



STRASSLER  
CENTER FOR  
HOLOCAUST  
& GENOCIDE  
STUDIES

AT CLARK UNIVERSITY

2009 – 2010  
YEAR END REPORT



**“Whoever fails to increase knowledge, decreases knowledge.”**

— The Wisdom of the Sages



Dear Friends:

“It is because modern education is so seldom inspired by a great hope that it so seldom achieves great results,” the British philosopher and mathematician Bertrand Russell observed. He would have smiled had he lived to see the Strassler Center. Hope fuels our mission of teaching, research, and public service, and we set our sights high. Our goal is nothing less than to deploy scholarship in the service of social progress. To right historical injustices, to prevent future genocides, to develop programs and tools to deal responsibly with post-genocidal societies.

The ground-breaking conference on *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research* hosted by the Center in April shines as a milestone in actualizing this agenda. Spearheaded by Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor Taner Akçam and co-organized with Professor Eric Weitz of the University of Minnesota and Marc Mamigonian of the National Association of Armenian Studies and Research, this symposium was held at a pivotal moment in the struggle for recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the Turkish government. A recent protocol between Turkey and Armenia called for a historical commission, and the conference, the very fact of it—let alone the work presented by scholars from ten countries about materials in archives scattered across the globe—now frames the terms of that diplomatic discourse. Denial is not an option.



## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

If a symposium of eminent scholars moves discussion forward, the work of our stellar doctoral students frames the future of the field. Two defended their dissertations in March, and both dealt with historical topics all too relevant today. Elaborating her insights just months before the World Cup in South Africa, Dottie Stone foregrounded the issue of race and the ever-changing politics of race in her study of Jewish refugees to that country. Ilana Offenberger trained her lens on the pre-genocidal period of Nazi antisemitic oppression in Vienna, laying bare how a community became entrapped through misunderstood warning signs and concomitant adaptive behaviors. Her insights hold true for the many people currently living at risk of mass murder.

Dottie’s and Ilana’s successful defenses cheered on their junior colleagues. The next group of ABD candidates, having secured in total two Fulbright awards, two Holocaust Museum fellowships, three Holocaust Educational Foundation research grants, and one American Institute for Maghrib Studies fellowship, relish their research projects. Working in nearly every language of Europe and North Africa, they plumb the Holocaust era in Poland, the Soviet Union, Austria, Romania, Sub-Carpathian Rus’, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria.

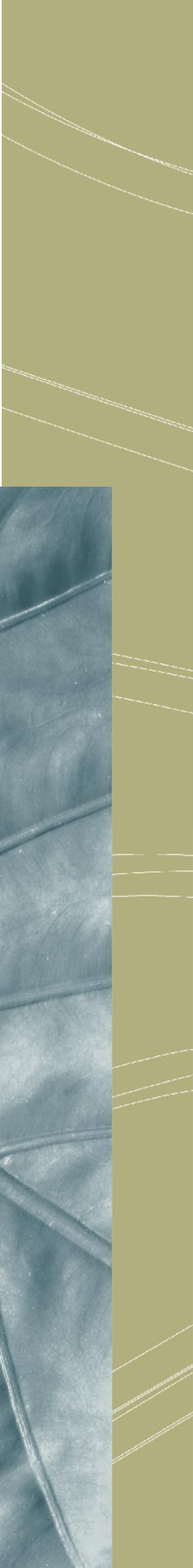
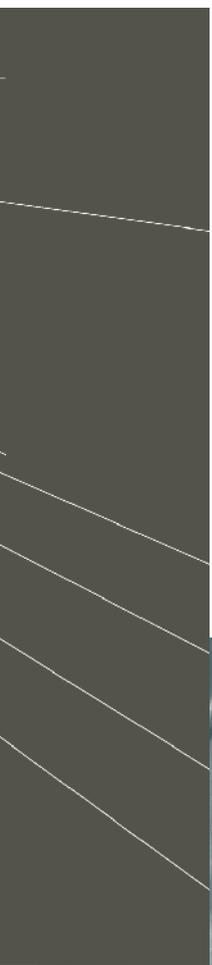
“Every day you make progress,” Winston Churchill once said. His words could serve as a scholar’s credo. “Every step may be fruitful. Yet there will stretch out before you an ever-lengthening, ever-ascending, ever-improving path.” Anticipating the recognition that no matter how much work one does there is always more to do, Churchill continued: “You know you will never get to the end of the journey. But this, far from discouraging, only adds to the joy and glory of the climb.”

Your financial contributions established the Strassler Center as base camp for the climb. Help us to scale the heights. Please give as generously as you can.

*Deborah Dwork*

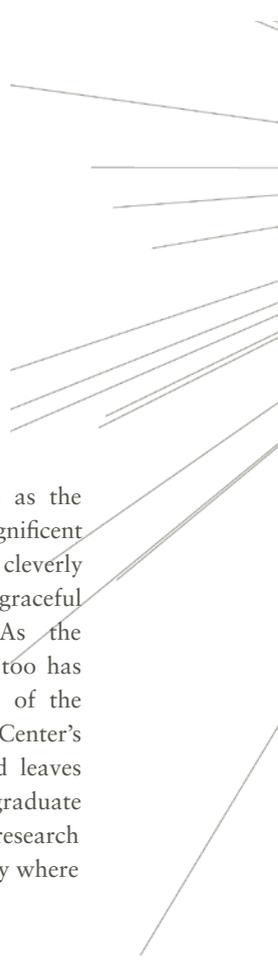
Deborah Dwork  
Rose Professor of Holocaust History  
Director, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies







## EVENTS & LINKAGES



Cohen-Lasry House opened in 1999 as the Center's home. Planted beside the magnificent Rose Library addition, in a corner cleverly designed by architect Julian Bonder, a graceful Japanese maple has flourished. As the program has grown and thrived, so too has the tree. Its roots are in the earth of the library, its trunk reaches past the Center's seminar room, and its branches and leaves extend toward the offices of our graduate students. In years to come, student research will drop down as books to our library where they will educate future generations.

# ECHOES AND REFLECTIONS: TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP

9 OCTOBER 2009

Educators traveled from throughout New England to participate in a teacher training workshop on *Echoes and Reflections*, a curriculum developed by the Anti-Defamation League, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute's Visual History Archive, and Yad Vashem. The program, on 9 October 2009, coincided with the launch of the Internet 2 (I-2) connection with the Shoah Foundation Archive in the Center's Rose Library. Benefactor David Strassler, who funded the activation of I-2 upon which remote access to the Archive depends as well as the Center's subscription to the Shoah Foundation, was on hand to celebrate this significant development.

Established in 1994 by Steven Spielberg to collect and preserve the testimonies of survivors and other witnesses to the Holocaust, the Shoah Archive preserves and provides access to a collection of nearly 52,000 video testimonies in 32 languages and from 56 countries. Thanks to the remote access made possible by I-2, Strassler Center students, faculty, and visitors to the Rose Library will be able to carry out their research with all of the benefits available to users at the actual archive in Los Angeles. As Ph.D. candidate Ilana Offenberger demonstrated, users can search the testimonies by name, place, and keyword.

Clips from the archive are integral to the *Echoes and Reflections* curriculum, which ADL New England Regional director and Clark alumnus Derrek Shulman '90 was proud to introduce to its first Massachusetts audience. In his gracious remarks he declared himself proud to be on the Clark campus and in the company of Center Director Debórah Dwork and trustee David Strassler. As a Clark undergraduate he had learned the value of being part of a shared community, he explained, and as a leader at ADL he is committed to building new bridges of understanding. He then turned the program over to facilitator Deborah Batiste who had helped to develop the curriculum and has been teaching it to educators around the country since its inception.

What does it mean to be Holocaust literate? Batiste asked her teacher audience. *Echoes and Reflections* seeks to answer that question by providing a comprehensive curriculum that draws upon a range of sources, including testimonies, photographs, and archival documents. Mindful that the ultimate audience for these lessons is adolescents, the curriculum is designed to resonate with young people; it uses the Holocaust to combat bigotry and hatred.

Beginning with a discussion about the November Pogrom, often called Kristallnacht, Batiste demonstrated how *Echoes and Reflections* provides diverse material to teach content. In order to develop a picture about that seminal event, the participants worked in groups to examine both primary and secondary sources. A rich discussion ensued. The picture deepened with the introduction of Thea Aschkenase, whose story of survival began with her memory of Kristallnacht as a Jewish girl living in Munich. Her recollections confirmed elements raised in the earlier discussion. Thea's story encompassed her family's experience as assimilated Jews gradually stripped of their rights who survived as refugees in Italy, in hiding, and in transit camps. Separated from her father and brother upon arrival at Aushwitz, Thea described how she and her mother managed to elude death. Eventually, they were transferred to a labor camp where they were liberated by the Russians, a situation which brought new dangers. Finally, back in Italy, they came to understand that they were the lone survivors of the family. They sought illegal passage to Palestine and were able to rebuild their lives, ultimately in the United States.

The workshop participants were deeply appreciative of Thea's presentation. Each thanked her warmly. *Echoes and Reflections* reminds educators and their students in turn, about the value of first person testimony. That was but one of the many lessons learned during a day devoted to pedagogy and made possible courtesy of our friends in the New England office of the ADL. —Mary Jane Rein



Thea Aschkenase addresses teacher participants in the *Echoes and Reflections* workshop.

**Learning how to access survivor testimonies is such a great opportunity to help students understand how people were able to survive and rebuild their lives. It is priceless.** —Carol Davidson, Rivers School, Weston, MA, *Echoes and Reflections*, Workshop Participant

10 SEPTEMBER 2009

On 10 September 2009, Strassler Center Director and Rose Professor Debórah Dwork commenced the Center's 2009–2010 lecture series with a moving presentation on her new book, *Flight from the Reich: Refugee Jews, 1933–1946*. University Provost (now president) David Angel welcomed Clark students, faculty, and Worcester community members to Tilton Hall and congratulated Professor Dwork on *Flight*, while recognizing her thirteen years of remarkable work heading the Center. Delighted by his warm introduction, Dwork noted how pleased she was to celebrate her bat mitzvah year as Director of the Strassler Center.

*Flight from the Reich*, co-authored with Robert Jan van Pelt, explores a less-known aspect of the Holocaust: the story of the nearly one million Jews who sought to escape the Nazis, most at the cost of their possessions and property, and enduring separation from family members. Suffering immense hardships, many formed new lives in new countries, sometimes permanently. Dwork also spoke about those infinitely less fortunate, who failed at attempts to flee and whom the Germans and their allies murdered. She framed her discussion by pointing out that historians have previously elided—or outright ignored—the plight of refugees from Nazi Europe. In the immediate postwar period, those coming out of camps were considered “survivors.” Those who survived in hiding and child survivors found their voices only in the last twenty years and now—with Dwork and van Pelt leading the way—refugees are finally receiving long overdue attention.

Professor Debórah Dwork signs books for undergraduates.



## DEBÓRAH DWORK: FLIGHT FROM THE REICH

Dwork used the example of Anne Frank, perhaps the best-known victim of the Nazis, to illustrate the importance of recognizing the refugee experience in the overall history of the Holocaust. Although people the world over read Frank's diary and know her story of hiding in the Netherlands, most incorrectly regard her as a Dutch Jewish victim. Frank was, in fact, a German Jew. Her parents realized the dire situation in Amsterdam and organized a hiding place for their family much earlier than Dutch Jews specifically because of their experience as German Jews who had fled the Nazis. Their status as refugees actually framed their response to the Nazi invasion and shaped their actions in ways different from their Dutch co-religionists.

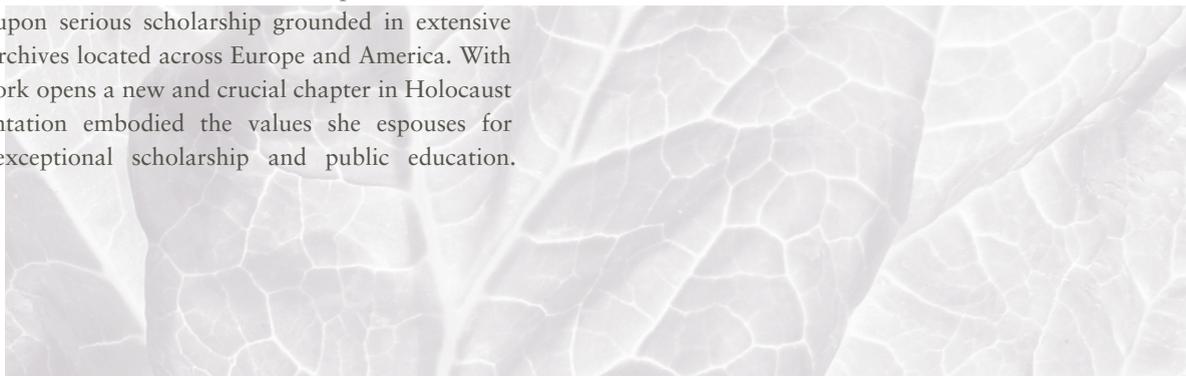
With this striking example, Dwork proceeded to explore little known stories of flight from Nazi persecution, highlighting how luck, fortuitous circumstances, and timing shaped refugees' experiences and chances for survival. She described the progression of refugees' movements in France and how the Nazi trap slowly closed upon them. She also traced the specific movements of Jenny Gans-Premsele and her husband Max Heimans Gans, Dutch Jews who slipped through Belgium and France into Switzerland, contrasting their success with the story of the Sonabend family, Belgian Jews who succeeded in entering Switzerland only to be sent back across the border by Swiss officials.

Using her gifts for storytelling, Dwork conveyed glimpses of the refugee experience with her characteristic warmth and passion. Yet her engaging style is built upon serious scholarship grounded in extensive research carried out in archives located across Europe and America. With *Flight from the Reich* Dwork opens a new and crucial chapter in Holocaust scholarship. Her presentation embodied the values she espouses for the Strassler Center: exceptional scholarship and public education.

—Elizabeth Anthony



Rose Professor Debórah Dwork.



# ERIC BLINDERMAN: THE IRAQI HIGH TRIBUNAL: LESSONS FROM THE TRIAL OF SADDAM HUSSEIN

7 OCTOBER 2009

As Associate General Counsel of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq and later as Chief Legal Counsel and Associate Deputy to the Iraqi Regime Liaison's Office, Attorney Eric Blinderman played a key role in a notorious trial. From March 2004 until December 2006, Blinderman advised the Iraqi High Tribunal (IHT) as it tried members of the former Baath regime, including Saddam Hussein, for atrocities committed against the Iraqi people. His 7 October 2009 lecture, *The Iraqi High Tribunal: Lessons from the Trial of Saddam Hussein*, presented an inside view of the transitional justice process to Clark students, faculty, and individuals from across Massachusetts who crowded into the Rose Library at Cohen Lasry House.

Blinderman's tenure in Iraq began shortly after Saddam Hussein's December 2003 capture by U.S. forces, when he agreed to serve as Associate General Counsel to Paul Bremer, head of the Coalition Provisional Authority. Although opposed to the invasion, Blinderman felt a moral obligation to "put right what we made wrong," namely to help rebuild Iraq and serve his own country. Arriving in early 2004, Blinderman did not imagine that his 90-day tour of duty would last nearly three years and thrust him into the forefront of U.S. foreign policy.

The U.S. legal team in Baghdad was assigned to the Regime Crimes Liaison Office, an organization tasked by the new Iraqi Provisional Government to prosecute crimes pertaining to genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. The Iraqi High Tribunal, a domestic court formed by the Iraqi National Assembly and embedded in Iraq's permanent constitution, conducted the trial. Blinderman's task was to advise the prosecution, to ensure that the trial comported with international standards and that the tribunal complied with international mandates regarding civil and political rights. Blinderman's team also ensured that the Iraqi judges were competent and that the prosecution and defense were prepared to try their cases.

The initial charges related to the Dujail Massacre of 1982. Following an assassination attempt against Saddam in the vicinity of Dujail, a town of some 75,000 inhabitants near Baghdad, several hundred suspects along with their relatives were arrested, imprisoned,

and subjected to torture and interrogation. Hundreds were executed within 24 hours. The challenge facing the prosecution was to demonstrate "joint criminal enterprise," to prove beyond any reasonable doubt that Saddam exercised command responsibility at the time of the massacre. As an assistant to the prosecution, Blinderman helped exhume, identify, and prepare evidence collected from mass graves.

Saddam Hussein was convicted and sentenced to death for the Dujail massacre on 5 November 2006. Unfortunately, in Blinderman's view, the trial was unduly complicated by the ongoing insurgency; as former Baathists and insurgents used violence and coercion in an attempt to influence the outcome. Yet, the IHT might have been deployed as a tool against the insurgency had it been able to persuade the Iraqi people that this undertaking was both needed and just. Instead the Iraqi public was not kept informed about the proceedings, the charges leveled against the perpetrators, or the details of the trial.

Blinderman suggested viewing the Iraqi experience as a litmus test for the ability of the international community to help a national government prosecute former leaders accused of mass atrocities. He cautioned against holding war crimes trials in a hostile home environment, noting that several lawyers and witnesses in the Saddam trial were murdered. Domestic war crimes tribunals should strive for public outreach and provide regular briefings on court and trial developments. Not only would this enhance public knowledge about the proceedings, it would impede the constant speculation, misinformation, and rumors that so often overwhelm such high-profile proceedings.

Citing the Nuremburg trials, which were criticized at the time but eventually lauded, Blinderman concluded on a hopeful note. He stressed that the success or failure of the Hussein trial will ultimately be judged on whether its lessons are instructive for future post-conflict trials. Billed as the Center's Especially for Students lecture, his presentation resonated strongly with students in the audience who questioned Blinderman at length, demonstrating that the trial of Saddam Hussein has already proved instructive.

—Michael Geberan

HGS undergraduate students.



## BASKIN ORAN: DENIALISM AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN TURKEY

20 OCTOBER 2009

Kaloosdian Mugar Professor Taner Akçam proudly introduced his friend Baskin Oran, Professor of International Relations in the Faculty of Political Science at Ankara University, to faculty, staff, students, and friends of the Strassler Center. A champion of democracy and human rights in Turkey, Oran spoke about *Denialism and Civil Society in Turkey*. In Akçam's appreciative words, Oran, who is an expert on minority rights, "holds up a mirror to Turkish society."

Oran explored Turkey's success in denying the Armenian genocide and the causes for denialism. Refutation of the mass killings carried out by the Young Turk regime of the Ottoman Empire is so deeply ingrained that it is perpetuated on both the state and popular level. (Oran himself declines to use the word "genocide" emphasizing that everybody should use the term that they think appropriate for these events.) Yet, despite the long-standing taboo against discussing the Genocide, Turks have begun to learn from pioneers such as Taner Akçam. And the assassination of Armenian journalist Hrant Dink in 2007 proved a watershed event that prompted a shift in Turkish society.

Oran described the recent "Apology Campaign" launched in Turkey in December 2008. More than 30,000 scholars, public intellectuals, and concerned Turks of all walks of life signed an online petition of individual apology for the Armenian genocide. They signed out of a sense of moral obligation and so that the Armenians could symbolically bury their dead. They also hoped to force a public conversation. According to Oran, "there is no such thing as collective guilt, but there is a notion of collective conscience." Although not monolithic in their respective arguments, the campaign faced opposition from radical Turks and Armenians in the Diaspora. The former were offended by the proclamation of apology; while the latter rejected a non-official apology and took issue with the campaign's use of the Armenian locution for "great catastrophe" rather than genocide.

Ottoman Turks committed the genocide against the Armenians; the succeeding Turkish Republic hid that crime from their citizens. Oran argued that Turkish society suffers from a "siege mentality" that arose in the aftermath of the First World War. As a result, Turkey has refused to acknowledge its minority populations, a situation which fuels state denial. Additional factors contribute to denialism: the refusal to admit to actions as crimes and use of the "g-word" (genocide) which is perceived as a legal term with political and possibly material implications. Ordinary Turks object out of a conviction that genocide means Nazis; ruling elites fear the "3Rs" (recognition, reparation, restitution). While Armenians, particularly in the Diaspora, insist that Turkey acknowledge the Genocide.

Oran seeks a compromise position. He proposed that Turkey apologize for hiding the truth from its people and express sympathy for the Armenian people. Moreover, as a gesture of good will, Turkey should symbolically indemnify the lost property of Armenian victims. In his opinion, if Turkey admits to this crime, compensation and restitution claims would not ensue.

In the discussion following his lecture, Professor Oran spoke about how he came to know Armenians and how he became interested in the Armenian issue. Amazingly, living in a country once home to a robust Armenian population, Oran learned about Armenians and the genocide only by accident and late in life. "Knowledge is empathy," he suggested. And this may be the key to combating denial on both the civic and state level. —*Joanna Silwa*



Professor Baskin Oran, Ankara University.

**The ideas of Baskin Oran help to point the way forward for Turkish/Armenian dialogue. Whether one agrees or disagrees with every point he makes, his thoughtful analysis is a testament to the importance of scholarship and education in solving difficult political problems. Bravo to the Strassler Center for welcoming Professor Oran to Clark.**

—Gonca Sonmez-Poole, journalist

# THE ARMENIA TURKEY PROTOCOLS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

4 DECEMBER 2009

A panel of experts gathered at Tilton Hall on 4 December to discuss the protocols proposed as part of the effort to normalize political relations between the Republics of Armenia and Turkey. George Aghjayan of the Armenian National Committee of Central Massachusetts served as moderator. Three speakers, Professors Taner Akçam, Clark University; Asbed Kotchikian, Bentley University; and Henry C. Theriault, Worcester State College, presented a range of perspectives. Opening the event, Strassler Center Director Debórah Dwork noted that the Center embraces public service directed toward building a more peaceful future through reconciliation and rectification of historic injustices. To that end, the Center wished to provide a neutral space for dialogue about the vexed issue of Armenian-Turkish rapprochement and for future issues, as they may emerge.

George Aghjayan introduced the protocol debate by describing the issues that have drawn particular scrutiny from the Armenian community. He warned against framing the discussion in terms of nationalism and the rejection of rapprochement. Aghjayan outlined four main points of contention. The protocols do not endorse the Armenian right to self determination, nor do they address the question of restitution for Armenian losses in the Genocide. The border opening is an issue for Turkey alone as Armenia never closed its border. And the historical commission proposed by the protocols offers no guarantee that there will be a full and frank accounting about the Genocide.

Taner Akçam began the discussion with an endorsement of the protocols despite their flaws. He readily acknowledged that Armenians are right to feel suspicious because successive Turkish governments have been heir to a policy of denial that kept the Turkish population in the dark about the Genocide. But in his opinion, the protocols are like Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika. Gorbachev never intended to bring an end to the USSR but his policies did just that. Similarly, the protocols will end the Turkish Republic's denial industry. The old guard and the military have been pushed out of the Turkish political sphere. The burden is now on Ankara to determine whether to offer a tepid apology or to embrace acknowledgement of the Genocide. New methods are needed to help Turks face their past and the protocols suggest a new approach.

Speaking next, Henry Theriault introduced the idea of a moral imperative to address historical injustices. Such an imperative exists for all perpetrator nations, including the United States. In his view the protocols fail to state the simple fact of the genocide. More importantly, they do not recognize the fundamental inequalities between the nations. After decades of U.S. favoritism toward Turkey, it is unfair to expect the parties to work out issues alone, with Armenia negotiating from a position of weakness. Theriault argued that decades of denial have allowed Turkey to consolidate its gains from the Genocide. Moreover, Turkish gains are mirrored by Armenian losses. Reparations are needed to equalize the relationship and to end the material benefits that Turkey continues to enjoy.

Taking a position between the more optimistic Akçam and the skeptical Theriault, Asbed Kotchikian shifted the Armenia-Turkey protocols into yet another context: geo-politics. He described the shifting power balance in the Middle East pointing, in particular, to the growing influence of Russia. The opening of the Turkish-Armenian border would allow Russia to penetrate Turkey. Access to Turkey would accomplish two important goals for the Russians: increased influence over the resolution of ethnic conflicts in their satellite regions and the opportunity to control larger markets for their electricity and energy resources. Kotchikian closed by referring to the web site "Justice not Protocols" but he added his own twist: "Justice and Protocols." —*Emily Dabney*



Professors Asbed Kotchikian, Bentley University (left) and Henry C. Theriault, Worcester State College (right).

## SASHA CHANOFF: GENOCIDE AND REFUGEES IN AFRICA

18 FEBRUARY 2010

With passion and eloquence, Sasha Chanoff introduced the Clark University community to the organization he founded in 2005, Mapendo International. A lifeline for refugees, Mapendo seeks to care for people displaced by war and conflict who have fallen through the net of humanitarian assistance. Many remain at risk of further violence. Yet in the U.S. program to resettle refugees, thousands of slots go unfilled every year. Mapendo identifies endangered refugees who are eligible to fill some of those spaces and brings them to the United States.

There are over 3 million refugees across Africa, mostly from conflict zones such as Darfur, Somalia, and Congo. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN agency mandated to protect refugees, serves approximately 41% of this population. Mapendo seeks to help as many as possible of those who are not served by the UN program. In its first year of operation, Mapendo orchestrated the emigration of 50 refugees. In 2009, it rescued 5000. Chanoff's on-the-ground knowledge of how to help was honed through years of experience with the UNHCR, as International Development Professor Anita Fábos explained in her warm introduction of Chanoff to an audience of students eager to learn how to improve the lives of the most vulnerable individuals. Fábos spoke with intimate knowledge, having crossed paths with Chanoff more than a decade ago in Cairo as each pursued humanitarian projects.

Mapendo, meaning great love in Swahili, derives its name and inspiration from the story of Rose Mapendo. Chanoff met Rose in an International Red Cross protection center in Kinshasa, the capital of Congo. Rose and her family had endured months in prison by that time. The 1994 Rwandan genocide had spilled into Congo, with murder and persecution. Soldiers arrested Rose and her family, including her seven children; she was pregnant with twins. Her husband and other relatives were killed in prison. She gave birth, without assistance, on a concrete prison floor and cut the umbilical cord with a sharpened stick. Eight months after the birth of her twins, sympathetic Congolese delivered Rose and her children to the Red Cross.



Sasha Chanoff, founder of Mapendo International.

Chanoff arrived at the Kinshasa protection center in February 2000 with a list of evacuees to airlift from Congo. Rose and her family were not among the selected. But recognizing how vulnerable they were, Chanoff and his colleagues made a bold choice to include them. Told that this might endanger the entire mission, they ignored the advice of their home office and brought the family to safety. Rose and her children were resettled in Phoenix, Arizona where they have rebuilt their lives.

Justin, a member of the Bayemelenge tribe, is another Congolese rescued and resettled by Mapendo. He is featured in the soon-to-be released documentary *The Last Survivor*. Chanoff presented a touching clip showing Justin's journey to the United States and offering a window into his new life in America. His present circumstances stand in stark contrast to the misery he escaped in Africa. Orphaned as a young teenager in an episode of mass violence, he became an urban refugee in Nairobi, which currently hosts half a million refugees. Tragically, the Kenyans do not have the resources to support such an enormous and needy population.

The film features a conversation between Chanoff and Justin, in which Chanoff reflects on his family's refugee origins in the United States. His grandmother fled persecution in Russia. "My family has gone through the same things as your family," Chanoff tells Justin, "it was just one hundred years ago. I could be you very easily."

Chanoff concluded his lecture by explaining that the refugees he has met and saved have inspired him deeply. His work and presentation left his audience equally inspired. —Alexis Herr

9-10 APRIL 2010

Armenian Genocide historiography has made great strides over the past two decades. Yet, there remains much unexplored ground, as several archives are barely researched, if at all. The time was ripe for scholars to assess where scholarship is and where it will go. The workshop on *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research* at Clark University was thus both groundbreaking and timely.

The workshop, held 9–10 April 2010, was organized by Taner Akçam, the Robert Aram and Marianne Kaloosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Professor of Armenian Genocide Studies at the Strassler Center; Eric Weitz, Arsham and Charlotte Ohanessian Professor at the University of Minnesota; and the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR). Bringing together scholars from Turkey, Armenia, Europe, and the U.S., the workshop explored the range of primary materials, official documents, statistics, and survivor and witness testimonies pertaining to the Armenian Genocide found in various government and private archives and collections.

“Our task was to assess the current state of research and consider the sources and materials available in the various archives: we took a very useful photograph of the field of Armenian Genocide studies,” said Prof. Akçam. “We located Armenian Genocide research more precisely in the field of genocide research in general.” Professor Weitz agreed. In his presentation, he noted the need to situate the Armenian Genocide in both a broad context—prior to, during, and after the genocide—and a specific context—of nation and state building, population politics, and the modern era.

Marc Mamigonian, NAASR Director of Academic Affairs, was pleased to observe that “If there was one point of total consensus, it was that the phase of ‘proving the genocide’ in an academic sense has past.” He added, “The field has surely matured to the point where the full range of available sources, archival and published, must be drawn upon—not to ‘make a case’ that has already been well established, but to deepen our understanding of what happened, why it happened, how it happened, and what were the repercussions.”



Panelist, Professor Margaret L. Anderson,  
University of California, Berkeley.

## ARMENIAN GENOCIDE RESEARCH

During the six sessions of the conference, scholars mapped out, piece by piece, the available archives and materials that shed further light on the Armenian Genocide. These ranged from the Boston ARF archives to the archives in Scandinavian countries, from the German archives to the collection housed at the Noubar Library in Paris, and from the Ottoman archives to the archives in Jerusalem and Yerevan. Going beyond the descriptive, the scholars explored what these collections bring to the scholarship, and addressed the challenges—political or bureaucratic—of accessing these materials.

The conference was aimed at an academic audience and was closed to the public apart from an evening presentation, *The Armenian Genocide: 95 Years Later*. Clark’s Tilton Hall filled with a general audience eager to gain insights from a panel of junior and senior scholars. Strassler Center Director Debórah Dwork moderated the discussion; she began by noting how near we are to the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The featured panelists offered academic and personal reflections and included: Uğur Üngör, a postdoctoral research fellow at the Center for War Studies, University College Dublin; Margaret L. Anderson, professor of history at the University of California, Berkeley; Richard Hovannisian, Armenian Educational Foundation chair in modern Armenian history at UCLA; Nazan Maksudyan, a post-doctoral fellow of the Europe in the Middle East-Middle East in Europe (EUME) program of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

A multi-day workshop that breaks so much ground cannot but conclude with a tacit promise of a follow-up workshop, when scholars, after delving into all of these archives, return with the “loot”: a wealth of new findings on the why and how of the Armenian Genocide. —*Khatchig Mouradian*

**I would like to add my word of thanks to Taner and all the organizers and supporters for a most interesting and, I believe, most productive conference. It was good seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I particularly enjoyed meeting our colleagues from Turkey. We have come a long way, yet there is a long way to go. I was inspired by the quality and quantity of outstanding scholarship.**

—Professor Dennis Papazian, University of Michigan, Dearborn

29 APRIL 2010

The colloquium *Holocaust Memory: Legacies of Disaster or Lessons of Cosmopolitanism?* held on 29 April 2010 was the culmination of a seminar on collective memory and mass violence. Selected as the Higgins seminar for the best interdisciplinary course of the year, the syllabus covered theories of collective memory, the impact of trauma on memory, and the various ways in which collective memory is constructed, transformed, and manipulated. Co-taught by Professor Thomas Kühne and Cristina Andriani, Weil Fellow in the Psychology of Genocide, the course intertwined psychology and history to explore collective memories of World War I, World War II, the Holocaust, and the Vietnam War. The colloquium posed questions about Holocaust memory: Is it possible to learn the “right” lessons from the Holocaust? Is there any hope that “Never Again” will become something more than an empty phrase?

Professors Daniel Levy of the State University of New York, Stony Brook and Omer Bartov of Brown University were the featured scholars. They discussed their opposing views on whether Holocaust memory can transform present and future understandings of mass violence and human rights. Levy approached the topic from his discipline of sociology and argued for cosmopolitanism—in his view, globalization universalizes collective memories, which are absorbed by nations and placed beside their own nationalist composition of these same memories. Thus, collective memories are both local and global and can be utilized to develop human rights. Bartov rebutted Levy’s argument with a less optimistic perspective. He challenged historians to undertake localized research projects to uncover the nuances of past violence in remote areas that remain unexplored. He posited that rather than allowing memory to become universal, thereby losing depth and detail, scholars have a responsibility to discover what really happened in the Holocaust, which may (or may not) lead to the establishment of universal human rights.

Seminar students worked in teams to address key issues of collective memory and they presented their ideas in posters at the colloquium. They discussed how

nations, societies, groups, and individuals remember war and genocide. Topics included genocide education in high school, the portrayal of Nazi perpetrators in popular media, transgenerational transmission of trauma in second and third generation survivors of the Holocaust, and a comparison of victimhood and memorialization in Ukraine and Poland.

Well attended by graduate and undergraduate students, as well as faculty from a number of departments—psychology, Jewish studies, and history among them—the colloquium, like the course, was truly interdisciplinary. The debate between Levy and Bartov led to an animated discussion on whether it is more important to examine what is remembered or forgotten than how it is remembered or forgotten. The discussion ranged from memory construction, to its impact on human rights, to the inaction and action of various countries under the guise of human rights. Harvard Professor Jens Meierhenrich, the Center’s Cathy Cohen Lasry Visiting Professor, emphasized the importance of understanding the purpose and construction of human rights documents within the context of the memory of Holocaust atrocities. Were countries acting or not acting out of political-self interest with regard to human rights or in the name of cosmopolitan memory? Ultimately the colloquium served to prompt thoughtful analysis and discussion rather than answer questions. As Psychology Professor Johanna Vollhardt noted, “An impressive range of topics. Every part of the colloquium raised questions.” In sum, the symposium was a great success in raising significant issues which many Center graduate students will tackle in a host of dissertation topics that address the formation of Holocaust memory. —*Cristina Andriani*

## HOLOCAUST MEMORY: LEGACIES OF DISASTER OR LESSONS OF COSMOPOLITANISM?

Weil Fellow Christina Andriani, Professors Omer Bartov, Brown University, Daniel Levy, State University of New York, Stonybrook, and Thomas Kühne, Clark University.





The home of Elisabeth Luz, Stäfa, Switzerland (photo, Mikal Brotnov).

Letters provide valuable source material to scholars. They elucidate how the public and private spheres interconnect and they give voice to people's daily lives. A unique trove of more than 3,000 letters, written by children separated from their parents during the Nazi period, forms the cornerstone of the *Letters Project*. The correspondence exists thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Elisabeth Luz, a single woman living in Stäfa, Switzerland. By copying the correspondence sent to her in the neutral Alpine state, she served as an intermediary passing letters between recipients in nations at war. When the letters were entrusted to Professor Debórah Dwork many years ago by Ulrich Luz, a theologian and nephew of Ms. Luz, the digital technology did not exist to preserve them. Excited as I was to handle these rare, original materials, I did not anticipate how profoundly the struggles they spelled out would affect me personally and as a future historian.

What began as a technical task grew ever richer as I came to know the writers through their letters. They illustrate the rupture that children sent to safety endured and their poignant attempts to maintain and, later, reconstruct familial bonds. As the children became adults, Tante (Aunt) Elisabeth continued as a presence in their lives. More than an intermediary, she proved a thread through the lives of those she helped, continuing to receive engagement announcements, photos of their children, and postcards from their travels.

## LETTERS PROJECT

I, too, followed the course of their lives and was shocked by the premature deaths of many, like Werner Klopstock, one of my favorite children, who were murdered at Auschwitz. The material filled thirteen binders each averaging 110–130 sleeves of letters and collateral pieces. I scanned every item—letters, photos, and cards—front and back. As I proceeded, I developed a registry with data on every item including date sent, who wrote, to whom, and address if noted. The registry will enable cross referencing as the project develops.

Scanning such a large body of material over a ten-month period might seem mechanical or routine. Quite the opposite. The letters are written primarily in German and French and most are several pages long. I read all of them to determine the page order as the ordering differs from common American custom today. Reading them proved an intense experience: they reveal the stories of lives at stake. And I began to feel myself walking in the footsteps of Elisabeth Luz, so much so that I visited her home in Stäfa while in Europe for the summer.

My fellow Clark student, Victoria Corke '11, worked with me throughout the year. Her job was to embed a digital watermark and metatag into each scan. Professor Dwork was on sabbatical during the spring semester and Victoria spent that semester in Peru. I remained on campus. Victoria had a lap top and external hard drive that permitted her to receive these very large files.

This project enriched my understanding of historical methodology. I began to think about how to tell a story with letters. They prompted me to think about the kinds of evidence available for my senior honors thesis on Native American children during the Indian Boarding School Project. I learned how important the voices of children are and the value of primary source material. Working to bring this material to the attention of the public and eventually to school children in particular has been deeply rewarding.

—Mikal Brotnov '10

**Mikal and Victoria brought the *Letters Project* a huge step forward. Thanks to their painstaking work, our goal of a Web archive, accessible to all – school children, teachers, scholars – is now a step nearer.** –Professor Debórah Dwork

## PROFESSOR CECILIE STOKHOLM BANKE: FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR- IN-RESIDENCE

Faculty and student exchange lie at the heart of the Center's partnership with the Department of Holocaust and Genocide Studies of the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) in Copenhagen. Established in 2005 with a gift from Howard and Hanne Kulin, the collaboration furnishes the Center with a European perspective on Holocaust scholarship, education, and memory. A semester-long visit by DIIS senior researcher, Professor Cecilie Stokholm Banke, furthered that goal. The Louis and Ann Kulin Endowed fund supported Professor Banke, who also held a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence fellowship secured by the Center on her behalf.

During Banke's fall visit she forged meaningful relationships with Center doctoral candidates in a graduate seminar and with Clark undergraduates in a lecture class. In both settings, she gained valuable insights into American higher education while imparting how European nations approach Holocaust remembrance, post-conflict justice, and current genocides. These matters are central to the mission and activities of the DIIS which, unlike the Strassler Center, is not primarily a teaching institution. Indeed, the governmental dimension of Professor Banke's scholarship and professional activities was a recurring theme of her visit.

As a member of the fall 2008 Danish delegation to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Banke participated in briefings on peace keeping operations. She observes a shift in UN policy over the last decade toward an increased focus on prevention under the guiding principle "Responsibility to Protect." Her personal experience of the UN prompted Political Science Professor Srini Sitaraman to invite her to address students taking part in a Model UN simulation on the Afghanistan-Pakistan crisis and its impact on international peace. Dressed in formal attire and using parliamentary procedure, as in the UNGA, students represented key states from around the world and debated the possibility of passing a resolution to address the escalating crisis. In her keynote remarks, Professor Banke combined scholarship with her perspective as a government official in explaining what the UN means to a small European country like Denmark.

In her research and teaching, Professor Banke examines the legacy of the Holocaust and its implications for contemporary European culture and



Visiting Professor Cecilie Stokholm Banke, Danish Institute for International Studies.

present-day politics. Her findings inform her participation as a Danish delegate to the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (ITF). In that capacity, as a party to a leading global forum, she is able to integrate her academic findings with real-world practice. During regular meetings throughout the semester, she shared insights and practical advice gained from membership in the ITF with Center Director Debórah Dwork.

Professor Banke generously gave a presentation to the Center community on *The Legacies of the Holocaust and European Identity After 1989*. She explained that the resurgence of ethnic nationalism following the fall of communism and genocide in the Balkans awakened Europeans to the unresolved history of the Holocaust. In Professor Banke's view, the crime of the Holocaust is a unifying experience for those nations that have faced their history and have embraced the need for public memory. Moreover, an emerging European commitment to global human rights demands accounting for "Holocaust guilt" in order to promote a new moral standard. A shared set of values has emerged since 1989 that sees European identity as founded on tolerance, diversity, and respect for human dignity. In Professor Banke's analysis, these values derive from the moral lesson of the Holocaust.

Professor Banke's expertise in memory culture—an area of growing significance in Holocaust scholarship—added an important dimension to student and faculty research at the Strassler Center. Continued collaboration with the DIIS extends the opportunity to investigate the relationship between national narratives and international politics as seen through Holocaust remembrance. —Mary Jane Rein

**We believe in the compounding effect of Center interchange. Multicultural input brings enormous benefit to all those involved.** —Howard Kulin, Center benefactor

## LINKAGES

Linkages between the Strassler Center and institutions around the world, across the United States, and within Massachusetts grew ever stronger this year. A prime example is the Shoah Foundation Institute Visual History Archive (SFI). Long a destination requiring a cross country research trip, the Shoah archives are now accessible in the Center's Rose Library. The distance between the Clark campus and USC, the Los Angeles home to the archive, has been collapsed by digital technology. A fall 2009 teacher education workshop inaugurated its use. The Center hosted a group of teachers for training on *Echoes and Reflections*, a curriculum developed by ADL in partnership with Yad Vashem and SFI which utilizes the testimonies in the archive (see page 4). With the archive now just a computer click away, Administrative Assistant Margaret Hillard and second-year doctoral student Joanna Sliwa traveled to a spring conference at USC to share experiences with other SFI receiver sites about integration of the archive into programming, research, and teaching.

In the realm of teaching, another important partner enjoyed a significant presence at the Center this year: the Danish Institute for International Studies. DIIS Senior Researcher Cecilie Stokholm Banke spent the fall term at the Center as Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (see page 13). During her extended visit, supported by the Louis and Ann Kulin Endowed Fund, she deepened relationships with Center faculty, students, and staff. These ties continued to grow after she returned to Copenhagen. Eager to learn from leading scholars in the field of Armenian Genocide research, Professor Banke returned to the Center in April as an observer to the Armenian Genocide workshop. And doctoral students Jody Manning and Alexis Herr traveled to Copenhagen as participants in a workshop on post-war memory of the Holocaust sponsored by DIIS in May.

Conferences hosted by the Strassler Center have emerged as fruitful opportunities for collaboration. The April workshop on *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research* was such an occasion, drawing thirty scholars representing a host of leading institutions in ten countries. The National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (Belmont, MA) director Marc Mamigonian suggested the idea to Kaloosdian Mugar Professor Taner Akçam. They reached out to Eric Weitz, Arsham and Charlotte Ohanessian Chair at the University of Minnesota. Working together, Akçam, Mamigonian, and Weitz envisioned the scope and purpose of the workshop, organized and funded it, and assembled scholars from around the world for a highly productive three-day event (see page 10).

Peruse the news on faculty, doctoral students, and graduates for more about how our partnerships with these organizations enrich and are enriched through joint initiatives and academic cooperation:



Nancy Kolligian, Chairman, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research.



ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

ARMENIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE

AUSCHWITZ INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

DANISH INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

DERSIM ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

THE FRIENDS OF HRANT DINK FOUNDATION

GENOCIDE INTERVENTION NETWORK

GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

HADASSAH BRANDEIS INSTITUTE

INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF GERMAN JEWS, HAMBURG

THE JEWISH FOUNDATION FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

JEWISH WORLD WATCH

THE MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE - A LIVING MEMORIAL TO  
THE HOLOCAUST

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND  
RESEARCH

SHOAH FOUNDATION INSTITUTE

SOUTH AFRICAN HOLOCAUST FOUNDATION

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

YAD VASHEM

YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH



Derrek Shulman '90, Regional Director of New England ADL, Mary Jane Rein, Executive Director, Strassler Center, Johnathan Kappel '81, Director of Development, New England ADL.



# FACULTY NOTES

Center faculty create the core intellectual community our students enjoy. Looking to the future, we aim to grow our scholarly reach with the addition of faculty working in synergistic areas as our doctoral program branches into new areas of inquiry.



Center Director and Rose Professor Debórah Dwork.

## FACULTY PROFILES

### DEBÓRAH DWORK

Asked what she appreciated most this year, Center Director and Rose Professor Debórah Dwork did not hesitate. “The fresh ideas of new and visiting faculty, the excitement of our students as they move forward in the program and on to their research projects, and the delight we all feel as we complete one study and embark upon the next.” And she added: “We’ve enjoyed all of that in 2009–2010!” Thanks to a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship and a gift from Hanne and Howard Kulin to foster collaboration with the Danish Institute for International Studies, Professor Cecilie Stokholm Banke served as a visiting professor in the fall term. A scholar and a delegate to the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research, Banke brought a multi-layered perspective to the courses she taught. Mentoring Center graduate students, Banke left a legacy. As did Jens Meierhenrich, who served as the Cathy Cohen Lasry Visiting Professor in the spring term. In the throes of completing *Genocide: A Reader*, Meierhenrich brought his seminar class into the project as critical readers. “It goes without saying—but nevertheless should be said—that teaching and mentoring are crucial; they define the program. Jens’s and Cecilie’s scholarship enriched immeasurably the doctoral and undergraduate education offered by the Center.”

The program was enriched, too, with the welcome addition of Professor Johanna Vollhardt, who joined the Psychology Department this year, with an affiliate position at the Center. “Johanna is key to the future of the interdisciplinary psychology of genocide doctoral degree track; her expertise adds another dimension to it.”

Taner Akçam, Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor of Armenian Genocide Studies and Olga Litvak, Leffell Professor of Modern Jewish Studies, arrived a year before Vollhardt, and were in full swing in 2009–2010. Their scholarship and teaching yielded new shoots of intellectual growth, fostering the Center’s rigorous doctoral student culture. “The graduate students flow in and out of all of our offices, and we see amazing results,” Dwork observed. The students’ success

winning fellowships and securing selection to speak at conferences corroborated her assessment. “This reflects the caliber of our students and it reflects the superb mentoring they get from all faculty.”

That mentoring comes from scholars at other institutions as well as from Clark, Dwork pointed out. Five students passed their oral comprehensive exams and defended their dissertation proposals this spring, and two defended their dissertations. These pivotal moments brought a glittering array of experts to the Center. “Every one of these professors gave the gift of their scholarship—and of their time and effort. It is as if, in addition to our Center here, we have developed a center-without-walls, leveraging excellence to educate another generation to take the field forward.” Atina Grossman (Cooper Union) and Marsha Rozenblit (Univ. of Maryland) serve on Betsy Anthony’s dissertation committee; Vicki Caron (Cornell) and Aron Rodrigue (Stanford) on Emily Dabney’s; Aomer Boum (Univ. of Arizona) served on her oral comprehensive exam committee. Harold Marcuse (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara) and Marla Stone (Occidental) lend their expertise to Alexis Herr’s dissertation work, and Nancy Harrowitz (Boston University) to her comps. Jonathan Heuner (Univ. of Vermont) offers his help to Jody Manning. And Yehuda Bauer (Yad Vashem and Hebrew University, emeritus) and Antony Polonsky (Brandeis) serve on Raz Segal’s dissertation committee. Each of these scholars offers advice and insights from the dissertation proposal through to final manuscript. Dottie Stone’s and Ilana Offenberger’s finished work and defense presentations reflected how greatly they had benefited from the critical eyes and practical suggestions of Milton Shain (Cape Town University) and Evan Burr Bukey (University of Arkansas), respectively. Stone gained much, too, from Beverly Grier (formerly at Clark, now at North Carolina A&T) and Offenberger from Walter Schatzberg (Clark). “Stunning generosity,” Dwork exclaims. “Time is the coin of an academic’s realm, and they, leading experts in their fields, invest in our students.”

Dwork served as Offenberger’s and Stone’s dissertation director. She smiles remembering their dissertation defenses. “You know the student has nailed it when the key question is: ‘What press can we approach to publish this?’” She serves, too, as dissertation director of four of the five who flew through their proposal defenses and is on the committee of the fifth. They, in addition to five more in the writing stage and two developing their proposals, claim a lot of her time.

Doctoral student mentoring is but one aspect of Dwork’s multi-faceted job; she is also a dynamic Director of the Center, ferocious scholar, and committed educator of all sorts of learners. All of it flows from her dedication to Holocaust history and genocide studies. She finds that her endeavors in one area nourish her efforts in another: scholarship informs teaching; both shape her vision of the Center; and her experience as Director points her to little studied aspects of history. An invitation from Jolanta Ambrosewicz-Jacobs to

write “The Challenges of Holocaust Scholarship: A Personal Statement” for an edited volume, *Voices of Scholars*, afforded Dwork an opportunity to crystallize some of these thoughts. Indeed, she has long claimed that she never knows precisely what she thinks until she hammers her argument into prose. She was thus delighted to rewrite a paper she had given (May 2009) at a symposium hosted by the Institute for the History of German Jews in Hamburg for publication in *Jewish Perspectives on the “Forced Emigration” Period (1938/9 to 1941) until Deportation and Ghettoization*, edited by Susanne Heim, Beate Meyer, and Francis Nicosia, and due to hit bookshops this fall. And an invitation from historian Peter Hayes and philosopher John Roth to write a chapter on “Rescue” in *The Oxford Handbook of Holocaust Studies* augmented her enthusiasm for her next single-authored work, *Saints and Liars: American Rescuers in Nazi Europe*. “Whoever thought I’d work on Americans?” Dwork observed. “But now that I have made their acquaintance across the divide of time, how could I not? Amazing people; people of improbable courage and ingenuity.”

Dwork’s enthusiasm is infectious, as a wide spectrum of audiences have found. The publication of *Flight from the Reich* in spring 2009 prompted invitations that spilled into the fall. She was delighted to be asked by Stern Professor Marilyn Harran to return to Chapman University to open the lecture series on “Memory and Meaning” presented by the Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education and the Stern Chair in Holocaust Education. Ralph and Sue Stern are key supporters of these initiatives at Chapman and, as they also support the visiting Scholar-in-Residence that Dwork held a month earlier in South Africa, Dwork was the Stern scholar on two continents. Moving with ease from academic to public to educator audiences, Dwork spoke about the refugee experience to gallery educators at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York; staff, teachers, and the public at Facing History and Ourselves in Brookline; major donors to the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford; and the Jewish community at the Central Queens YM&YWHA. Nor did she ignore the home crowd: she was thrilled to speak at Clark and honored that then Provost, now President, David Angel introduced her.

Dwork’s pioneering work early in her career on the social history of children prompted invitations elsewhere, from the kick-off lecture for a series on “Children of the Holocaust, War, and Genocide” organized by Richard Stockton College and the Margate (NJ) JCC, to a presentation at a conference on the Jewish family hosted by the Hadassah Brandeis Institute. She was joined by her former student Dr. Beth Cohen (now a lecturer at California State University, Northridge and a Project Leader for Facing History) “who gave a knock-out talk” and her current student, Joanna Sliwa, “whose presentation brought honor to herself—and to all of us here at the Center.” As she has done every summer for a decade, Dwork taught in the Summer Institute run by the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, of which she is the Vice-

Chair. And as she has done for a number of years, she taught in the educational programs for school teachers hosted by the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Her subject: Auschwitz. Her co-authored book (1996) on that terrible site was named by *Newsweek* (2009) as one of the “Ten Best Books about Poland during World War II.”

Dwork is a firm advocate of the importance of bringing scholarship to bear in the public realm. Learning from her colleague Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor Taner Akçam of the 1937-1938 *Dersim Oral History Project*, which he oversees as academic director, Dwork gladly joined the initiative. “This project sits right in my heart,” she explained. “It is about the use of history to address historical injustices.” Dwork has recorded Holocaust survivors’ and rescuers’ oral histories for a quarter of a century and she brought that experience to the Dersim Project. “This is a grassroots effort by the community to document the atrocities perpetrated against them by the Turkish government. For me, it is inspirational. I stand ready to help.” That readiness took her to Berlin to work with interviewers and, she hopes, to Dersim in the future.

Using scholarship in the public domain takes many forms. Dwork was pleased to participate in the Salzburg Global Forum on “The Global Prevention of Genocide,” discussing the role of education and effective interface between academia and other organizations and institutions. And she was much in the media, offering her expertise on current events. From her position on pope Benedict XVI’s elevation of Pius XII (“Who the Church elevates is its business, but history is MY business, and Pius XII failed Europe’s Jews miserably, unconscionably”) to Rabbi Youlus and the Torah scrolls he sells (reality check, anyone?), she deployed her scholarship to analyze contemporary issues. Or, as in the case of the CBS “Sunday Morning” segment on Albania and the Holocaust, to help the public understand little known events. The Center, too, hit print and the airwaves with an AP story on the unique education it offers that was picked up by outlets from the *Washington Post* to the *Huffington Post*, followed by a CBS national radio news clip that went coast-to-coast.

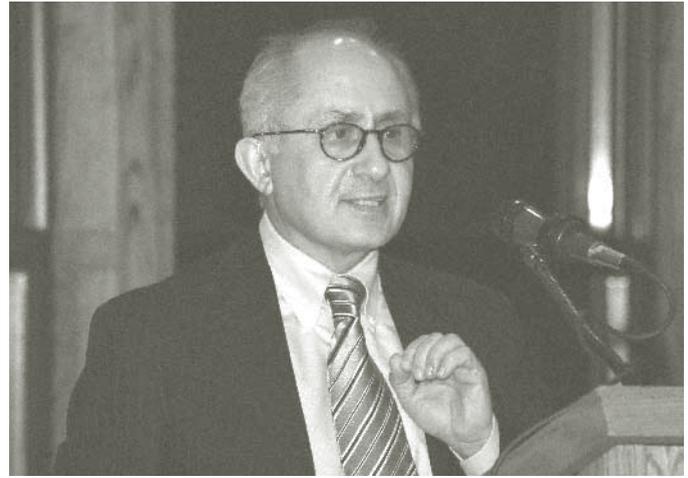
A no (undergraduate) teaching term in the spring gave Dwork a window to work on the introduction and annotated notes for a diary kept by a boy in Theresienstadt during his bar mitzvah year (Northwestern University Press). She recorded two sessions with author Pavel Weiner before he died suddenly. Pavel’s daughter Karen took over her father’s task of checking his English translation and generously worked with Dwork to ensure that his legacy will be preserved. “We know that the generation of survivors is shrinking. We know this. But it is a shock to lose someone so suddenly, and for the theoretical to become actual.” The loss underlined the Strassler Center’s mission for Dwork. “When memory dies, history provides the bridge to the past. It falls to us to add another span to that bridge.”—*Mary Jane Rein*

## TANER AKÇAM

Scholarship, teaching, and activism blend harmoniously in the work of Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor Taner Akçam. The first Turkish intellectual to discuss the Armenian Genocide openly, Akçam is the foremost scholar to interpret developments in Turkish society, politics, and foreign relations as they relate to documenting the Genocide. The protocols signed by Turkey and Armenia in fall 2009 prompted Akçam to organize a panel discussion (see page 8) hosted by the Strassler Center, to help the public understand the issues at stake. The media, both print and broadcast, sought his perspective and brought it to the attention of the public in the United States and abroad. His television and radio interviews, editorials, and comments in the press this year are too numerous to list.

Akçam's research interest centers on the fate of minority groups in Turkey. He is a founder of the "Friends of Hrant Dink" Foundation which promotes the ideas of the assassinated Armenian-Turkish journalist and human rights activist who advocated for minority civil rights. The Friends sponsored a round table discussion with Hasan Cemal, grandson of Cemal Pasha, one of the key figures in the Armenian Genocide. The event was organized by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and the Carr Center on Human Rights. Akçam's research on mass violence against non-Turkish minorities includes the Pontian Greeks. He and George Shrinian are editing *Pontus Genocide*, a volume of papers presented at the November 2009 conference, *The Asia Minor Catastrophe*, hosted by the Pontian Greek Society of Chicago.

Akçam's focus on documentation of the persecution and massacre of minority groups includes a new project, *The 1937–1938 Dersim Oral History Project*. A province in eastern Anatolia, Dersim is home to a distinct ethnic-religious group of Alevites. Long mistakenly identified as Kurds, they were persecuted during Ottoman times and were targeted for forced assimilation and violence by the Turkish government. In 1937–1938, some 50,000 people were massacred. The Dersim community approached Akçam to help them document the massacre through interviews. Two oral history workshops in Berlin and Cologne gathered prospective interviewers to educate them about the process. Strassler Center Director Debórah Dwork and Professor Leyla Neyzi, an Oral Historian at Sabanci University in Istanbul, provided valuable expertise to the Berlin workshop. Meetings in Switzerland, France, Germany, and Turkey gathered Dersim people who can contribute to this project. The Shoah Foundation and the USHMM have consulted on guidelines, technical infrastructure, and training.



Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor Taner Akçam.

As this new project develops, Akçam continues to publish on topics he has long studied. His book, *The Policies Toward Armenians During the War Years According to Ottoman Documents*, is forthcoming. He published "Facing History: Denial and the Turkish National Security Concept" in *Shadow of War: A Social History of Silence in the Twentieth Century*, edited by Ruth Ginio, Jay Winter, and Efrat Ben-Ze'ev (Cambridge University Press, 2010). "The Young Turks and the Plans for the Ethnic Homogenization of Anatolia" will appear in *Borderlands: Shatterzones of Empires*, edited by Omer Bartov and Eric Weitz.

Eager to train doctoral students who share his focus on the Armenian Genocide, he was pleased to work with the Center's first Hausrath fellow Khatching Mouradian. In the fall, a second Hausrath fellow Ümit Kurt, also from Turkey, will join the program. Akçam remains a leading voice in Turkish intellectual circles and through his influence on younger scholars, he is a force for change in his native land.

Long before the signing of the Turkish-Armenian Protocols brought attention to the question of extant documentation of the Armenian Genocide, Akçam had begun to plan an international gathering of leading scholars to consider this subject. The highlight of the year was the spring conference, *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research: Historiography, Sources, and Future Directions* (see page 10). Thirty scholars from ten different countries gathered at Clark to discuss a wide range of archival and primary source documents. Berkeley Professor Margaret Anderson summed it up, "This may be one of those landmark conferences (like Istanbul in September 2005) that people will look back on and say: there was before April 2010, and there was after." Akçam and his co-organizers, NAASR and University of Minnesota Professor Eric Weitz, accomplished their goal: to "take a picture" of known resources and the progress of scholarship. The workshop fostered serious discussion among leading scholars in the field and new opportunities for collaborative research surely will follow. —Mary Jane Rein

## THOMAS KÜHNE

“Six years at Clark, each of them exciting, challenging, and successful, but this one was the best”—this is how Thomas Kühne, Strassler Professor of Holocaust History, reflects on an extraordinary year of teaching, advising, and writing. Dedicated to teaching students at all levels, Kühne was pleased to offer a mix of graduate and undergraduate courses. Most rewarding was a new interdisciplinary seminar, “Collective Memory and Mass Violence,” co-taught with doctoral student Cristina Andriani. Named Higgins Seminar in the Humanities, thanks to its innovative character, the seminar culminated with a symposium, *Holocaust Memory — Legacies of Disaster or Lessons of Cosmopolitanism* uniting undergraduate participants, doctoral students, faculty, and two outstanding guest speakers, Professors Omer Bartov and Daniel Levy (see page 11).

In his role as doctoral advisor, Kühne supervises six students. Robin Krause works on German opposition against the Herero genocide. This fall Jody Russell Manning defended his dissertation proposal comparing the social life of Poles and Germans living in the shadow of the Auschwitz and Dachau memorials. Cristina Andriani, the first doctoral student in the Psychology of Genocide track and co-advised by Psychology Professor Jaan Valsiner, focuses on Holocaust trauma in Jewish-Israeli identity. Michael Geheran studies the experiences of German Jewish World War I veterans under Nazi oppression. Kim Partee explores the grey zone between collaboration and victimization in the Ukraine through an investigation of the Trawniki men who were Nazi prisoners and death camp guards. Jan Taubitz examines changes in the narrative structure of Holocaust survivors’ life stories from 1945 to the present.

The range of topics Kühne advises mirrors the range of his own research in the cultural and social history of the Holocaust and Europe’s violent modernity. In the past year, Kühne’s book project, *Belonging and Genocide: Hitler’s Community, 1918–1945*, moved toward publication in fall by Yale University Press. In this illuminating study, Kühne offers a provocative explanation for what enabled millions of Germans to perpetrate or approve mass murder. It was not only hatred of Jews or coercion that shaped Germany as a genocidal society. The desire for a united “people’s community,” he contends, led Germans to conform in perpetrating genocide. Helmut Walser Smith, Martha Rivers Ingram Professor of History at Vanderbilt University, offers advance praise: this “explosive book forever alters our understanding of the wellsprings of the Holocaust.”

Together with Tom Lawson, Kühne is editing selected papers from the Strassler Center’s 2009 *International Graduate Student Conference on Holocaust and Genocide Studies*. They will appear in a special issue of the journal *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*. Several of Kühne’s own articles will appear in prominent edited

volumes in 2010 including *Todesraum: War, Peace, and the Experience of Mass Death, 1914–1915*, to be published in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern German History*, edited by Helmut Walser Smith.

As an ambassador of the Center’s mission, Kühne accepted invitations for media events, guest lectures, and conference presentations. He consulted on the BBC 4 documentary on WWII, “Shooting the War,” broadcast in 2010 in the United Kingdom. He participated in a roundtable discussion at the German Studies Association annual meeting, on “Todesraum: War, Peace, and the Experience of Mass Death, 1914–1945.” At a conference at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies in Germany, he explained how German World War II veterans fabricated their own myth of the Eastern Front to distract from their entanglement in the Holocaust. A grant from Clark’s Henry J. Leir Program allowed him to organize, together with sociology Professor Danny Kaplan of Bar Ilan University, an interdisciplinary workshop on *Friendship and the Nation: Political Emotions in the 20th Century* held in Luxembourg in March 2010.

Having joined the global advisory board of the Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies Network, Kühne continues to study the emotional dimensions of the Nazi annihilation program. One long-term research project explores the experience of shame and humiliation during and after the Holocaust for victims, bystanders, and perpetrators. He is planning an international conference on shame to be held at the Center in October 2011. During his sabbatical year (2010–2011), Kühne will complete a project that places current obsessions with body aesthetics into the context of modern racism, consumerism, and individualism. Awarded a prestigious Guggenheim fellowship, he has accepted an invitation to spend the coming year at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ.

—Jan Taubitz

Strassler Professor Thomas Kühne.



## OLGA LITVAK

Olga Litvak, an expert on the history and culture of East European Jewry, is the Michael and Lisa Leffell Professor of Modern Jewish History. A scintillating historian, she is equally proficient as a literary critic and scholar of modern art. She deploys these interests in her energetic teaching on Russian Jewish history, Yiddish literature, and the history of Israel. Litvak inspires her students, undergraduate and graduate, to take an unconventional approach to their studies and research.

Litvak enjoyed a stimulating and productive second year at Clark. Her current project, a biography of the Jewish writer and cultural entrepreneur, Sholem-aleichem, benefited from a 2009 Summer Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Russia's preeminent Jewish writer and a key figure in the creation of modern Yiddish literature, Sholem-aleichem had not been the subject of serious biography until now. Alongside this major endeavor, Litvak is writing a book entitled *Making Marc Chagall* which challenges conventional notions about Chagall's identity as a Jewish artist. Finally, her volume on the Jewish Enlightenment, *Haskalah*, will be published by Rutgers University Press in 2011, as part of the series *Keywords in Jewish Studies*.

In addition to these major book projects, Litvak published "Khavel and Her Sisters: Sholem-aleichem and the Lost Girls of 1905," in *Jewish Social Studies* (2009). Her paper "In the Evil Kingdom of Things: Sholem-aleichem and the Problem of Everyday Life in Jewish Literature" will be published in a forthcoming volume entitled *Violence and Jewish Daily Life in the East European Borderlands: Essays in Honor of John D. Klier* (Brighton: Academic Studies Press, 2011), edited by Eugene Avrutin and Harriet Murav. She presented the paper at last year's international conference, *Jews in the East European Borderlands*, held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The history department colloquium series provided the occasion to discuss a new project. Litvak talked about the public and private life of Rachelle Khin, a highly educated Russian-Jewish playwright and translator whose diary has recently been discovered. An archival treasure and important source for insight into the public role Jewish women played in 19th century Russian society, Litvak painted a vivid picture of an emancipated, modern, and secular Russian-Jewish woman. Her plan to edit and publish Khin's diary will be welcome news to her colleagues in Jewish studies.

The rich cultural life of East European Jewry, largely erased by the Holocaust, emerges from Professor Litvak's research. Thanks to her work, students of Holocaust history can glimpse the cultural losses that follow in the wake of the annihilation of European Jewry. —*Natalya Lazar*



Leffell Professor Olga Litvak.

**Working with the Center's graduate students this year has been both intellectually stimulating and personally rewarding. I am moved by their outstanding sense of moral commitment and deeply impressed by the range of talents and skills that they contribute to the experience of teaching history.** —Leffell Professor Olga Litvak

## JENS MEIERHENRICH

The Cathy Cohen Lasry Visiting Professorship in Comparative Genocide brings a distinguished scholar in this emerging field to the Center to teach and mentor doctoral students for a semester. Harvard Professor Jens Meierhenrich was pleased to join the Center in this capacity during the spring semester. He taught a graduate seminar, open to undergraduates as well, and he was a lively participant in Center activities.

Meierhenrich's appointment was a return engagement for him. Invited by the Center in 2007, he had presented a public lecture on judicial responses to genocide, beginning with the Nuremberg trials. His presentation inspired Center Director Debórah Dwork to suggest that Meierhenrich visit her graduate seminar and he used the opportunity to gather feedback on a new project, a compilation of extracts from 150 works, designed to acquaint students and scholars with canonical writing in the field. Now near completion, *Genocide: A Reader* (forthcoming, Oxford Univ. Press) served as the foundation for his course in spring 2010. According to Meierhenrich, "teaching the seminar was an opportunity that is rare to come by—to have feedback from students who study Holocaust and genocide exclusively and are well versed in this literature, before the final product goes to press." The production of the book, from conception to finish, was intertwined with his experience at the Center from 2007 to the present.

The *Reader* is but one of several projects Meierhenrich is bringing to conclusion. *Genocide: A Very Short Introduction* (forthcoming, Oxford Univ. Press) and a trilogy on genocide, *The Rationality of Genocide*, *The Structure of Genocide*, and *The Culture of Genocide*, are all forthcoming from Princeton University Press. Meierhenrich is equally interested in post-genocide societies. He has explored post-conflict justice widely and it is treated in another imminent book, *Lawfare: The Formation and Deformation of Gacaca Jurisdictions in Rwanda, 1994–2009*. Memorialization is another distinct aspect of his post-genocide research. He has conducted a multi-year project on the mapping of memory in Rwanda that is showcased in an interactive website, "Through A Glass Darkly: Genocide Memorials in Rwanda, 1994-present." Launched in conjunction with Harvard's Center



Cathy Cohen Lasry Visiting Professor Jens Meierhenrich.

for Geographic Analysis, the website, [www.genocidememorials.org](http://www.genocidememorials.org), provides a GIS-aided perspective on the spatial dimensions of memory in the wake of collective violence, drawing upon original geographic, ideographic, and photographic data collected on the ground.

Meierhenrich combines practical experience in the field and in international law courts with deep scholarship. Participating in the Salzburg Global Seminar on Prevention of Genocide and Mass Violence, he discussed the causes of genocide and international law. The seminar included leading scholars, Debórah Dwork among them, and policy makers who hope to translate scholarship into action.

A highlight of the summer was an award from the Rockefeller Foundation that brought Meierhenrich and two colleagues to the Bellagio Center on Lake Como in Italy. The idyllic setting allows scholars to spend time together in a removed location and is meant to promote innovative solutions to global issues. Collaborating with Sociology Professors John Hagan and Joachim Savelsberg, they developed their project on "Collective Violence, Collective Memory and Collective Responsibility."

Professor Meierhenrich anticipates his continued involvement with the Center but, sadly for our students, from a greater distance. The fall semester brings him to the London School of Economics and Political Science as Senior Lecturer in the Department of International Relations. That institution enjoys the good fortune of having Meierhenrich on their faculty just as his many important projects appear in print. —Mary Jane Rein

## VALERIE SPERLING

Valerie Sperling, Associate Professor of Political Science, served as Interim Coordinator of Undergraduate Activities during the 2010 academic year while Professor Shelly Tenenbaum enjoyed a sabbatical year. A previous recipient of Clark's distinguished Advisor of the Year Award (2005) and the Elmer Plischke Annual Faculty Research Award in Political Science (2003), Sperling's teaching and research include post-Soviet politics; comparative politics; communism; social movements; democratization; women's studies, and, most recently, globalization. As a Soviet specialist, Professor Sperling was pleased "to spend more time with faculty whose main research interests are in studying genocides about which I know very little—such as the 1938 Dersim genocide that I learned about from Taner Akçam at a Center steering committee meeting." Such were the rewards of her interim position.

Sperling became engaged with the Center a decade ago at the request of Professor Tenenbaum who encouraged her to teach a course on genocide in the former Soviet Union. Sperling developed "Mass Murder and Genocide under Communism," which has become a core course in the undergraduate concentration and one of its most popular offerings. Examining the origins and consequences of brutal state policies in three communist regimes of the twentieth century—the Soviet Union, China, and Cambodia—Sperling's course lays bare the genocidal policies of these regimes that continue to reverberate in international politics today.

In February, Sperling introduced the award-winning documentary film "S-21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine" to the Clark community. The film focuses on the infamous Tuol Sleng prison where thousands of Cambodians were tortured and killed during the late 1970s. Two survivors reunite at the prison where they confront former captors who revisit the past but do not admit guilt. According to undergraduate Holocaust and Genocide concentrator Kevin Hackley '10, the viewpoint of the perpetrators is valuable but their striking failure to acknowledge responsibility demonstrates the power of denial. Screening the film proved an important opportunity to call attention to this case of 20th century genocide.

Sperling's most recent book, *Altered States: The Globalization of Accountability* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) was co-winner of the prestigious Chadwick



Professor Valerie Sperling.

Alger Book Prize. Awarded by the International Studies Association, the prize recognizes the best new book on the subject of international organization and multilateralism. In this very timely study, Sperling investigates the effects of globalization on national governance. She looks at whether non-state actors, including major transnational organizations, can be held to account by citizens and she questions how these globalizing trends affect democracy.

Center faculty and students were privileged to have Professor Sperling serve in her interim role this year. Her scholarship on Russian politics, social movements, and collective global action reinforces the Center's mission to train and educate students by broadening their understanding to include the genocides perpetrated by communist-party-run governments. —*Kim Partee*

***Altered States* is an excellent book that is broad ranging and provides a rich store of insights on crucial aspects of globalization that are rarely addressed in depth with this level of flair. It is gracefully written and full of incisive points on the big issues it tackles. The book is timely and will find a wide audience in political science, sociology, and the broader attentive public outside academia.**

—Professor Steven Fish, University of California Berkeley

## JAAN VALSINER

Professor of Social Psychology Jaan Valsiner has been integral to fostering the Center's psychology of genocide doctoral stream, now in its second year. Together with Strassler Professor Thomas Kühne, Valsiner advises Weil Fellow Cristina Andriani, the first social psychology doctoral student with a focus on Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Delighted by the Center's enthusiasm for crossing disciplinary boundaries, he generously devotes time and intellectual energy to Center graduate students. In his opinion, "we really have a true chance to build an interdisciplinary synthesis between social psychology and social history—a rare opportunity that should not be missed." Valsiner mentored Tapper Fellow Jody Russell Manning by advising him on the theoretical areas of memory studies and serving as an examiner for his oral comprehensive exams. He directed an advanced doctoral seminar, "Culture and Identity," with Fromsom Fellow Michael Geheran and Hevrony Fellow Natalya Lazar. "Professor Valsiner's theoretical inquiry into the utopian thinking of Victor Klemperer provided new insights into the self identity of German-Jewish World War I veterans under Nazi oppression," opined Geheran. His clear and trenchant teaching ensures the loyalty of his students. "It is amazing how cultural and social psychology can explain central questions in genocide research. I look forward to studying with Professor Jaan Valsiner next semester as well," added Lazar.

A prolific scholar, Valsiner has contributed to more than thirty books and edited volumes, and has written over three hundred book chapters and journals. *Dynamic Process Methodology in the Social and Developmental Sciences* (Springer Publications) edited by J. Valsiner, P.C.M. Molenaar, M.C.D.P. Lyra, & N. Chaudhary was published in 2009. In addition to maintaining a rigorous publication pace, he is founder and editor of *Culture and Psychology* and *Integrative Psychological and Behavioral Science*. Valsiner's research and teaching encompasses the cultural organization of mental and affective processes in human development, the history of psychology as a resource of ideas for contemporary advancement of the discipline, and theoretical models for human beings as carriers of culture.

His work has attracted worldwide notice. Valsiner was the David Parkin Visiting Professor at the University of Bath, England and he received an Honorary Doctorate from the Universidad del Valle in Colombia in spring 2010. Assistant Professor of Psychology at California Lutheran University Dr. Rainer Diriwächter, Ph.D. '05, with whom Valsiner has frequently collaborated, remarks, "His work covers a wide spectrum of topics and takes into account the epistemology of many other disciplines beyond psychology, thus making his approach integrative and truly holistic. Dr. Valsiner has a unique flair for motivating the student to be creative, innovative, and to strive for excellence in scholarship."

Valsiner serves on the Holocaust and Genocide Studies steering committee where his involvement furthers the Center's collaboration with the Psychology Department. But it is in courses, seminars, and in advising students where the value of his commitment is most strongly felt. —*Jody Russell Manning*



Professor Jaan Valsiner.

## JOHANNA VOLLHARDT

From the moment Johanna Vollhardt joined the Psychology Department as an assistant professor in September 2009, she enhanced the multidisciplinary environment of the Strassler Center, where she serves as an affiliate faculty member in the innovative psychology of genocide track. The opportunity to incorporate historical perspectives into her quantitative social psychological research attracted Vollhardt, “Clark represents exactly this kind of approach: conducting ‘real world’ and socially relevant research, yet in a methodologically and theoretically rigorous manner. I very much value the interdisciplinary angle I get through my affiliation with the Strassler Center,” she explained.

Vollhardt completed her Ph.D. in social psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Mentored by Professor Ervin Staub, renowned for his work on the psychology of genocide, she studied in the peace and violence concentration. Her thesis was recognized with the Best Dissertation Award from the International Society of Political Psychology and the Gert Sommer Dissertation Award for Peace Psychology. While still a student, she began consulting with Radio La Benevolencija in Rwanda, a NGO dedicated to the production of radio programs addressing the roots of violence in Rwandan society and possible ways to overcome them. Transmitted to a society torn by genocide and trauma, these broadcasts aim to ensure that ordinary people overcome indifference to ethnic conflict and violence. In addition to scholarly expertise, Vollhardt brings a personal perspective: coming from a mixed Polish-German-Jewish family, she embodies the possibilities inherent in ethnic diversity.

This fall, Vollhardt will teach a multidisciplinary graduate seminar on the social psychology of ethnic violence and its aftermath. She will tackle issues that stand at the core of her research: the ways in which groups comprehend experiences of ethnopolitical victimization. The course will include discussions about negative and exclusionary outcomes of ethnic violence such as revenge, siege mentality, and competitive victimhood as well as the emergence of positive processes focused on inclusive victim consciousness, allowing expressions of prosocial solidarity with other oppressed and persecuted groups.

Warmly welcomed by her Clark colleagues, Vollhardt quickly became an active part of the vibrant scholarly milieu of the Strassler Center, where she participates in workshops, public events, and prospectus defenses of the Center’s doctoral students. She finds herself engaged by the research of many. “The Center’s doctoral students express much interest in psychological theories and I have had many interesting conversations,” she observed. In particular, she serves as a mentor to Cristina Andriani, the Robert Weil Fellow in the psychology of genocide track, participating as a member of her portfolio committee.

The fall will bring new opportunities, as Vollhardt will host a major conference on the Psychology of Genocide. She has already added much to the scholarly vitality of the Strassler Center and her stimulating scholarship combined with grassroots political activism demonstrates the possibility for impact within and beyond the academic world. —*Raz Segal*



Professor Johanna Vollhardt.

## PROGRAM FACULTY

The following faculty from seven academic departments participate in the Center's life and programs. We are grateful to all for their contributions of scholarship, expertise, and teaching.

**Taner Akçam, Ph.D.**, History Department,  
Kaloosdian Mugar Associate Professor of Armenian Genocide Studies  
and Modern Armenian History

**Paul Burke, Ph.D.**, Foreign Languages and Literatures Department,  
Professor of Classics

**Debórah Dwork, Ph.D.**, History Department,  
Director, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies,  
Rose Professor of Holocaust History

**Jody Emel, Ph.D.**, Graduate School of Geography,  
Professor of Geography

**Anita Fábos, Ph.D.**, Department of International Development,  
Community, and Environment  
Associate Professor of International Development and Social Change

**Everett Fox, Ph.D.**, Foreign Languages and Literatures Department,  
Director, Jewish Studies Concentration;  
Allen M. Glick Professor of Judaic and Biblical Studies

**Thomas Kühne, Ph.D.**, History Department,  
Strassler Professor of Holocaust History

**Olga Litvak, Ph.D.**, History Department,  
Leffell Associate Professor of Modern Jewish History

**Ken MacLean, Ph.D.**, Department of International Development,  
Community, and Environment  
Assistant Professor of International Development and Social Change

**Srinivasan Sitaraman, Ph.D.**, Political Science Department  
Associate Professor of Political Science

**Valerie Sperling, Ph.D.**, Political Science Department  
Associate Professor of Political Science

**Shelly Tenenbaum, Ph.D.**, Sociology Department,  
HGS Coordinator of Undergraduate Activities,  
Professor of Sociology

**Robert Tobin, Ph.D.**, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
Henry J. Leir Professor of Foreign Languages and Cultures

**Jaan Valsiner, Ph.D.**, Hiatt School of Psychology  
Professor of Psychology

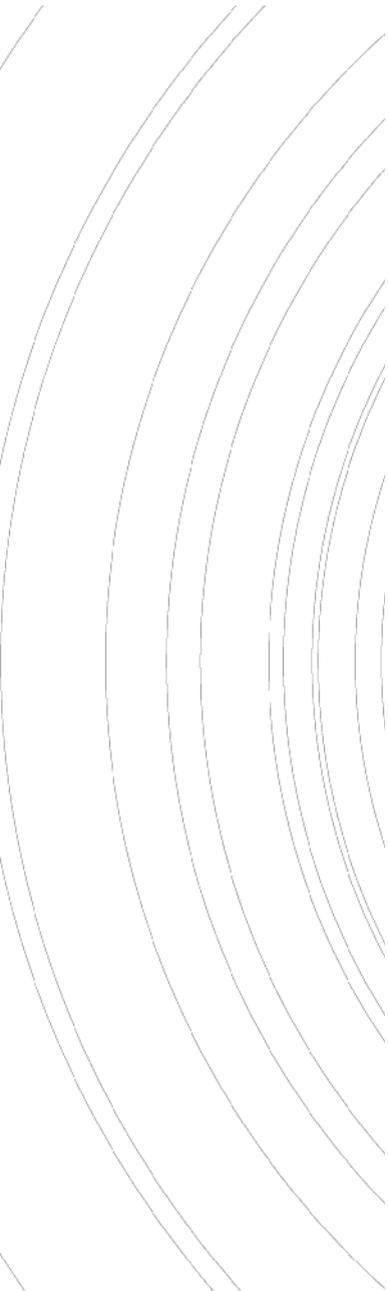
**Johanna Ray Vollhardt, Ph.D.**, Hiatt School of Psychology  
Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Kristen Williams, Ph.D.**, Political Science Department  
Associate Professor of Political Science

# STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS

Students in the Strassler Center program bring unique perspectives with different accents. As a result, discussions are complex, diverse, and fruitful.

Center graduates are now making their mark upon the field. Their scholarly excellence and engagement with public education highlight the success of the program.





## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

A raft of competitive awards secured by Strassler Center Ph.D. students honors their first-rate work. Indeed, affirmation comes from the Claims Conference, Fulbright Foundation, Holocaust Educational Foundation, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Yad Vashem, American Institute of Maghrib Studies, and other prestigious funders. External scholars, too, show their support for Center doctoral projects by generously devoting their time and talent serving on dissertation committees. This year two students defended their dissertations and five defended dissertation proposals—all successfully. Each committee included scholars from outside institutions and they universally acclaimed the quality of the scholarship pursued.

Diverse questions animate the dissertation projects developed at the Center. Students use well-established historical methods, most importantly painstaking archival work, as well as methods drawn from anthropology, legal theory, political science, psychology, and sociology to shape their dissertation research. Trends in Holocaust and genocide studies emerge from the nexus of these disciplines and include the exploration of memory, inter-ethnic relations, economic history, and the use of survivor testimony. New questions bring new answers and the results will help frame the future of this field.

### CRISTINA ANDRIANI

Cristina Andriani, the Center's first Weil Fellow in the Psychology of Genocide, pursued her second year of Ph.D. work with enthusiasm and purpose. Dual training in social psychology and Holocaust and genocide studies informs her examination of the impact of past trauma. She explores how the Holocaust affects Jewish-Israeli understanding of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and how the experience of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict affects Jewish-Israeli Holocaust memory. In order to understand how Holocaust memory is constructed, she will conduct narrative interviews with two groups of second generation survivors in Israel: some are active in the peace process and others support the status quo. As knowledge of Hebrew is essential to her project, she attended the Middlebury College Summer Language School supported by a Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace, awarded for language study necessary to humanities research that contributes toward peace in war-torn areas.

Already well-published in her field, Andriani continues to write journal articles. "Negotiating with the Dead": On the Past of Auschwitz and the Present of Oswiecim," co-authored with Claims Conference Fellow Jody Russell Manning, will appear in the 2010 issue of *Psychology & Society*. "In Response to Lacey: Humiliation and Honor in Policy?" (*Psychology &*



Claims Conference Fellow Betsy Anthony.

*Society*) is in press. "Echoes of the Past: Some of the Underlying Nuances of Holocaust Trauma in Israel" was published in the *Armenian Weekly*. She presented "Echoes of trauma: an analysis of the political, historical and personal ramifications of Holocaust trauma and its aftermath in Israel" at a conference organized by Kingston University in England. Finally, she helped to organize a public symposium with Professors Omer Bartov and Daniel Levy on "Holocaust Memory: Legacies of Disaster or Lessons of Cosmopolitanism?" It was the culmination of the seminar "Collective Memory and Mass Violence," co-taught with Professor Thomas Kühne (see page 11).

### ELIZABETH ANTHONY

Claims Conference Fellow Elizabeth Anthony enjoyed a productive third year. Following the successful defense of her dissertation prospectus, she traveled to Vienna to conduct interviews with Holocaust survivors and research at the University of Vienna library. Her dissertation, "Rückkehrer: Holocaust Survivors' Repatriation to Austria," draws upon her professional work as Deputy Director of Survivor Affairs at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum from 1998 to 2004, her experiences working for HIAS in Vienna (2005–2007), and her academic training at the Strassler Center for the past three years. Anthony looks forward to returning to the USHMM next year having received a USHMM research fellowship to study the Viennese Jewish Community records held by the museum. She will spend much of her fourth year based in Vienna with the support of a Fulbright fellowship and with funding from the Holocaust Educational Foundation. One aspect of her dissertation research has already appeared in print, "Ein jüdisches Altersheim im Wien der Nachkriegsjahre: Die Betreuung von älteren Überlebenden nach dem Holocaust," co-authored with Dr. Dirk Rupnow, in Nuernberger Institut's *Jahrbuch*, 2010.

Deeply interested in the intergenerational transmission of memory in survivors' families, Anthony attended the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust 21st annual conference in

Boston, MA. She traveled to Israel to present at a conference on “The Future of Holocaust Testimonies” held at Western Galilee College in Akko. It was her first visit to Israel, and she welcomed the opportunity to conduct research at the Central Archives of the History of the Jewish People and at Yad Vashem.

#### EMILY DABNEY

Richard P. Cohen, M.D. Fellow Emily Dabney devoted her third year to preparing—successfully—for her comprehensive exams and her doctoral prospectus defense. In her dissertation, “Forced Labor in the Maghreb,” Dabney examines Vichy anti-Jewish legislation in North Africa between 1940 and 1943. She focuses primarily on Jewish members of the French Foreign Legion who were interned in Vichy camps after the armistice. Their experiences provide the context for an investigation of antisemitism, minority rights, and colonialism in the 20th century.

Dabney spent part of her winter break in French and English archives. In England she explored oral histories at the Imperial War Archive, while in France she wrapped her arms around the collection at the Archives de l’Armée de Terre. She was pleased to find that these two military archives proved rich sources of documentation on légionnaires imprisoned in North Africa. During the summer she investigated condition reports and other documents held by the Joint Distribution Committee. An invitation to participate in a USHMM summer workshop on Sephardic Jewry and the Holocaust followed and she was honored to join a distinguished group of senior and mid-career scholars. Selected to receive a grant from the American Institute for Maghrib Studies, Dabney will travel to Morocco and Tunisia for eight months of research. Upon return to the United States, she will hold the Charles Revson Foundation Fellowship at the USHMM, which will support three months of research in their archives.

#### MICHAEL GEHERAN

Fromson Fellow Michael Geheran pushed forward with his doctoral research project during his second year of study. Visits to archives in Germany last summer shaped his research on German-Jewish veterans of World War I during the Third Reich. Inspired by what he found, Geheran applied, successfully, to the German Historical Institute’s prestigious Summer Archival Study Program and enjoyed its organized visits to archives throughout Germany. Receipt of a DAAD Fellowship supported his research at the Leo Baeck Institute in New York, sifting through letters, diaries, personal papers, and photo collections of German-

Jewish World War I veterans who fled Nazi Germany. The fellowship also afforded the opportunity to discuss his findings with scholars at the Institute.

Geheran welcomed other opportunities to share his dissertation research. He presented “‘Military Necessity’ or Genocidal Warfare? The German Military in Belgium and Anatolia, 1914–1915” at the Clark Graduate Multi-disciplinary Conference. Funding from the Russell F. Weigley Graduate Student Travel Grant helped him to attend the Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History in Lexington, Virginia where he delivered a presentation, “Stabbed in the Back: German-Jewish WWI Veterans under Hitler.”

#### ADARA GOLDBERG

Adara Goldberg spent her fourth year as Ralph and Shirley Rose Fellow based in Toronto where she continued to research “‘We Were Called Greenies:’ Holocaust Survivors in Postwar Canada.” Recipient of two new research awards, the Dr. Stephen Speisman Bursary, granted by the Ontario Jewish Archives, and the Strassler Center’s Kirsch Award, she used the proceeds to support field research. Work in the archives and interviews with survivors yielded vital sources, including the diary of a war orphan documenting early experiences in Canada and letters between refugees and social service caseworkers. In Montreal, she examined the extensive archives of the Jewish Public Library and the Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee. Goldberg hopes to gain access to Montreal’s now-flourishing ultra-Orthodox and Hasidic communities, established in 1941 with the arrival of nine refugee Yeshiva students and several Eastern European rabbis.

Goldberg was pleased to be invited to discuss her research on the Canadian resettlement of Holocaust survivors. In “Meet the Greenies,” presented to the Simcha Kadima Chapter of Na’amat, an international movement of Zionist women, she explored the role of women in supporting Holocaust survivors in Montreal and Toronto. A selected participant in the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies conference at Concordia University, she presented “‘Keeping the Faith:’ Religiosity as a factor in the resettlement of Orthodox Jewish survivors in post-World War II Canada.”



First through third year doctoral students, 2009-2010 (Khatchig Mouradian, missing).

## ALEXIS HERR

Alexis Herr completed her third year as Claims Conference Fellow and in so doing passed her comprehensive exams and presented her dissertation prospectus, "In the Shadow of Fossoli di Carpi: the History and Memory of the Holocaust in Italy." Her research traces the sixty-year history of Fossoli di Carpi, from its use as a prisoner-of-war camp in northern Italy during World War II to its present use as a memorial museum. The project uses the camp at Fossoli di Carpi to investigate how Holocaust memory developed in Italy from the immediate post-war period, through the years of communist politics in the 1970s, to the awakening of Holocaust consciousness following the collapse of communism. Herr was delighted to be invited to situate her research in the burgeoning field of memory studies at a workshop on Holocaust memory in Copenhagen, sponsored by the Danish Institute for International Studies.

Herr's research brought her to the Imperial War Museum Archive in London where she explored documents pertaining to the use of Fossoli as a prisoner-of-war camp for British soldiers. Among these materials were a diary kept by a British POW from 1942 to 1944 (the whole life of the camp) and a cache of love letters from a POW to his wife in England. She continues her research on Fossoli di Carpi in Italy in the fall supported by a research grant from the Holocaust Educational Foundation.

## STEFAN IONESCU

Based in Bucharest, Romania, Stefan Ionescu devoted his fourth year as Sidney and Rosalie Rose Fellow to archival research for his dissertation "Opportunism, Ideology, and Resistance in World War II Bucharest: Gentile and Jewish Responses to the Romanization of Economic Life during the Antonescu Regime, 1940–1944." Ionescu examines the responses of Jewish and ethnic Romanians to Romanization, the process by

which the Romanian government legalized the theft of Jewish property and assets. His work in the National Historical Archives of Romania proved extremely rewarding. The collections of the Ministries of Justice, National Economy, Labor, and the Under-Secretariat for Romanization, Colonization, and Inventory hold a variety of documents—complaints, denunciations, petitions, internal memos, reports, and statistics. At the same time, personal papers—such as diaries, letters, and memoirs—housed in the Personal (Family) Collections of the same National Archives, emerged as some of the most interesting documents illustrating the attitudes of Jews and gentiles in war time Bucharest. This research was supported by the Strassler Center's Hilda and Al Kirsch Award.

Invited to speak about his research at a number of conferences and symposia, Ionescu's work also found its way into print with an article, "UN Genocide Convention in Historical Perspective," accepted for publication in the collective volume, *Politics and Diplomacy*, to be published by the University of Bucharest Press.

## NATALYA LAZAR

Natalya Lazar is pleased to hold the Hevrony Family Trust Fellowship for the second year. A native of Czernowitz, Ukraine, she aims to reconstruct the social history and daily lives of its Jewish inhabitants in her dissertation, "The Fate of Czernowitz Jews: Genocide and Memory in Bukovina." Her research deals with three historical periods: the interwar era, the Holocaust years, and the post-war period. She analyzes the social, cultural, religious, and political dimensions of Jews' daily lives in the city of Czernowitz and in the Bukovynian countryside, seeking to understand the character of relations between Jews and gentiles. Documents of the Romanian occupation authorities in Bukovina province elucidate the ideological justification of the authorities' deportation policies to Transnistria. Seeing the local Jewish population as communist agents, the Romanian gendarmerie began (1941) to check on the activities and political preferences of Jews during the Soviet occupation. The deportation documents list the names and backgrounds of individual victims, personalizing the often abstract nature of collective violence. Lazar continues her research in the Shoah Foundation archives, conveniently carried out at the Center, investigating testimonies of survivors born in Czernowitz and those who lived there before and during the war.

An invitation to the international conference, *The Holocaust by Bullets in Ukraine*, organized by the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam offered the opportunity to meet Father Patrick Desbois whose research on the location of mass graves in Ukraine has drawn wide attention.



Claims Conference Fellow Alexis Herr with dissertation committee members Professors Marla Stone, Occidental College, and Harold Marcuse, University of California, Santa Barbara.

## JODY RUSSELL MANNING

In his third year of doctoral study, Tapper Fellow Jody Russell Manning continued research on his dissertation “Living in the Shadows of Auschwitz and Dachau: Memorial, Community, Symbolism, and the Palimpsest of Memory.” His analysis of the relationship between Holocaust memorials and their communities emerges from comparative study of the towns of Oswiecim and Dachau. Sailing through his doctoral prospectus defense, Manning brought his research plans into sharper focus. Using the Center’s link to the Shoah Foundation Archives, he investigated post-war testimonies of Oswiecim residents. In Germany, he interviewed Dachau residents and examined documents at the Dachau memorial and Stadtarchiv. Manning was delighted to accept an invitation from Visiting Professor Cecilie Stokholm Banke, who taught “Holocaust Memory in Post-War Europe” in the fall semester, to participate in the Danish Institute for International Studies summer workshop on *Post-war Memory of the Holocaust in Europe*.

Eager to bring his work to public attention, Manning co-authored “Negotiating with the Dead: On the Past of Auschwitz and the Present of Oswiecim”, with Weil fellow Cristina Andriani and it was accepted for publication in the 2010 issue of the journal *Psychology and Society*. He was honored to lecture at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland on “The Past in the Present: Upper Silesian and Bavarian Memory in Transition.” He continues his association with Jagiellonian University next year as a Fulbright scholar, collaborating with Professor Marek Kucia, an authority on memory studies.



Claims Conference Fellow Raz Segal and Tapper Fellow Jody Russell Manning.



Hausrauth Fellow Khatchig Mouradian.

## KHATCHIG MOURADIAN

Khatchig Mouradian began his Ph.D. studies as the Center’s first Agnes Manoogian Hausrauth Fellow. A journalist for more than a decade in his native Lebanon and the United States, Mouradian continues as editor-in-chief of the *Armenian Weekly*. The year began with an academic conference at Haigazian University in Beirut where he discussed “The Armenians, Raphael Lemkin, and the UN Genocide Convention.” At the Middle East Studies Association annual conference, he presented “I Apologize, Sort of; Now You Apologize: The Impact of the Apology Campaign on Turkish-Armenian Dialogue.” And he gave a paper on “Early Armenian Newspaper Coverage of the Genocide, 1915–1935” at the Center’s conference, *The State of the Art of the Armenian Genocide*.

Amid unfolding political developments, Mouradian lectured and traveled widely. TEPAV, a leading Turkish think tank, invited him and eight other U.S. experts to meet in Turkey with the President, Foreign Minister, political leaders, and Turkish analysts. Mouradian’s views were quoted in several Turkish newspapers including the mainstream daily *Zaman* and the progressive *Taraf*. He returned to Istanbul on 24 April to lecture and witnessed street gatherings commemorating the Genocide. He delivered a paper on justice and reparations, “Hearing the Footsteps of Dawn: Apology and Restitution in Facing History,” at a groundbreaking academic conference in Ankara on the following day.

Mouradian’s dissertation will be a comparative study of resistance during genocide, with an emphasis on the Armenian Genocide. Archival research during the summer brought him to Beirut, where he investigated Armenian memoirs and newspapers at the Haigazian University Library and in the Armenian Catholicossate Library. He also worked in the Armenian National Archives in Yerevan and the archives of the Mekhitariste Monastery in Vienna.

## KIMBERLY PARTEE

During her first year as Simon and Eve Colin Fellow, Kimberly Partee refined her research interests. She plans a dissertation on the Trawniki men, former Soviet soldiers and Ukrainian civilians who were conscripted by the Germans to serve as guards and auxiliary military personnel. Partee seeks to research the experiences of these men—their choices, their training, and their participation—from their time as Soviet prisoners of war to death camp guards in annihilation centers. Her investigation fits into broader research about local collaboration in Eastern Europe while focusing on what the Trawniki men tell us about the Holocaust and its perpetrators.

The summer proved a productive time for Partee. She was selected to participate as a fellow in the Auschwitz Jewish Center: A Bridge to History program. Following a brief orientation in New York, she traveled throughout Poland learning about pre-war Jewish life, the Holocaust, and post-war life for Jews under communism. The program culminated in Oswiecim where the fellows attended an intensive program at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. Earlier research on Auschwitz, including a presentation at the Annual Graduate Student Multidisciplinary Conference at Clark “Writing and Interpreting History: the Case of Auschwitz,” prepared her to take maximum advantage of this opportunity. Partee ended the summer in Berlin where she investigated the rich archive collections located there, principally the personnel files of the Aktion Reinhard death camps (Treblinka, Sobibor, and Belzec). She sought employment papers and post-war testimonies that refer to the experiences of the Trawniki men—including recruitment, training, official duties, and in post-war trials.

## RAZ SEGAL

Claims Conference Fellow Raz Segal completed a stimulating third year of research, teaching, and public speaking. His archival research in the United States and Israel sheds light on interethnic relations and ethnic conflict, which stand at the center of his dissertation “Embittered Legacies: Genocide in Subcarpathian Rus’.” Archives yielding relevant documents include the USHMM; the Joint Distribution Committee in New York; the private collection in the home of Meir Frankel in Brooklyn, NY; and the Museum for Hungarian Speaking Jewry in Sefad, Israel.

An invitation to contribute to the next issue of the Journal *Polin* resulted in an article, “Imported Animosity: Carpatho-Ruthenians and Jews in Carpatho-Ukraine, October 1938–March 1939.” Drawing upon research conducted with the support of the Natalia and Mendel Racolin Fellowship awarded by the YIVO Institute in New York, Segal analyzes the deterioration of Jewish/Carpatho-Ruthenian relations in the eastern part of Subcarpathian Rus’ at a time of rapid change



Colin Fellow Kim Partee.

and upheaval. He locates the rise of conflict to tensions from outside of the region linking Ukrainian nationalism, conspiratorial behavior, and anti-Jewish sentiments. This research was the basis for a public lecture, “‘Ethnic Cleansing’ and Genocide in Subcarpathian Rus’: The Destruction of Jewish Life in a Multiethnic Region during World War II,” at YIVO. Segal elaborated the connections between the destruction of the Jewish communities in Subcarpathian Rus’ and other episodes of ethnic violence in this multiethnic region during World War II. The recipient of a Hungarian Scholarship, he studied Hungarian language and culture in an intense summer course.

Eager to deepen scholarly relations with Israeli institutions, Segal was pleased to accept an invitation to participate in a multidisciplinary forum of Israeli Holocaust and genocide scholars at Haifa University. Participants in this year-long seminar enrich Holocaust studies in Israel by incorporating perspectives from various fields of research and by promoting comparative genocide research.

## JOANNA SLIWA

Claims Conference Fellow Joanna Sliwa continues to develop her multi-dimensional dissertation on “Jewish Children in Nazi-Occupied Kraków.” She examines the experiences of children through multiple lenses: German policy concerning Jewish child life, Jewish communal responses, gentile reactions (including aid and rescue efforts), familial actions, and the responses of the children themselves. Preliminary archival research brought her to the USHMM, the Joint Distribution Committee, the Center for Jewish History, the YIVO Institute, and the New York Public Library’s Dorot Jewish Division.

Opportunities to share her research abounded. Sliwa delivered a paper on “The Creation of a Polish Public Perception of Jews through Jewish Humor” at the Annual Klutznik-Harris Symposium at Creighton University in Nebraska. Invited to attend the International Digital Access Outreach and Research

## NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Conference at the Shoah Foundation Institute at USC, she participated in discussions on how to utilize oral testimonies. An invitation to attend the semester-long seminar on “Families, Children, and the Holocaust” at the Hadassah Brandeis Institute culminated with a paper, “Stopping the spread of moral savagery: Child relief efforts in the Kraków ghetto.” She presented “Illegal Survival: A case study of children in the Kraków Ghetto” at the Institute’s Conference, *Rising from the Ashes: Jewish Families and Children During and After the War*. Another invitation brought her to a conference on *Five Hundred Years of Jew-Hatred and Anti-Semitism in the German Press* at Bremen University where she spoke about “The Caricature Image of the Jewish Woman in *Der Stürmer*.”

Honored to receive a Summer Research Scholarship for Graduate Students from Abroad, awarded by the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem, Sliwa jumped into that institution’s rich archives. She continued her stay in Israel with an International Summer Yiddish Program Scholarship from the Goldreich Institute at Tel Aviv University. Both awards and Sliwa’s intensive Hebrew studies will further her research in Israeli archives.

### JAN TAUBITZ

In his first year of doctoral study, Stern Fellow Jan Taubitz developed his research focus on the relationship between public discourse about the Holocaust and survivors’ testimonies. He plans to analyze literary, oral, and visual testimonies to show how the linguistic representation of the Holocaust developed. Different types of discourse allowed survivors to talk about their often ineffable experiences. His goal is to find testimonies from survivors who testified several times in order to analyze changes in their narratives over a period of six decades. Taubitz visited the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at Yale University, which, begun in 1979, contributed to a new pictorial language and narrative structure of the Holocaust. Taubitz has begun to review testimonies from the Shoah Visual History Archive and the Center’s access to this material will contribute significantly to his project. He also reviewed testimonies in the video archive of the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin.

During the year, Taubitz developed an interest in Yiddish culture in Eastern Europe and the United States. He attended a seminar about 19th and 20th century Yiddish literature, visited the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA and began Yiddish language studies. These efforts will furnish cultural background that will enhance his understanding of the testimonies of Yiddish-speaking Holocaust survivors.

Doctoral students in the Strassler Center program study the Holocaust and other genocides across a broad range of periods and geographic regions. Four new students enter this year and their diverse interests map the strategic growth of the graduate program. Two students will investigate the Holocaust. They come well-prepared to launch into their specific research areas: one on the progress of the Nazi killing machine in the last phases of the war and the other on the Holocaust in Greece. Their nuanced attention to questions of time and place will complement the topics pursued by their more advanced student colleagues. The study of the Armenian Genocide deepens with the arrival of a student from Turkey whose examination of the “Armenian question” will challenge Turkish political discourse. His work will strengthen the Center’s focus on the Armenian Genocide, which remains topical in current politics and international relations. Finally, a new student track emerges with the admission of the Center’s first doctoral candidate whose focus is Comparative Genocide in Africa. Her comparative research on Burundi and Rwanda will forge a new path of study that will shape the Center’s academic landscape – now and for all time.

### SARA BROWN

Sara Brown returns to Clark, where she concentrated in Holocaust and Genocide Studies as an undergraduate. She holds the Stern fellowship, an award intended to foster doctoral study in Comparative Genocide. Her dual interests in conflict studies and Central Africa developed during her undergraduate years. Coursework with Professors Edward Kissi and Yehuda Bauer inspired her to focus on the Holocaust and other genocides. She also studied with Distinguished Weil Visiting Professor Barbara Harff whose research on genocidal indicators suggests how nations might prevent mass violence. Recipient of a Strassler Center undergraduate internship, she spent the summer of 2004 in Rwanda. She worked with an organization training personnel for the Gacaca courts, established in the wake of the 1994 genocide as a means of transitional justice.

Following graduation, Brown worked in Tanzania with refugees from Burundi, Rwanda, and Congo. Later, employed by Catholic Charities, she supported refugee resettlement efforts in the U.S. Her fieldwork in Africa motivated her to study for an MA in Diplomacy and Conflict Studies at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, Israel. In her doctoral studies she plans to focus on Burundi and Rwanda, to compare their colonial and genocidal histories and the transitional justice processes in the post-genocidal period. Yehuda Bauer inspired her to proceed in her work “as a morally motivated cynic.” The despair of studying mass violence in Africa leaves her no choice.

### KONSTANTINA CHOROS

Konstantina Choros will concentrate on the Holocaust in Greece as the Richard P. Cohen, M.D. Fellow. As an MA student in European and Mediterranean Studies at New York University, she began to investigate Greek collaboration with the Nazis. She will continue with this topic as her dissertation focus. Koros will look at the consequences of the Greco-Turkish war of 1919–1922 which resulted in major population exchanges of Greeks and Turks. Extreme violence against Jews in Salonika during the interwar period ensued in the context of these demographic shifts. She will examine how these circumstances eventually fueled local collaboration with the Nazis. The Strassler Center offers a unique opportunity to study the Holocaust in Greece in light of this earlier history. Drawing upon the scholarship of Kaloosdian Mugar Professor Taner Akçam who investigates nationalism and the formation of the modern Turkish State, Koros will bridge the history of Ottoman mass violence with Greek nationalism and antisemitism that encouraged genocidal collaboration.

### MICHAEL NOLTE

Michael Nolte, who enters as a Strassler Center Fellow, became interested in the Holocaust growing up in Germany in an environment where Holocaust history was told by perpetrators and their descendants. After reading survivor testimonies as a high school student, he joined protests to secure compensation from the manufacturer I.G. Farben for former slave laborers.

Opportunities to deepen his understanding of the Holocaust abounded: he helped to publish the memoir of Gertrud Müller, a survivor of Ravensbrück; interned at the German Resistance Documentary Archives in Frankfurt; worked on oral testimonies from survivors; and researched the *sonderkommando* with Israeli historian Gideon Greif. Studying political science at the University of Marburg, he examined contemporary forms of Jew hatred, writing his thesis about the Iranian revolution.

Nolte intends to research Nazi efforts to murder the Jews in the face of their losing war effort. He seeks to document how the killing persisted, perhaps even quickened, after the gas chambers were dismantled at Auschwitz. What new means of annihilation were improvised? And what role did smaller camps and camps located in Germany play? The close of the war led to chaos in the camps. Nolte will examine what this meant for the remaining Jews.

### ÜMIT KURT

Ümit Kurt is part of a Turkish intellectual movement seeking to understand the Armenian Genocide. As a Hausrath fellow, he will tackle a subject which remains taboo in Turkey. His dissertation project will challenge the idea that the Union and Progress Party was solely responsible for the Genocide by investigating how local elites benefited. Inspired by the scholarship of Professor Taner Akçam, Kurt will examine the extent of societal support for the deportation and massacre of Armenians.

After studying political science and public administration at Middle East Technical University, an English-language institution in Ankara, Kurt received an MA in European Studies from Sabancı University in Istanbul. His main concern was EU-Turkish relations and his interdisciplinary approach blended sociology, history, and political science. Already a prolific scholar, he edited his first book *Is the Justice and Development Party a ‘New’ Center of Right?* in fall 2009. His many publications in academic journals have explored the Turkish military, the process of Europeanization, Turkey-EU relations, and changes in Turkish society.

—Mary Jane Rein

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

A wealth of courses enriches Clark's robust undergraduate program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies (HGS). During the 2009–2010 academic year, more than 400 students enrolled in 22 classes taught by 12 different faculty members. These courses offer students opportunities to approach the subject of genocide from multiple disciplinary perspectives including comparative literature, history, political science, psychology, and sociology. The undergraduate program engages faculty from across the University who shed light on many aspects of this vast subject: the history of mass violence in all regions and periods; the experiences of victims, perpetrators, and bystanders; cultures targeted for annihilation; and efforts to achieve justice and to restore lives in post-conflict societies.

Senior concentrators Mikal Brotnov and Shaylyn Doody wrote HGS theses. Brotnov, working with Professor Taner Akçam, received high honors for his thesis, "Locating Lemkin: Historiography, Concepts of Genocide and the Problem of Genocide in the American West." Drawing upon original research conducted at the National Archives and Records Administration, Pacific-Alaska Region, the Nez Perce National Park Service in Spalding, Idaho, and the University of Idaho Library, Special Collections, he examined whether the definition of genocide can be applied to the Native American case. Brotnov scrutinized the original writings of Raphael Lemkin, the Polish Jewish jurist, who coined the term genocide, as part of his pathbreaking study. Doody earned honors for her thesis, "Love and Resistance: Jewish Partisans and the Role of Intimacy," written under the direction of Professor Thomas Kühne. She considered how intimacy, in the form of romantic or sexual relationships, influenced the dynamic of community among partisans fighting in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Doody continues to research Jewish partisans as an intern for a forthcoming PBS documentary, drawing on the Center's access to the Shoah archive.

Clark students committed to bringing attention to genocide and mass violence participate in the University's chapter of STAND, the student division of the Genocide Intervention Network. Chapter President, Maggie Federici '11, led efforts to bring greater awareness to conflicts and mass violence occurring around the globe. The group held weekly meetings to plan events and fundraising activities, to refine the



Kevin Hackley '10, HGS concentrator.

chapter's goals in relation to the main objectives of STAND, and to develop educational updates on the conflicts in Sudan, Congo, and Myanmar. They made a documentary featuring students to urge Senator John Kerry to continue advocating for U.S. assistance to Congo. Activities raised funds to aid Congolese women, educated students about elections in Sudan, and resulted in a petition to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to denounce the results of Omar al-Bashir's presidential victory. STAND collaborated with leaders of the ACE program, a predominantly student-led organization providing tutoring services to African refugee children in the Worcester area, in showing the documentary, *Darfur Diaries*, in Tilton Hall. Finally, STAND invited Alexis Herr, a doctoral student in Holocaust history who had served as interim associate director of Jewish World Watch in summer 2009, to give a presentation on violence, corruption, and devastation in Congo, as well as what students can do to help.

Former STAND director Alexandra Carter '11 spent the spring semester in Kenya and learned first-hand about developments in Africa. She had the opportunity to sit in on the Rwandan genocide tribunals in Arusha, Tanzania which she described as a powerful experience. Her genocide coursework with Professor Shelly Tenenbaum provided important grounding as she observed the post-election violence still gripping Kenya since 2007. Now returning to campus, she looks forward to discussing her experiences and observations with her student colleagues.

—Mary Jane Rein

**It was definitely intense and emotional to sit in the same room as someone accused of orchestrating mass murder and rape. We also got a good overview of the tribunals and other cases from the past few years so if you would like for me to pass any of it along or speak to your class I'd be happy to do so.**

—Alexandra Carter '11 to Professor Shelly Tenenbaum



Beth Cohen, Ph.D '03 speaking in the Center's Rose Library.

## LIFE AFTER THE CENTER

Graduates of the Strassler Center doctoral program embrace opportunities for research, teaching, and advocacy. Naama Haviv, Tiberiu Galis, and Christine Schmidt are engaged in advocacy efforts that make a material difference in regions at risk of genocidal violence or in post-conflict states as leaders in non-governmental organizations. Galis directs seminars held at Auschwitz to train government officials of many nations about genocide prevention. During the fall, Haviv, who is Associate Director of the Los Angeles-based Jewish World Watch, spent several weeks in the Democratic Republic of Congo on a fact finding mission about mass violence. Schmidt is based in Budapest, Hungary engaged in human rights initiatives with the Public Interest Law Institute. They have translated their academic specialization into professional work that serves the public good.

Beth Lilach and Sarah Cushman serve as education directors at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County working with teachers, school groups, and community organizations. Beth Cohen is working on a study of Holocaust education for Facing History and Ourselves, and serves on an advisory committee for the Tenement Museum in New York as she continues to teach at California State University, Northridge and to publish and speak publicly about her research on survivors. In addition to her work in the area of advocacy, Christine Schmidt teaches courses online while also contributing entries to *The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos*.

Happily, Ilana Offenberger and Lotta Stone defended their dissertations in May. Offenberger looks forward to revising her dissertation on “The Nazification of Vienna and the Response of the Viennese Jews” for publication. She anticipates a career in Holocaust education or public outreach. Stone, too, is eager to publish her dissertation, “Seeking Asylum: Jewish Refugees to South Africa 1930–1948.” Her many years as a classroom teacher suggest that Holocaust education will also be the focus of her professional work.

The quality of Holocaust and genocide education, museums, and memorials, and the efficacy of humanitarian intervention and governmental policy depend upon well-trained professionals. The vision of the Strassler Center program is to prepare the future leaders who will meet these needs across the United States and in the many countries from which our students come and to which they will return.

### LIFE AFTER THE CENTER PROFILE: TIBI GALIS, ABD

The study of genocide is not purely academic to Tiberiu Galis. Currently completing a dissertation comparing several cases of post-genocidal justice, Galis also serves as executive director of the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation. His primary professional responsibility is organizing the annual Raphael Lemkin seminar in cooperation with the Auschwitz Birkenau State Museum. With funding from the U.S. State Department, the Ford Foundation, and other funders, the annual seminar gathers government representatives from approximately fourteen different countries to learn about genocide prevention. The setting for the seminar is Auschwitz and the proximity to this most notorious death camp motivates the participants emotionally and intellectually.



Tibi Galis, Executive Director of the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation.

The value of the Raphael Lemkin seminar is well recognized by governments; indeed applicants outnumber available spaces. Galis, who is based in New York, collaborates with Francis Deng, Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. The UN helps to secure participants by inviting representatives from all member countries. Galis does extensive follow up by meeting with staff from the permanent UN missions. The seminar participants are mostly mid-level government officials and policy makers from a mix of countries, both rich nations seeking to prevent genocide and nations at risk of genocidal violence. And they work in ministries of foreign affairs, justice, and defense or as members of cabinets. Experts from around the globe serve as faculty for the seminar. They come from various realms: academia, think tanks, government ministries, and NGOs.

The goal of the program is to create an international community of government officials committed to genocide prevention. The participants learn to recognize the likelihood for violence and strategies for deterring its outbreak. Founded in 2005, the program now reunites alumni in order to maintain their commitment to preserving a peaceful world. An April reunion in Buenos Aires gave alumni participants the opportunity to observe how Argentina has incorporated human rights awareness throughout all aspects of government. A model for nations that have experienced politicized violence, Argentina is proud of its positive record in addressing its troubled past. The topic of the Buenos Aires gathering, *Transitional Justice and Genocide Prevention*, allowed Galis to integrate his dissertation research with real world politics.

Galis's career at the Strassler Center prepared him well for this important enterprise. In 2004, all of the Center's doctoral students were invited to serve as rapporteurs at the first *Stockholm International Forum on Genocide Prevention*. Leading genocide scholar Barbara Harff, Weil Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Strassler Center at that time, arranged the students' participation. In Stockholm, Galis and his fellow students were introduced to the community of genocide scholars and they forged important relationships, as they were oriented to practical issues in international politics. Now Galis hopes to return the favor by providing opportunities for a new generation of Strassler Center students to gain practical experience by assisting with the Raphael Lemkin Seminar. The future of genocide prevention shines bright with the promise of Center students committed to understanding the causes of genocide and contributing to its prevention.

—Mary Jane Rein

**Beth Cohen Ph.D. '03, Project Leader, Jewish Education Program, Facing History and Ourselves**

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**Christine Schmidt Ph.D. '03, Communications Officer, Public Interest Law Institute**

**Lotta Stone Ph.D. '10**

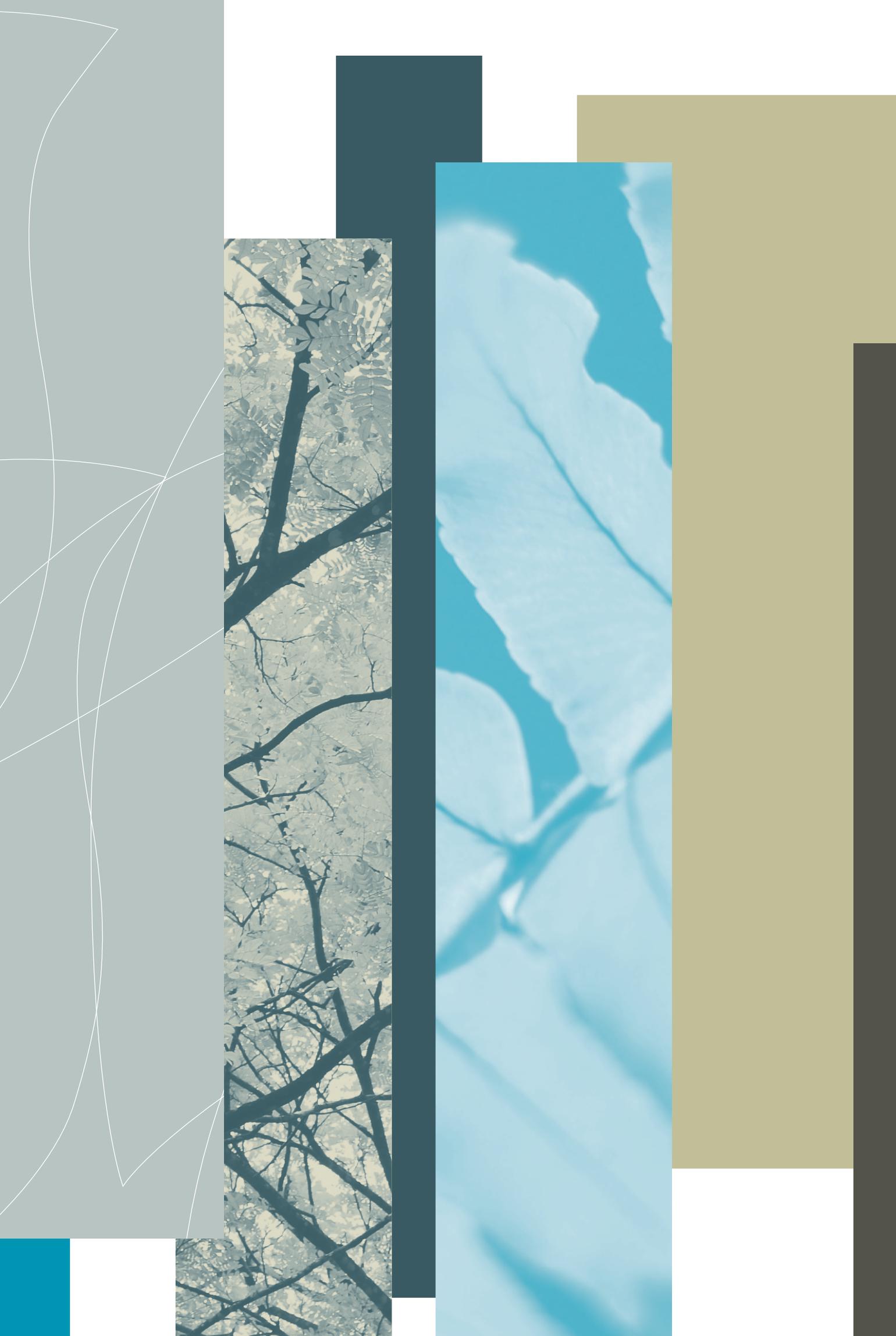
Professor Emeritus Evan Bukey, University of Arkansas, Dr. Ilana Offenberger, Professor Debórah Dwork, and Professor Emeritus Walter Schatzberg, Clark University, at Ilana's dissertation defense.





## GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

The Center's tree, located beside the Rose Library, and its graduate student offices are dedicated to the memory of Holocaust survivor Henry Tobak. A plaque relates a Talmudic tale that explains the significance of these gifts. A young girl asks an old man planting a carob tree how long it will take to bear fruit. Seventy years, he explains. Will he live to enjoy its fruit? she asks. No, he responds, but just as he has enjoyed trees planted by those before him, he hopes to do the same for those to come. And so it is with our tree. Education, research, and greater human understanding, the fruits of our program, will accrue to the benefit of future generations.



## GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Education and training of doctoral students stand as core aims of the Strassler Center. Thus, the fellowship and research support received this year from Nathan Hevrony, Robin Moss, Glenn and Leslie Parish, Eddie Stern and Stephanie Rein, Rebecca Colin Seaman, David Strassler, Al Tapper, Robert Weil, and Bruce and Penny Wein, is as deeply appreciated as it is key. Such gifts are essential to support the outstanding students we admit. In a very different way, our library supports them too. And this year this crucial resource has been the focus of donor attention and support.

The Center is once again the beneficiary of Diana Bartley, whose yearly donations of 500 to 600 books have furnished a multi-disciplinary library of secondary scholarship. Over the past decade these contributions have burgeoned to around 8,000 books. Hoping to contribute a total of 10,000 volumes, as pioneering Holocaust historian Raul Hilberg advised her, Diana continues to purchase books for the library. With diminished eyesight but patient determination, she pores over bibliographies and catalogues. Amazingly, she accomplishes this work without the aid of modern technology. Her meticulous records are handwritten in a series of leather notebooks that are a marvel of old-fashioned organization. Using humble tools and keen intellect, Diana has built a first-class resource for our students and faculty from the comfortable perch of her Manhattan apartment.

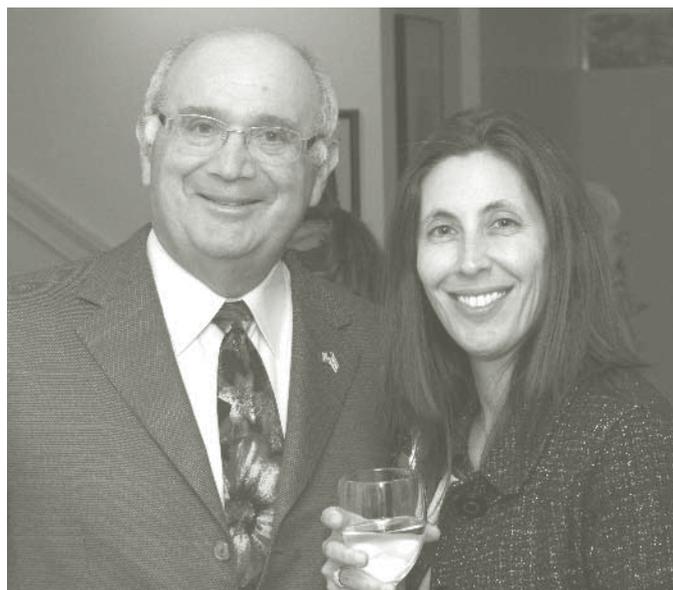
The value of Diana's books depends upon having them catalogued and available to users. An anonymous donor, who served for many years as a librarian at the Bronx High School of Science, has provided a generous endowment in memory of her Viennese husband and his family who fled from the Holocaust. This year she added to the endowment first established nearly a decade ago. Having worked in the age before computerization of libraries, she has a special interest in supporting library technology. Her endowment has facilitated the development and ongoing maintenance

of the library database that users access from the Center's website.

Another significant technological enhancement to the Rose Library was furnished by David Strassler in fall 2009. A former trustee of the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, David appreciates the value of its 52,000 testimonies for Holocaust research. He therefore funded the activation of Internet 2, providing digital access to the archives through a dedicated terminal in the library. Thanks to a multi-year gift, Strassler Center students, faculty, and visitors are able to research the Shoah testimonies without traveling to the actual archive in Los Angeles. David was thrilled to attend the *Echoes and Reflections* workshop at which the Center's access to the Archive was unveiled (see page 4).

Thus equipped, the Rose Library is a 21st century space that meets research and teaching needs.

Gifts, large and small, are essential to the growth and development of the Strassler Center program. We are grateful to the many donors whose contributions have funded the activities of the past academic year reported in these pages. —*Mary Jane Rein*



David Chailetz '65 and Executive Director Mary Jane Rein.

**As research and learning depend on libraries, Diana Bartley's contributions form an integral part of the Strassler Center's success. The books and journals she purchases for the Center enable faculty, students, and interested people from the Worcester area to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust and other cases of mass violence. In this way, Diana provides for yet another purpose of the Rose Library - that of public education. —Raz Segal, Claims Conference Fellow**

## DONOR PROFILE: ROBIN HELLER MOSS

Robin Heller Moss is a stand up, stand out donor. Introduced to the work of the Strassler Center by her physician, Dr. Richard P. Cohen, '71, Robin began her association with a generous 5-year pledge to support a doctoral student in his honor, and her enthusiasm for scholarship, her devotion to Cohen, and her open and easy manner, have characterized Robin's contributions to the Center. A case in point: her cover note accompanying the final payment for the Richard P. Cohen M.D. doctoral fellowship pledged to continue it on behalf of a new student. Her altruism shines bright and sets a model for her children, Elizabeth and Ben, and for her very young grandchildren, who one day will assume decision making for the Buster Foundation, the financial source of Robin's gift giving.

Declaring "I get more from my gift to you than I give," Robin appreciates learning about the programs she supports. Committed to making a material difference to worthy people and projects, her charitable instincts are decisive. A simple question shapes her philanthropy: what do you need most? Her contributions to Weill Cornell Medical Center are of this ilk. One year, the answer was: text books too costly for medical students to purchase. Pleased to underwrite this basic need, Robin appreciated too how much students would welcome such a gift. According to Robin, the trendy things get funded easily... care and maintenance is harder.

Third-year doctoral student Emily Dabney currently holds the Richard P. Cohen, M.D. fellowship. Emily examines Vichy anti-Jewish legislation in North Africa between 1940 and 1943, focusing on Jewish members of the French Foreign Legion who were interned in Vichy camps after the armistice. With her comprehensive exams and dissertation proposal defense behind her, she will spend next year in North Africa working on her project, "Forced Labor in the Maghreb." And thanks to Robin's latest pledge, the Center will have another Richard P. Cohen, M.D. fellow on premises—first year student Konstantina Choros.

Totally committed to the Center's vision of education, outreach, and scholarship, Robin is gratified by her involvement. "Keep me in mind as things come up," she says.... We will. —*Mary Jane Rein*



Robin Heller Moss (center) with her children Elizabeth and Ben Moss.

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Top: Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick meets with Center supporter Michael Gruenbaum. Middle: Ovsanna '58 (center) and R. Mirhan Mooradian '58 (right) in conversation with Raymond Kevorkian, Bibliothèque Nubar, Paris. Bottom: Celebrating the publication of *The Last Chapter*, a memoir by Lois Green MPA '78, in the Rose Library, 28 April 2010.

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**"Please join me in supporting a response to genocide that is grounded in education and historical understanding, and looks forward to intervention and prevention." — David Strassler**

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# CALL TO ACTION

Founded in 1996 as an institute without walls, the Center moved into Cohen Lasry House in November 1999. Architect Julian Bonder won seven awards for his renovation of the extant villa and strikingly handsome addition to it. Many took part in actualizing Bonder's vision, and the spaces they founded carry their names, reminding generations of students that they cared deeply about the subject young scholars study. They furnished the Center with the Kent Seminar Room, Strassler Reception Area, Siff Exhibition Room, Rose Library, Tobak Graduate Student Offices, Freedman Courtyard, and Chaifetz Garden.

Happily, we now push at the seams of our house and library. The book shelves are stuffed; offices filled. Students study at desks cheek by jowl. Our strategic plan for the next decade calls for a new Reading Room to accommodate the ever-increasing graduate student population and the Bartley book collection. Designed by Julian Bonder, the addition will double the library shelving capacity and will accommodate much needed graduate student study space for the ever increasing doctoral candidate population. Significantly, the plan frees space for more faculty offices. In this way, a boldly envisioned addition will allow the Strassler Center program to grow for decades to come.

Please consider a gift that will undergird Holocaust and Genocide Studies research, now and for all time.



Please cut this form out and mail to:

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## CENTER IN THE MAIL

That the Center and other places like it exist gives me peace in knowing that the story of my grandmother (Holocaust survivor Blanca Borrell) will be forever shared. Please tell the students that their work means the world to me and my family, especially now. – Ashley Borell '07

Three years after retirement, it was a real thrill to be back in the arena, especially with such stimulating, well-informed, and thoughtful colleagues. I was most impressed with your Center's focus on what strike me as the outstanding problems of the Holocaust. Most of all, I truly enjoyed exchanging views on so many difficult issues. –Evan Bukey, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Arkansas, following the dissertation defense of Ilana Offenberger, Ph.D. '10

Thank you for organizing this important and inspiring workshop! It was a pleasure meeting you and to be a guest at the Strassler Center, where we were taken such good care of.

–Professor Inger Marie Okkenhaug, University of Bergen on *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research*

Your lecture yesterday was so informative. The Gallery Educators LOVED you. They couldn't praise your lecture highly enough – both the information and your teaching style. What you taught us yesterday will find direct and immediate application in our work in the galleries and your historical perspective gave us all the impetus to learn more and re-think our own understanding of this history. –Elizabeth Edelstein, Director of Education, Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust to Professor Debórah Dwork

I was impressed by the student body, especially the grad students – as I had a chance to chat with three of them during my ride from and to the train. They all seemed extremely satisfied with their graduate experience. –Professor Daniel Levy, State University of New York, Stony Brook to Professor Thomas Kühne

You are a wonderful and inspirational interviewer. I shared with you more of my personal feelings than with anybody else at any time. I am sure it is because you demonstrated great empathy and have the skill to bring it about. I wish you great luck in your scholarly and personal endeavors.

–Child survivor Susan Garfield to Rose Fellow Adara Goldberg

The band has gone, the tinsel and confetti have been swept into the dust bins, but the memory of a lovely conference lingers. Congratulations to all of you.

–Professor Margaret Lavinia Anderson, University of California-Berkeley on *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research*

It is amazing how much my HGS concentration plays out post-graduation. Being a teacher at a Jewish day school, the topic of human rights and of the Holocaust, in particular, is always on the front burner. It never ceases to amaze me how relevant my studies are to my post-college life. –Joshua Bock '09

Congratulations on your superb annual report. Every year numbers of first class people – from new students to new faculty members, from visiting scholars to concerned dignitaries – become associated with the Center. The Strassler family, and others like the Rose family, must be very proud of the results of their commitments.

–Richard Traina, former Clark University President

Awarded to Anne Jordan, Mitch Goldstein and Barrington Printing (Year End Report designers and printer): The 2010 Award of Printing Excellence presented in recognition of printing excellence and superb craftsmanship for best annual report.

–The Graphic Communications Industry of Rhode Island

Thank you for inviting me to visit today. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone and participating in the presentation and discussion. The discussions were terrific – what a great staff and what a great bunch of graduate students. You certainly are doing something right.

–Professor Emeritus Tom Weiss, MIT to Professor Debórah Dwork

I am pleased to let you know that my work as Director of Education at the Holocaust Center of Northern California will be relocated to Jewish Family and Children's Services. We will continue to collaborate in delivering Holocaust education throughout Northern California. Together we can ensure that Holocaust education in the Bay Area will be robust for generations to come.

–Morgan Blum '02

## SAVE THESE DATES

Please join us for these programs. For further information, call 508-793-8897 or visit the online calendar of events, <http://www.socialweb.net/Clients/Clark/holocaust.lasso>

### OCTOBER 14

7:00 pm, Atwood Hall

*ICYIZERE; hope;*

A film by Kenyan filmmaker **Patrick Mureithi** about a three-day gathering of ten survivors and ten perpetrators of the Rwandan Genocide; panel discussion to follow

### APRIL 7

7:30 pm, Tilton Hall

**Maya Benton**, curator, International Center of Photography

*Picturing Vishniac: A Closer Reading, New Work, and Constructions of Jewish Identity.*

Supported by the David and Edie Chaifetz Jewish Studies Fund and presented in collaboration with the Department of Jewish Studies and the Worcester JCC

### APRIL 14

7:30 pm, Tilton Hall

**Rev. Paul Haidostian**, President, Haigazian University, Beirut, Lebanon

*The American Missionaries and the Armenian Genocide: How to Assess Their Ministry?*



Woodrow Wilson once said that he not only used all the brains he had, but all that he could borrow. I know how he felt. The Center would be but a poor thing without the energy, skills, and intelligence of its staff. Each has served the enterprise so well that she has gained new portfolios and, in some cases, a new title. It is a pleasure to thank, in alphabetical order: administrative assistant Margaret Hillard who, as the heartbeat of Lasry House, keeps systems flowing for our ever growing community; Dr Tatyana Macaulay, Director of Educational Programs, the organizational genius of the Center's lectures; it is due to her efforts that all events, including *The State of the Art of Armenian Genocide Research* workshop proceeded flawlessly; Dr Mary Jane Rein, Executive Director of the Center, who brings a constructive yet critical eye and, above all, smart ideas to our enterprise; and Ghi Vaughn, Budget and Website Manager, whose title expresses the range of her functions but not how very intelligently she handles these key tasks. It is my pleasure to welcome Robyn Christiansen, our new librarian, who, building upon the super work of her predecessor, Betty Jean Perkins, has brought fresh energy and processes to a burgeoning collection.

Wilson's words hold true with regard to my colleagues as well. If the administration of the Centers rests upon its superior staff, its stature as a research and educational institute depends upon its faculty. Taner Akçam, Thomas Kühne, Olga Litvak, Shelly Tenenbaum, Jaan Valsiner, and Johanna Vollhardt are the Brain Trust of this initiative. They foster the growth and development of Holocaust and Genocide Studies as a dynamic discipline, and I appreciate them wholeheartedly.

I am grateful, too, to my many Clark colleagues—especially Anita Fábos, Ken MacLean, Srinii Sitaraman, and Valerie Sperling—and our visiting professors this year—Cecilie Stokholm Banke and Jens Meierhenrich—who share their brains mentoring graduate students and lending their expertise to the undergraduate program. I am equally indebted to my colleagues at other universities who generously serve as advisors to our graduate students. Joining together, we form a larger center-without-walls, training future generations of Holocaust and Genocide Studies scholars, government and NGO directors who will formulate and implement human rights policies and educational programs, and professionals who will oversee institutions of remembrance and scholarship. Thank you to all! I have borrowed your brains shamelessly.

This *Year End Report* was designed by Anne Jordan and Mitch Goldstein of Hypothesis, Ltd, whose design and printing work on this project in 2009 won them the "Award of Printing Excellence" from the Graphic Communications Industry of Rhode Island. The stunning photographs are the work of undergraduates Mikal Brotnov (who also designed the equally beautiful Armenian Genocide Research workshop website) and Julia McKinley. And I end where I began, with thanks to Center staff. Guided by Mary Jane Rein, Editor-in-Chief of this Report, each contributed to bringing the project to fruition as a product.

—*Debórah Dwork*

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