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Explorers Club Flag 179 at the submerged Iron Age port adjacent to Tel Dor, Israel. Thomas E. Levy (left) and Assaf Yasur-Landau (right) display the flag in rough water.

UC San Diego–Led Expedition Documents Ancient Land and Sea Sites in Israel

BY DOUG RAMSEY

In September 2017, a team of archaeologists from the University of California San Diego and two leading Israeli universities wrapped up a three-week expedition to document two major sites in Israel using the latest in 3-D scientific visualization technologies.

The expedition, led by Professor Thomas E. Levy, involved a land-and-sea approach to

understanding trade and exchange during biblical times at sites dating to the Iron Age, circa 1200–586 BC. Officially sanctioned by The Explorers Club, the expedition carried Explorers Club Flag 179 to the ancient mining region of Timna in southern Israel as well as to Tel Dor on the Mediterranean coast, the site of a submerged port facility.

“Between the two sites, we captured more than 24,000 high-definition photos for use in

creating 3-D computer models of these two very historic areas,” said Levy, who directs UC San Diego’s Center for Cyber-Archaeology and Sustainability (CCAS). “Back in San Diego, we’ll be processing the images to build large-scale virtual models to help archaeologists and students better understand the two historically important regions in Israel and how they were united in antiquity through the copper trade.”

“Previously, copper ingots found in the waters north of Tel Dor were traced via lead isotope analysis to the Faynan region in Jordan, where extensive Iron Age mines and smelting factories have been found and excavated by our UC San Diego team,” said Levy. “It seemed

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



Left to Right: UC San Diego anthropology alumnus Erez Ben-Yosef, anthropology graduate student Tony Tamberino, and Thomas E. Levy flying drones in the Timna ancient mining area of southern Israel.

EXPEDITION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

most likely that Tel Dor was the main Iron Age port along the Israeli coast for the trade of copper, from the desert zones of Faynan in the northern Arava valley and Timna at its southern end."

Levy's coprincipal investigators on the expedition included University of Haifa professor Assaf Yasur-Landau in the Department of Maritime Civilizations, and UC San Diego alumnus Erez Ben-Yosef, PhD '10, who did his doctoral dissertation with Levy and is now a professor of archaeology at Tel Aviv University. Ben-Yosef organized the logistical infrastructure of the Timna imaging projects, while Yasur-Landau organized the Tel Dor 3-D imaging project through his Laboratory for Coastal Archaeology and Underwater Survey, with support from former Scripps Institution of Oceanography postdoctoral researcher Dr. Tali Treibitz from the University of Haifa's Marine Imaging Laboratory. Treibitz facilitated the underwater data collection in the waters of Tel Dor. Also helping to make the expedition a success was Cultural

Heritage Engineering Initiative (CHEI) director Falko Kuester for student support and the allocation of processing resources and equipment to the project, and Dominique Meyer who flew drones and processed the data. The logistics of the project were greatly supported by the Israel Antiquities Authority whose own drone operator, Yitzhak Marmelstein, worked with the team for the duration of the project.

The aerial drones carried out regional 3-D scanning of more than fifteen major ancient sites related to copper mining and smelting in the Timna mining region. This project was generously funded by Marian Scheuer Sofner and Abraham Sofner. In addition to the 3-D imaging project at Tel Dor and Timna, the expedition laid the groundwork for the first UC San Diego–University of Haifa Marine Archaeology Field School, planned for July 2018. The Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative and private donors have generously provided funds for the 2018 marine archaeology field school. •

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of Jewish Studies,

It has been a pleasure to direct the Jewish Studies Program at UC San Diego for the past year. To name a few highlights, the program hosted a lecture by biblical archaeologist Professor Assaf Yasur-Landau of the University of Haifa, who discussed his deep-sea research into ancient civilization. Yasur-Landau spent the spring quarter at UC San Diego teaching courses in the Department of Anthropology and Archeology and will return in spring 2018. Professor Choon-Leong Seow from Vanderbilt University delivered our third annual Katzin memorial lecture, on the topic of "What Do Commentaries of the Bible Do?" We have also begun to partner with the Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative, which seeks to strategically promote, support, and catalyze knowledge discourse and interaction on the modern state of Israel through scholarship,

engagement, and collaboration. The partnership enabled us to bring several events related to Israel to campus, including an Israeli film symposium and a talk by Nir Bergman, creator of the TV series *BeTipul (In Treatment)*. And this November, the program cosponsored talks designed for UC San Diego's undergraduate students by Yossi Klein Halevi and Yossi Sucary. The initiative also offers faculty and students varied opportunities to do research and study in Israel.

This winter, the program has returned to our regular Jewish Studies lecture series with lectures by Professor Eddy Portnoy, author of *Bad Rabbi*; Professor Tony Michels of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Ukrainian-born Israeli poet Linor Goralik; and Professor Marci Shore of Yale University.

Our new Jewish Studies initiatives include a scholarship to help undergraduate Jewish

Studies majors or minors fund study-abroad experiences, as well as a Jewish-Muslim faculty collective, which aims to foster closer ties among UC San Diego Muslim and Jewish faculty working on areas relevant to both Muslim and Jewish studies.

Finally, we're thrilled to welcome Andrianna Martinez, our new Jewish Studies Program Coordinator. I want to thank Julia Fermento-Tzaisler, Bill Propp, and Martinez for their work on this newsletter, and our supporters for helping to build a thriving, engaged Jewish Studies Program.

I look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Warm wishes,
Amelia Glaser
Associate Professor of Russian and
Comparative Literature

Faculty News

PROFESSOR

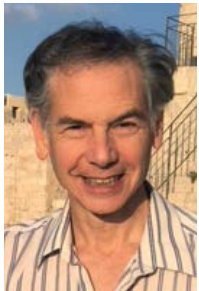
LISA LAMPERT-WEISSIG



In 2017, Professor Lisa Lampert-Weissig was a guest professor at the Department of English, American, and Celtic Studies at the University of Bonn, Germany, where she taught classes on Shakespeare's

Merchant of Venice and representations of Jews in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and gave a public lecture on the legend of the Wandering Jew.

PROFESSOR ALLAN HAVIS



From October 22 to October 30, Professor Allan Havis accompanied twenty-two San Diegan tourists to join Jerusalem Biennale founder Rami Ozeri for a week-long art sojourn.

This trip featured visits to the homes of Israeli collectors, artists' workshops, and a behind-the-scenes VIP visit to the world-renowned Israel Museum, led by chief curator of Israeli art Dr. Amitai Mendelsohn and curator of design and architecture Dr. Dan Handel. Other trip highlights included exclusive access to Biennale exhibits; a unique day in Bethlehem, in the West Bank, to see Banksy's *Walled-Off Hotel* installation and Palestinian art at the Bank of Palestine gallery in Ramallah; visits to artists and collectors' homes; and a tour of the Umm-al Fahm Art Gallery near Zikhron Ya'akov. Meals included chef dinners with Jerusalem's most famous restaurant owners, many featured in the film *In Search of Israeli Cuisine*. Havis was sponsored to attend the Biennale tour by the Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative as an ambassador professor. He has just published an anthology, *American Political Plays in the Age of Terrorism*.

PROFESSOR AMELIA GLASER



Professor Amelia Glaser is researching Yiddish poetry affiliated with the Soviet-centered Comintern in the 1920s and 1930s. She is collaborating with Professor Steven Lee of UC Berkeley on a volume titled

Comintern Aesthetics. She recently delivered a lecture on Yiddish poetry following the 1929 violence in British Mandate Palestine at Yale University. In November 2017, she presented her work on Yiddish poetry and national minorities at both the national Slavic Studies and American Studies conventions. In July 2017, in collaboration with Professor Taras Koznarsky of the University of Toronto, Glaser published an extensive annotated bibliography on the Ukrainian Cossack Bohdan Khmelnytsky for the Oxford online Jewish Studies Bibliographies. In January 2018, Glaser published an article in *Prooftext* on Dovid Hofshsteyn's Yiddish translations of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko. She also has an article forthcoming in *Modernism/modernity* on the American Yiddish poet Moyshe Nadir and the concept of *teshuvah* (repentance). She recently contributed translations of the Ukrainian poet Serhiy Zhadan to a new volume of poetry entitled *Words for War: New Poems from Ukraine*.

PROFESSOR DEBORAH HERTZ



Professor Deborah Hertz is at work on a book about radical Jewish women. She recently published three articles drawn from this project, most recently, "Many Shochat and her Traveling Guns." In December

2017, she presented her current research at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in Washington, DC. Last spring, Hertz visited Odessa, Ukraine, to get to know the haunting grounds of her historical subjects. Of

the trip she said, "After a few lovely days wandering the beautiful streets of this sunny, quite relaxed small city on the Black Sea, I had not discovered anything that altered my research agenda. But one night an Odessa acquaintance did take me to Café Dizengoff, named for the longtime mayor of Tel Aviv, who hailed from Odessa. With a leap of historical imagination, I could conjure the young Odessa hipsters as the ghosts of the previous century, debating politics long into the night."

PROFESSOR THOMAS LEVY



In January 2018, Professor Thomas Levy was recognized by the Chancellor with a Faculty Research Lecturer Award for his significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge. For more on

Levy's recent work, please see our cover story on pages 1-2.

PROFESSOR GERSHON SHAFIR



Professor Gershon Shafir recently published *A Half Century of Occupation: Israel, Palestine, and the World's Most Intractable Conflict*. Shafir will speak about his work on the

Israeli/Palestinian relationship in April 2018. Rabbi Philip Graubart, the current Jewish Studies Board of Visitor president, will serve as moderator for the discussion. •

Interview with Retiring Professor William H. C. Propp



William Propp

Professor William Propp joined the Jewish Studies Program at UC San Diego in 1983, while he was completing his PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University. Propp specializes in cultures and languages of the ancient Near East, as well as biblical and Judaic studies. While at UC San Diego, he gave instruction in ancient Near Eastern history; the Hebrew Bible; Modern Hebrew; and ancient languages such as Aramaic, Ugaritic, Phoenician, Akkadian, and Egyptian. His most notable scholarly work is a two-volume commentary on *Exodus*,

considered by many to be one of the greatest commentaries in the present day.

Please share with us memorable moments from teaching at UC San Diego.

Little things stand out in my mind, like the time I'd been up all night tending to a sick child, and then got uncontrollable giggles while trying to lecture the next day. Or advising a senior with an unfulfilled language requirement who was never going to master Hebrew. Or feeling the air pressure in a lecture hall drop several millibars as 350 freshmen gasped when I informed them, "I'm a lot less boring a person than you all think I am. There will be a substitute teacher on Friday because I'll be in LA playing bassoon at the Pantages Theatre for the Nintendo Legend of Zelda 25th Anniversary World Symphonic Tour." I didn't actually know what the tour was all about, but they sure did!

What were your favorite aspects of your career at UC San Diego?

The first that springs to mind is the privilege

of closely mentoring PhD students. For about twenty years, UC San Diego was the top doctoral program in Hebrew Bible studies west of the eastern seaboard, and I was glad to be part of that. I also greatly enjoyed working with undergraduates on their writing skills, especially B students who were avid readers and quite aware of their own deficiencies. Some of those kids I really helped, and occasionally I still hear from them.

What will you miss most?

Interactions with eager eighteen-year-olds, and also with the UC San Diego staff, who as a group are incredibly hard-working, competent, enthusiastic, and overqualified for what they do.

What are you looking forward to?

Leisure and music.

Are you working on anything new at the moment?

Nothing academic, but I am considering possible second careers. •

Interview with Retiring Professor David Goodblatt

Professor David Goodblatt taught at UC San Diego from 1988 until March 2017. He received his AB from Harvard University in 1963, a MHL from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1966, and a PhD from Brown University in 1972. Goodblatt's work deals with the history of the Jews in the Middle East during the millennium before the rise of Islam.

Among the courses Goodblatt offered at UC San Diego were *The Jews in Their Homeland in Antiquity*, *The Middle East Before Islam*, and *The Jewish Diaspora in Antiquity*. Goodblatt also held teaching positions at Brown University and the University of Haifa, where he was chair of the Department of Jewish History. He is the author of *Rabbinic Instruction in Sasanian Babylonia*; *The Monarchic Principle: Studies in Jewish Self-government in Antiquity*;

Historical Perspectives: from the Hasmoneans to Bar Kokhba in Light of the Dead Sea Scrolls, coedited with Avital Pinnick and Daniel R. Schwartz; and *Elements of Ancient Jewish Nationalism*.

Who were your students throughout the years?

Surprisingly, a high percentage of non-Jews. Often, there have been years where the majority have been Korean, or Korean American, students who took my courses because of their interest in the history of Christianity and its Jewish background. Most were history students; one of the requirements for history majors is to take courses covering history before 1800, so my courses covered that.

How do you conduct research in your field?

Usually I delve into questions that interest me,

and very often they don't interest anybody else. We do not have the extent of archival material from antiquity that we have from later periods.

What languages do you know?

Well, I really only speak Hebrew and English. However, I read Aramaic, Greek, French, and German.

What are you looking forward to once you retire?

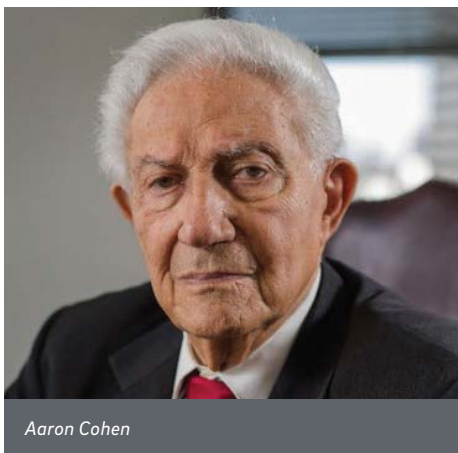
I guess part of it will be not having to show up at a specific time, not having to grade papers. Things like that.

What will you miss most?

Having someplace to go. •

UC San Diego's Holocaust Living History Workshop Honors San Diego's Holocaust Survivors and Their Families

BY SUSANNE HILLMAN, HLHW PROJECT MANAGER



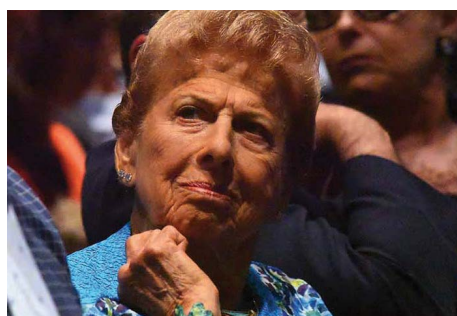
Aaron Cohen

Since its founding in 2008, the UC San Diego Holocaust Living History Workshop (HLHW) has provided a forum to learn about the history of the Holocaust. The 2016–17 lecture series was structured around the theme of the burden of this history. Aaron Cohen, a Bulgarian survivor who emigrated to Palestine and helped found a kibbutz, kicked off the series. The event was in honor of Lou Dunst, in gratitude for his outstanding support of Holocaust education in San Diego and of his widow Estelle's ongoing sponsorship of the HLHW.

Several events over the past year have featured the sons and daughters of survivors, including Pam Zimbalist's memories of her Lithuanian mother and William Rosenbaum's account of his Oswiecim-born father. Directed by the Dutch filmmaker Jan Diederer, the documentary film *Mr. Rakowski* further illuminated the transgenerational transmission of trauma. Richie Rakowski's presence at the post-screening panel discussion provided the audience

with an opportunity to interact with one of the film's protagonists. In his lecture last year, the internationally renowned Holocaust expert Omer Bartov offered an absorbing look at the destruction of the East Galician town of Buczacz.

The 2017–18 academic year focuses on the possibility of renewal in the aftermath of catastrophe. Jeffrey Shandler's lecture on Holocaust survivors in *Schindler's List* offered an intriguing look at the ways survivors themselves draw on memory and popular culture to fashion their stories. The workshop will host Philippe Sands, a British-based lawyer and author of the award-winning *East West Street: On the Origins of "Genocide" and "Crimes Against Humanity,"* and Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, curator of the core exhibit at POLIN Museum in Warsaw. Most events are videotaped and incorporated into the library's digital collections where they are available for research and pay tribute to San Diego's Holocaust survivors. •



Estelle Dunst

Gumpel Fellows



Tatiana Zavodny is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Literature. Her research incorporates a socio-historical approach to examining the representation of Jewish identity in nineteenth-century Italian literature. Grounding this project within its historical context can shed new light on the role of Jewish identity and actual Jewish communities in shaping the imagined identity of the Italian nation, culminating in the *Risorgimento*.



Trisha Tschopp is a second-year doctoral student in the Department of History and Science Studies. Her research examines Zionism as a scientific and technocratic movement. Using qualitative methods, she researches how agricultural technology and policy develops in Israel/Palestine, specifically focusing on water technology. •



Yossi Sucary

2017 Lecture Highlights

"ISRAEL'S CHANGING ATTITUDE TO THE LOST STORY OF THE HOLOCAUST OF NORTH AFRICAN JEWS"

YOSSI SUCARY

On November 1, Yossi Sucary, a novelist living in Israel and the author of *Benghazi-Bergen-Belsen*, gave a student-only lecture on campus, cosponsored by the Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative and hosted by Professor Jennifer Pantoja, as part of her Sixth College course on Jerusalem. Freshman Trianna Rivera wrote of the talk, "Mr. Yossi Sucary influenced my thoughts about bias in history. ... He mentioned many times that history is written from the perspective of the 'winners.'"

"WHAT JEWS AND MUSLIMS NEED FROM EACH OTHER"

YOSSI KLEIN HALEVI,
HARTMAN INSTITUTE

On November 2, UC San Diego's Jewish Studies Program hosted a student-only conversation with renowned journalist and educator Yossi Klein Halevi, an event cosponsored with

the Hartman Institute and UC San Diego's Hillel. Freshman Natalie Palmberg wrote of the event, "I found it very interesting when Yossi brought up the quote, 'Why should we fight over the land, when one day it will own us both?' ... It enlightened the idea that there is a sense of unity in mortality, yet dispute over technology in the form of land, between these two religions."

"HARD TO BE A JEW AS A COGNITIVE MAP OF JEWISH LIVES IN MANDATORY TEL AVIV"

PROFESSOR SHELLY ZER-ZION,
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

On April 7, Professor Shelly Zer-Zion delivered a lecture at UC San Diego that highlighted the tension between the appearances of the national and the ethnic on the Hebrew stage. Zer-Zion discussed how two stage adaptations of Sholem Aleichem's *Hard to Be a Jew* and their reception in Tel Aviv in 1936 and 1937 can be understood as cognitive maps delineating the spatial experience of Jews in Mandatory Palestine, in light of growing anti-Semitism in Europe and the local Arab revolt.

"BURSTING OUT OF BOUNDS: JEWS, GOG AND MAGOG, AND THE APOCALYPSE"

PROFESSOR ASA MITTMAN, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

On April 17, Professor Asa Mittman drew a large crowd of students, faculty, and community members to his UC San Diego lecture. In it, he discussed the curiously fraught image of idol-worship on the Hereford world map, produced in England around 1300. By focusing on four figures in the southeast quadrant, and then zooming out to consider the map as a whole, Mittman attempted to elucidate the symbolism of this complex, aggregate image and its implications for our understanding of medieval England.

"ISRAELI ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION: A FILM SYMPOSIUM"

DANA IVGY, NITZAN GILADY,
AND ELITE ZEXER

On April 19, the Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative worked with UC San Diego faculty in literature, theatre and dance, and Jewish Studies to



Above: Yossi Klein Halevi speaks with students at a special student lecture program.

Top left: Alan Wald, photo by Gregory Fox

Bottom left: Yossi Klein Halevi

bring together leading Israeli actors, directors, and writers to examine modern Israeli society through film. Dana Ivgy is a three-time recipient of the Israel Film Academy's Best Actress Award, most recently for her role in *Zero Motivation* (2014). Director Nitzan Gilady presented *Wedding Doll* (2015), his first feature film. Elite Zexer presented her award-winning directorial debut, *Sand Storm* (2016), which centers on relationships in a Bedouin community.

"THE PAST THAT MUST NOT PASS: JEWISH REVOLUTIONARY INTERNATIONALISM IN THE LONG 1930S"

PROFESSOR EMERITUS ALAN WALD,
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

On May 8, Professor Alan Wald, one of the preeminent scholars of American literature in the 1930s, explored for his UC San Diego audience the war of narratives over the tradition of Marxist Jewish American writers, intellectuals, and activists, in relation to revolutionary internationalist ideas and commitments in the Hitler-Stalin era. Wald also visited a graduate seminar in literary theory, where he discussed his literary history of the American

left and shared advice with beginning graduate students about choosing a project and conducting archival research.

"THE LOSING BATTLE FOR PEACE (AS WE KNOW IT): PUBLIC OPINION TRENDS"

DR. DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN,
MITVIM INSTITUTE

On May 25, Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin, an Israeli public opinion expert and political analyst, walked her audience through key trends in Israeli and Palestinian society—in particular, both groups' fluid relationship to conflict and to peace. Scheindlin offered her audience a rich and complicated understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, very different from the simplistic polarity portrayed in the media. •

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.

Ledden Auditorium

Linor Goralik with Ainsley Morse, "The Migrating Writer: A Russia-Israel-Ukraine Circuit"

March 13, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.

Ledden Auditorium

Marci Shore, "The Ukrainian Night"

April 5, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.

Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club Library

Gershon Shafir with Rabbi Philip Graubart, "Occupational Hazards: Israel in the West Bank"

April 12, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club Library

*Katzin Lecture
Gabriella Safran, "Did Jewish Jokes Immigrate?: Late Nineteenth-Century Yiddish Dictionaries and Jewish Dialect Humor in Russia and the United States"*

April 13, 2018 – 12:00 p.m.

Humanities and Social Sciences Building, Room 1054, Invitation Only

Gabriella Safran, "Research Methods in East European Jewish Studies"

April 17, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.

Institute of the Americas, Hojel Hall

Semyon Khanin with Kevin Platt, "Russian Poetry's Diaspora"

April 24, 2018 – 4:00 p.m.

The Village, Room 15A

Helen Philon, "Cultural Encounters: The Innovative Islamic Architecture of the Deccan"

May 3, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.

Hojel Auditorium, Institute of the Americas

Ruby Namdar, "Living in English, Writing in Hebrew: An Israeli Author's Journey Through the American Experience"

UC San Diego Student... and Hebrew Language Novelist

Kfar Saba 2000 by Julia Fermentto-Tzaisler



Julia Fermentto-Tzaisler, a doctoral student working with Professor Amelia Glaser on Jewish American literature and Yiddish, is also a writer. Her recent book, *Kfar Saba 2000* from Penn Publishing, came out in Israel last summer. The book, set in December of 2000, centers on a murder case that shatters the lives of the residents of Kfar Saba, a suburb of Tel Aviv; the killers of Lior Oppenheim, whose body was found at Ussishkin forest in 1996, are uncovered and appear in the media as bright, fluent teenagers, the beautiful flowers of the Sharon

district. With news about suicide bombings and good kids turning into murderers in the background, Daphne and David—two inseparable high school friends—stroll around the city parks, hang out at the mall, read too many books, and constantly fantasize about parallel lives that will take them as far as possible from Kfar Saba. Fermentto-Tzaisler won the Israeli Ministry of Culture Award for Young Authors and the book has garnered international praise and acclaim in the Israeli media. •

GIVING BACK

For more information about how **you can make a difference** for the Jewish Studies Program and its students, please visit jewishstudies.ucsd.edu/giving or contact Andrianna Martinez at (858) 534-4551 or jewishstudies@ucsd.edu.

