduate programs are very strong. We now have four students in the M.A. program in Islamic Studies and five in the M.A. program in Jewish Studies. We have launched a joint MA/MSW program specializing in Jewish Communal Service with the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University. We have also established a B.A./M.A. program for outstanding undergraduates.

We bring in scholars, writers, and other intellectual and cultural leaders throughout the year to speak on topics in Jewish or Islamic history, culture, literature, and politics. Academic year 2005-2006 marked out first joint venture with the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values in holding the Boniuk-Tanzman lecture in Jewish Medical Ethics with Dr. Avraham Steinberg, a leading Israeli medical ethicist and winner of the Israel Prize. The Adam Cherrick Memorial Lecture in Jewish Studies is the highlight in our series of visiting speakers, and we were very pleased to bring Professor Menachem Kellner of Haifa University back to his hometown of St. Louis and alma mater. Many community members who knew him as he was growing up and who knew his family were thrilled to come to his lecture, and he was delighted to return to where he had earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. He studied under the tutelage of Professor Steven S. Schwartzschild, the first director of Jewish Studies at Washington University, and he is widely considered to have inherited Professor Schwartzschild’s leading role in Jewish philosophy.

Professor Pamela Barmash
Director of Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies

Graduate Program News:

In the fall of 2006, one new M.A. students in Islamic Studies will be joining the eight graduate students already in the graduate program. Also in the fall we will be beginning our new A.B./M.A. degree program, with hannah draper [sic] continuing her work in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies at the graduate level.

Undergraduate News:

This year we had nine majors and nine minors graduating from the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program.

We are pleased to announce that the David and Sarah Visenberg Prize for an Outstanding Honors Thesis in Jewish Studies went to Joshua Straus for his Senior Thesis “Calculating Celestial Cycles, Courses and Conjunctions: An Introduction to Sifrei Efronot (Books of Intercalulation).”

MA Islamic Studies
May 2006 graduates:
Reagan Doherty
Steven Scharre

Future plans: Reagan Doherty will be attending a one year international journalism program Northwestern University in Chicago. Then during Fall 2007 she will be working / interning at the Associated Press in Cairo, Egypt as part of the program.
Study Abroad News

Four students were awarded Dorot Travel grants for summer 2005: Lindsay Anchors, Andrea Ginsburg, Heather Morgenstern, and Mollie Spevack.

Six students attended the Prague CET program in spring 2006: Jessica Black, Lindsay Bodell, Susannah Cahalan, Naomi Divine, Alanna Gold, and Evan Susser. The CET Jewish Studies program in Prague enables students to study Jewish history and culture in a Central European context through courses taught in English, mainly by Charles University faculty.

Twelve students studied in Israel at the Hebrew University and at the University of Haifa in over the course of the 2005-2006 school year. They were: FL05, Ilana Wolgel; AY05-06, Emily Dorfman; SP06, Annie Bauman, Talia Fein, Abby Freedman, Suzanne Goldenkranz, Noam Lee, Benjamin Lipson, Yonataf Sarason, Aimee Sax, Steven Swartz, and Aaron Weininger.

Other students studying abroad this past year were: Liliane Spelen (fall semester at SIT Morocco and Spring semester in France); Liza Baron (spring semester at SIT in Morocco and summer in Syria); Anne Brooks (fall semester in France); Liliane Spelen (spring semester in France); Joseph McCarter (summer at Tunisia Bourguiba Institute); and Beverly Levine (part of the summer at the Lebanese American University).

Another language learning option for students is to attend an intensive language program in the US for the summer. Three students attended these programs over the summer. Rebecca Estee attended Minnesota University, while Hannah Draper (sic) and Joanna Freudenheim attended Wisconsin-Madison’s Arabic language program.

Language News:

The Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program requires undergraduate majors to study two years of Arabic, Hebrew or Persian and graduate students three years.

Arabic and Hebrew courses continue to thrive. A total of 145 students were enrolled in Arabic courses, while 21 students were enrolled in Persian courses in 2005-2006. 146 students enrolled in Modern Hebrew, Biblical Hebrew, and rabbinic texts. A growing number of students arrived at Washington University with advanced levels of Hebrew.

Eta Beta Rho, the Hebrew honorary society, Professor Barmash served as faculty advisor. Alona Bana, Jennifer Feder, Sara Mizrahi, and Joshua Straus were elected to full membership in Eta Beta Rho. Students organized a Hebrew table every other week, showed Hebrew movies, and had a special reception for graduating students.

During the Fall 2005 semester there was an Arabic and Persian film series, while an Israeli Film series titled Four Weddings and a Funeral was held in the Spring 2006 semester.

Faculty News:

Professor Pamela Barmash has had a very busy year. She gave a paper at the World Congress of Jewish Studies on “Interpretation in Mesopotamian Omen, Bellestristic, and Legal Literature” and chaired a session on Law and Magic in the Bible and the Ancient Near East at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature. She gave community talks in the United States and Israel.

Professor Barmash has been writing much this year. She published “At the Nexus of History and Memory: The Ten Lost Tribes,” AJR Review 29 (2005): 207-236, as well as two book reviews, The Law of Testimony in the Pentateuchal Codes by Bruce Wells, Journal of the American Oriental Society, and The Memoirs of God, Mark Smith, Review of Biblical Literature, www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=4470. She received a faculty summer research grant to write chapters of her next book on the origins of legal interpretation, and she is collaborating with Dr. David Nelson, former lecturer in Rabbinics at Washington University, on a volume entitled Exodus: Echoes and Reverberations in Jewish Tradition. She is also writing an article on “Kinship and Contract,” which she has been invited to give at the American Society for Legal History conference in fall 2006.

She enjoyed teaching her courses very much, and in addition to teaching The Jews in the Ancient World and Biblical Hebrew in the fall, she taught two new courses, on the problem of evil and on Jeremiah, in the spring semester.

Professor Barmash was appointed the Book Review Editor for Bible and Rabbinics for Hebrew Studies, the journal of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew and as a member of the steering committee of the Biblical Law Section of Society of Biblical Literature. She served as a consultant for a new 6th grade Social Studies textbook to be published by Macmillan.
The Muslim-Jewish Dialogue Group, which Dr. Barmash serves as faculty advisor, had a productive year, with students serving as facilitators for a dialogue group for high school teens from the Islamic Foundation of St. Louis and the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis. This year also marks the second year for Eta Beta Rho, the Hebrew honorary society, which Dr. Barmash also serves as faculty advisor. The students organized a Hebrew table every other week, showed Hebrew movies, and had a special reception for graduating students. Full members of Eta Beta Rho wore blue and white honors cords at graduation.

Prof. Cathleen Fleck’s, Scholar in Residence in the Department of Art History and Archaeology, activities this year have included lectures at the 7th International Conference on Word & Image Studies in Philadelphia, the Manuscripta Conference at St. Louis University, and the Renaissance Society of America in San Francisco, on topics ranging from paintings in the choir of a medieval church for nuns to fourteenth-century illustrated Bibles from Naples. She also led a session (“Workshop and Production in Italian Art, ca 400-1500: Transmission across Media”) at the 2006 International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo.


Prof. Fleck continues to teach the Scriptures and Scripturalisms and over the last year, she also has taught a few new courses: The Medieval City, Women and Medieval Art, and Gothic Art: The Age of Cathedrals—all of which explored religious and civic art and architecture of the early to late Middle ages in one way or another. Her course last semester, “Sacred Cities in Medieval Art and Culture,” a new seminar, was an enjoyable comparison of select holy spaces in Rome and Jerusalem over time with a group of students from diverse backgrounds, each of whom brought their special interests and knowledge to the class.

During the academic year 2005/6, Prof. Martin Jacobs taught *History of the Jews in Islamic Lands; Topics in Rabbinic Texts: Midrash, Introduction to Jewish Civilization; and Medieval Jewish Travelogues, Chronicles, and Biographies.*

In 2005, Prof. Jacobs published “Exposed to all the Currents of the Mediterranean—A Sixteenth-Century Venetian Rabbi on Muslim History,” *AJS Review* 29:1 (2005): 33-60. In May, he gave a paper at Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf, Germany, titled “Keine Ringparabel—ein iberischer Disput zwischen Juden und Muslimen und sein christlicher Hintergrund” (“No Ring Parable—an Iberian Dispute between Jews and Muslims, and its Christian Background”). During the summer break that he largely spent in Jerusalem, he finished an article titled “An Ex-Sabbatean’s Remorse? Sambari’s Polemics against Islam,” which, has been accepted for publication in *Jewish Quarterly Review.*

While in Jerusalem, he also attended the Fourteenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, where he spoke about “Ibn Adret against the ‘Madman’—A Jewish Polemic against Islam.”

The most exciting news Martin Jacobs probably has to share this year is that he received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor of Rabbinic Studies. During the academic year 2006/7, he will be on a highly anticipated research leave that he will largely spend at the Jewish National und University Library in Jerusalem, where he plans to work on a new book project tentatively titled *An Imagined East: The Islamic World as Viewed by Medieval Jewish Travel Writers.*
The 2005-06 academic year turned out to be very productive for Prof. Ahmet Karamustafa. He reports, “Some of you may know that I was on leave of absence during 2005, working away on a new book about the early history of Sufism. Well, I’m very happy to report that that book is now in the press! Even though I was very close to the end when the spring term started last January, I simply could not touch the project while I was busy teaching two new courses. Once the classes were over at the end of April, I cleared my desk of everything else as fast as I possibly could and plunged back into early Sufi history, with the aim of delivering the manuscript to Edinburgh University Press before the end of June. I was able to meet this deadline, and the book is now in production at the press. It is scheduled to appear in early Spring 2007 under the title Sufism: The Formative Period. I enjoyed working on this project tremendously, and, as you may have guessed, I’m already cooking up future books on the history of Sufism!”

Several articles that Prof. Karamustafa completed appeared last fall: “Origins of Anatolian Sufism,” in Sufism and Sufis in Ottoman Society: Sources, Doctrine, Rituals, Taruq, Architecture, Literature and Fine Arts, Modernism, 67-95 (This article, was simultaneously released in Turkish in a companion volume); “Wafayah according to al-Junayd (d.910),” in Reason and Inspiration in Islam: Theology, Philosophy and Mysticism in Muslim Thought, 62-68; and Two short pieces, “Strangers and Foreigners” and “Suicide,” in The Encyclopedia of the Qur’an, vol. 5.

Another, longer article for a new series on Islam which should be published later this year: “Sufism,” in Voices of Islam (forthcoming from Praeger in 2006). In the spring, Prof. Karamustafa offered two new seminars: Christians and Muslims in the Mediterranean World, 1100-1650, and Topics in Islam: Conceptualizing Islam. “I always enjoy the “topics in Islam seminars,” and this year’s was no exception, but the history seminar was particularly rewarding for purely selfish reasons since I co-taught this course with my historian colleague Christine Johnson and learned a lot from her expertise in Renaissance and early modern German History. Co-teaching is a lot of fun!” he states.

During the 2005-06 academic year, he also gave a lectures titled “On Writing the History of Early Sufism,” at UCLA, University of Pennsylvania and McGill and participated in two conferences, one the annual American Academy of Religion meeting, where he chaired a panel and was a discussant for another panel, the other a mini-symposium in honor of Robert Dankoff at the University of Chicago, where he delivered a revised version of an earlier paper which he plans to publish soon titled “Religious Voices in Modern Turkish Free Verse: The Poems of Sezai Karakoç (b.1933) and Ismet Özel (b.1944).”

Looking ahead to the rest of the summer, Prof. Karamustafa tell us, “I see four book reviews, one encyclopedia article, one translation piece, and three new syllabi for fall courses on my agenda. In the meantime, I’ll be working on my next book project tentatively titled Islamic Perspectives on Religion. Bits and pieces of this book are already in place, but I need to do much reading and note-taking before I can write more. I hope to be able to report substantial progress on this front in next year’s newsletter!”

Prof. Fatemeh Keshavarz’s book Recite in the Name of the Red Rose was published in 2006.

Professor Hillel J. Kieval taught the capstone seminar in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies in 2005-06—Diaspora in Jewish and Islamic Experience—as well as his survey of modern Jewish history. He continues to edit AJS Review: The Journal of the Association for Jewish Studies, which is produced here at Washington University (thanks to the wonderful work of Sarah Massey as managing editor) and published by Cambridge University Press. He also has spent much of the past year as a Senior Editor of Jews in Eastern Europe: The YIVO Encyclopedia, for which he has also written articles on “Bohemia and Moravia,” “Blood Libels and Host Desecration Accusations,” “Golem Legend,” “Historiography—Bohemia and Moravia,” “Tiszaszlár,” and the “Hilsner Affair.”

In January 2006, Professor Kieval delivered a paper on “Jewish Cultures in Czechoslovakia: Language, Citizenship, and Identity in the Nation-State” for the conference Insiders, Outsiders and Modern East European Jewry, held at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In February, he spoke to the Master of Liberal Arts Saturday Seminar Series, at University College (Washington University in St. Louis) on the topic “Enlightenment and Emancipation: What Makes Us Free?” His article “Choosing to Bridge: Revisiting the Phenomenon of Jewish Cultural Mediation,” appeared in the journal Bohemia: A Journal of History and Civilization in East Central Europe, and a revised version of “Pursuing
the Golem of Prague: Jewish Culture and the Invention of a Tradition” was published in *New Harvest: Jewish Writing in St. Louis 1998-2005*.

Professor Erin McGlothlin was on research leave during the 2005-2006 school year. In spring 2006, she was a faculty fellow at the WU Center for the Humanities. As a part of that fellowship, she gave a talk in April 2006 at WU entitled “Narrative Transgression in Contemporary German-Jewish Holocaust Literature.” In summer 2006, she was a visiting scholar at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. During 2005-2006, she worked on the final stages of her book, which is entitled *Second Generation Holocaust Literature: Legacies of Survival and Perpetration* and will appear with Camden House Press in the fall of 2006. She also completed an article entitled “Writing by Germany’s Jewish MinoritY,” which will appear in: *Contemporary German Fiction: Writing in the Berlin Republic* (Cambridge UP, 2006). Prof. McGlothlin gave four conference presentations: “Narrative Transgression in Edgar Hilsenrath’s *Der Nazi und der Friseur* and Maxim Biller’s *Harlem Holocaust*” at the German Studies Association Conference in Milwaukee in September 2005; “Writing by Germany’s Jewish Minority” at the University of London Workshop *Contemporary German Fiction* in November 2005; “Second Generation Holocaust Literature - Two Literatures in One?” at the Bowling Green State University Conference *Trajectories of Memory* in March 2006; and “Narrative Transgression in Contemporary German-Jewish Holocaust Literature” at the Narrative Conference in Ottawa in April 2006. She also co-organized with Lutz Koepnick of the German dept. the Eighteenth St. Louis Symposium *After the Digital Divide: German Aesthetic Theory in the Age of New Media* in March 2006. In November 2005, she co-organized with Pat Burke of Music a lecture, screening and klezmer workshop by writer, musician and filmmaker Yale Strom (2005). Finally, in January 2006, she gave a presentation on Second Generation Holocaust Literature to the docents at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center.


**Iqra’—The Arabic Student Group**

Over the last year, Iqra’ the Arabic student group has worked to make learning Arabic easier, while providing students with information and entertainment. The name Iqra’, meaning “Read!” or “Recite!”’, was chosen because it’s the first word that was revealed in the Qur’an. Although not yet an official Student Union organization, Liza Baron coordinates activities, along with Joseph McCarter, while Hannah draper [sic] is the treasurer. All students enrolled in Arabic courses are invited to participate in activities. Since Iqra’ is not funded by Student Union, selling t-shirts with Arabic printing was its primary fund raiser last year. Of which, Hannah draper states, “everyone seem[ed] to like having shirts in Arabic that will confuse the uninitiated!”

One of the goals of Iqra’ is to help students learn Arabic and provide them with useful information. Last year they organized a mentoring program where upper-level Arabic students would tutor and mentor students who desired help. One of the first meetings of this year was a panel about study abroad and summer intensive programs for first and second level Arabic students. Students who attended these programs during the summer or last semester shared their experiences at two US summer intensive programs and five overseas programs.

Often times the line between information and entertainment are blurred. Last year the students organized a trip to a mosque in West County, screened Arabic-language movies and held a few study breaks with Lebanese food before finals. These activities give students the opportunity to learn more about the culture of different Arabic speaking lands, as well as have fun and relaxation.

Looking to the upcoming school year, Hannah draper states, “This year we’re planning to bring in a few speakers from the community who have relevant things to tell us (such as the local Council on American-Islamic Relations representative), to watch more movies, to have an afternoon of Arab cooking where those of us who know a few recipes teach whoever is interested and can fit in my kitchen, to organize a student-faculty soccer game or three, and to sell more shirts.”
Lectures (05-06)

September 12
**Avraham Steinberg, M.D.** – “Human Cloning and Genetic Manipulation in the Light of Jewish Medical Ethics”
Steinberg teaches and is attending physician in Pediatrics and Pediatric Neurology at the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. Prof. Steinberg studied in the Rabbinic Academy of Yeshivat Harav Kook, Jerusalem and completed his internship in the Hebrew-University Hadassa Medical School. He served as a Medical Officer in the Israeli Air Force and was a resident and fellow in the department of Neurology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Hospital Medical Center in New York. Steinberg was awarded the 1999 Israel Prize for his Encyclopedia of Jewish Medical Ethics.
Co-sponsored by the Boniuk-Tanzman lecture series, the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values, and the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program

Sept. 12th
**Michal Govrin** – “Snapshots: Moments of a Writing Life”
Govrin is the coauthor of *Body of Prayer* with David Shapiro and Jacques Derrida and teaches at the Jerusalem School for Visual Theater. She is the recipient of the Kugel Prize for her novel *The Name* and the 2003 Ashman Prize for Best Novel for *Snapshots*, forthcoming in English translation.
Co-Sponsored by the Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Department, the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program, and the Committee on Comparative Literature

November 7
**Yehudit Rotem** – “Discovering My Voice”
Rotem was born in Budapest, Hungary and spent several months in Bergen-Belsen as an infant. After immigrating to pre-state Israel in 1945, she married an ultra-orthodox yeshiva student, and supported the family as a teacher while raising her children. In 1983, she left the ultra-Orthodox community and went on to become a popular and award-winning author.
Co-sponsored by the Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Department, the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program, the Committee on Comparative Literature, and the College Office

November 9
**The Holocaust Memorial Lecture**
**Christopher Browning** – “Holocaust Denial in the Courtroom: The Historian as Expert Witness”
Browning is the Frank Porter Graham Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. How ordinary Germans came to accept the wholesale massacre of Jews is a central theme in his pioneering scholarship of the Holocaust. Browning’s approach sets him apart because he does not see the Final Solution as a master plan established by Hitler alone at the beginning of the Nazi era, but rather as a series of decisions made by many people that evolved over a period of time.

November 15
**Esther Benbassa and Jean-Christophe Attias**
“Israelis and Palestinians in the Middle East, Jews and Arabs in France: Archaeology of a Conflict”
“Jewishness and Otherness in a Time of Conflict “
Esther Benbassa (chair, History of Modern Judaism) and Jean-Christophe Attias (chair, Rabbinical Judaism, 6th-17th centuries) both teach at the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris. Among their works are three books available in English: *Israel, the Impossible Land*, *The Jews and their Future: A Conversation on Jewish Identities*, and *The Jew and the Other*.
Co-sponsored by the Pluralism, Politics and Religion Initiative (PPR) and the Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Studies Program

February 9
**Heidrun Eichner** – “Greek into Arabic into Ibn al-Arabi: Aristotle’s De Interpretatione 1 Between Philosophy of Language and Ontology”
Ph.D. Bochum University
Sponsored by the Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Department
February 15

Tariq Jaffer – “Who Spoke the Qur’an?”
Ph.D. Yale University
Sponsored by the Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Department

February 22

The 2006 Adam Cherrick Lecture in Jewish Studies
Menachem Kellner – “Must A Jew Believe Anything?”

The Adam Cherrick Fund in Jewish Studies was established in 1989 by Jordan and Lorraine Cherrick of St. Louis, Missouri, in memory of their son. Its purpose is to advance Jewish Studies at Washington University. Since its inception, the Adam Cherrick Fund has benefited both the University community and St. Louis at large by bringing world-renowned scholars to speak on Campus.

Kellner, a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, moved to Israel in 1980, fulfilling a life-long ambition. Kellner has received fellowships and awards from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, the American Academy for Jewish Research and the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation and is a prolific author. His writings include: Dogma in Medieval Jewish Thought, Maimonides on Human Perfection, Maimonides on Judaism and the Jewish People, Maimonides on the “Decline of the Generations” and the Nature of Rabbinic Authority, Must A Jew Believe Anything?, and he is the editor of The Pursuit of the Ideal: Jewish Writings of Steven Schwartzchild. Kellner also presented a lecture titled, “Maimonides’ Rationalistic Approach to Rabbinic Judaism” to students and guests attending the Introduction to Jewish Civilization class.
Sponsored by the Adam Cherrick Fund in Jewish Studies

March 3

Asad Ahmed – “Genealogies, Prophetic Sayings, and the Iconisation of the Prophet’s Companions: The Case of Sa’d b. Abi Waqqas”
Ahmed is an upcoming graduate from Princeton University. He expects to receive his Ph.D. June 2006. He has been appointed as Assistant Professor of Islamic Religion and Arabic at Washington University.
Sponsored by the Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Department

March 23

Brian Horowitz – “Beyond Philanthropy: The Society for Enlightenment and Negotiated Jewish Modernity in Czarist Russia”
Horowitz is the Sizeler Family Chair of Jewish Studies, Director of Jewish Studies and Associate Professor in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies at Tulane University. He specializes in Russian, Jewish studies and Literature.
Co-sponsored by the History Department and the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program

April 3

Elisabeth Perry – “Writing the Lives of American Jewish Women”
Perry specializes in American women’s lives and politics in the Progressive Era. She is the co-author of America: Pathways to the Present and author of Belle Maskowitz: Feminine Politics and the Exercise of Power in the Age of Alfred E. Smith as well as numerous other publications.
Co-sponsored by the History Department, the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program, and the Women and Gender Studies Program

April 6

Lois C. Dubin – “Rachele and Her Loves: Marriage and Divorce in a Revolutionary Age”
Dubin has a wide range of interests in early modern and modern Jewish history ranging from location (especially Italy and the Habsburg Monarchy) to Jewish spirituality, theology, and ritual to women’s history and the history of marriage and divorce. Her book The Port Jews of Habsburg Trieste: Absolutist Politics and Enlightenment Culture, Stanford Studies in Jewish History and Culture (Stanford University Press, 1999) was awarded the 2000 Barbara Jelavich Prize in Habsburg, Russian and Ottoman history by the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.
Co-sponsored by the History Department and the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program
Islamic Studies Librarian Appointed

We are pleased to announce that Olin Library has appointed Jaleh Fazelian as the new Islamic Studies Catalog/Subject Librarian. She has an MA in Historical Studies from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (2002) with an emphasis on Women’s rights in Iran since the Islamic Revolution and received her MLS from Indiana University (2004). While at Indiana University Fazelian took two years of graduate level Persian language courses. For the last two years she has worked as the Archives and Government Documents Librarian at Hanover College in Hanover, IN. Fazelian joined the staff at Olin Library in September, 2006, of which she states, “I am a metro-St. Louis native so coming to WashU is a little like coming home.”

What’s New in the Olin Library?

The cataloging of Hebrew materials is taking a leap forward in the WU Catalog and in WorldCat. A majority of new Hebrew books are now cataloged in both Romanized English and in vernacular Hebrew within the same record. In order to view records in Hebrew in the WU catalog, you need to select CJK/Non-Roman from the initial search screen and then select Unicode display. To view records in Hebrew in WorldCat just select Hebrew in the Language field.

A long awaited new edition of Encyclopaedia Judaica will arrive on the Olin Reference shelves this winter. First published in the 1970s, it quickly became a standard source of information on all things Jewish. The revised set includes updates to many of the original 22,000 entries, and 2500 entries are completely new. Israeli, American and European subject specialists were again enlisted to write in their areas of expertise on Jewish culture, religion, history, and literature. The new edition will be available in two formats, print and ebook. We hope to be able to purchase the encyclopedia in both formats.

This summer, the Library acquired a long requested electronic purchase to three newspapers: The Wall Street Journal, Historical (1889-1989), The New York Times, Historical, (1851-2003) and The Times [London] Digital Archives (1785-1985). Each newspaper collection gives you access to every article, obituary, photo, and advertisement in the print edition. Now, access to the major events of the 19th and 20th centuries as portrayed to the English language reader has now become incredibly easy to incorporate into research.

To learn more about these topics and others read my blog newsletter “Library News for Jewish Studies” at http://wulibraries.typepad.com/jinesnews/ - Deborah Katz, Olin Reference and Jewish Studies Librarian

Alumni Updates

**Aaron Bisno** (BA in 1990 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Jewish and Near Eastern Studies) is currently the senior Rabbi of the Rodef Shalom Congregation at Pittsburgh, PA. He and his wife, Michelle, have a one year old son named Adam. For more information see: www.rodefshalom.org/who/staff/.

**Aaron Schoenkerman** (BA with majors in Jewish and Near Eastern Studies and Biology in 1998) writes that he graduated from Northwestern University Medical School and University of California: San Francisco for Residency. He is currently a fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine in San Francisco, where he and his wife, Michelle, reside.

ALUMS: We’d love to hear from you! E-mail us at jines@wustl.edu or fill out the form below and mail it to us at: Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies Program, Campus Box 1121, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Name: ______________________ Degree: ________________ Year: ________

What are you up to? ______________________________________________________

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