



A closing word...

As you can see from the previous pages, Jewish Studies at Carolina is growing quickly. We now have nine faculty members teaching in departments such as History, Religious Studies, American Studies, English, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Germanic Languages. We will soon need to add additional faculty in order to meet student demand, create a Jewish Studies major, and provide an exciting roster of public programs.

Of course, much of what the Center does – whether on campus or off – would not be possible without the generous support of alumni and friends like you. We invite you to consider making a gift to support the Center today.

Gifts at all levels are appreciated. You can use the enclosed envelope, make a gift online at <http://cjs.unc.edu/>, or, if you have questions about the different ways of making a gift, you can contact Rob Parker at the Arts & Sciences Foundation, (919) 962-6182 or Sam Magill in University Development, (919) 962-9694.

Thank you!

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News from the Center

Distinguished experts lead Jewish Studies lecture series

Michael Walzer, an expert on the history of Jewish political thought and moral philosophy, kicked off the spring 2005 public lecture series for the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies.

A scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., Walzer discussed "Morality and Universalism in Jewish Thought" on Wednesday, January 26. The author of numerous publications, Walzer previously taught at Princeton and Harvard universities. He is a contributing editor for *The New Republic* and editor of *Dissent*.

The lecture series was made possible by a grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation in honor of UNC alumnus Eli N. Evans, '58. Co-sponsors for the events included the departments of religious studies and women's

studies, the curriculum in American studies, N.C. Hillel, and the Center for the Study of the American South.

The scholars and public intellectuals who have participated in the spring lecture series covered a wide range of topics. Jennifer Stollman, assistant professor of history, Salem College, visited campus to lecture on the ways Southern Jewish women responded to antisemitism in the nineteenth century.



Michael Walzer

Joan Nathan, a nationally acclaimed cookbook author, spoke on "350 Years of Jewish Cooking in America."

Warren Bass, senior editor of the Washington Post's Book World and writer, editor and researcher for the 9/11 Commission, lectured on the making of the U.S.-Israel alliance.

Bernice Steinhart discussed the art and story of her mother, Esther Nisenthal Krintz, who grew up in Poland and created a series of thirty-six embroidery and fabric collage pictures depicting her childhood wartime experiences.

In a lecture that marked the culmination of the Center's celebration of the 350th anniversary of Jewish life in America, Pamela Nadell, professor of history and director of the Jewish

See Spring lecture series, page 7

Challah 101 with Joan Nathan

For students enrolled in Marcie Cohen Ferris's spring 2005 seminar on the history of Jewish women in America, one day in the semester was particularly hands-on. Joan Nathan, author of award-winning cook-

books and the host of the acclaimed PBS series *Jewish Cooking in America*, attended the class and spoke about the history of Jewish women and domestic ritual. Later that day, Ferris's students participated in a

challah-baking demonstration and discussion led by Nathan in North Carolina Hillel's kosher kitchen. Students learned about challah's Old World origins, how it was "Americanized" when immigrants brought their recipes to the New World, and most importantly, how to braid a magnificent six-strand loaf.

That evening, Nathan delivered a public lecture in the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies Lectures Series, where she traced the history and culture of Jews in America



Students Monica Petcovic and Robin Graham learn to braid a six-strand challah from Joan Nathan.



Using one of Joan Nathan's recipes for challah, students Ruthie Warshenbrot, Rachel Rosenberg, Greta Deerson, Jennifer Horowitz, and Alyssa Kaye (not pictured) prepared enough dough for 25 loaves and a delicious batch of onion rolls.

by examining the food traditions of different waves of immigration. In 1994, Nathan published *Jewish Cooking in America*, and her most recent book, *The Foods of Israel Today*, contains recipes from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions. Nathan's forthcoming book, *American Cooking Today*, explores how American food has changed in the last thirty years through the stories and recipes of citizens across the country.

From the Director's Desk

Now completing its second year, the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies offers thirty courses in Jewish Studies in a variety of departments across campus. Our undergraduate minor is flourishing, and our new program in Modern Hebrew is thriving. Currently, more than forty students study elementary and intermediate Hebrew, and an advanced course is on the horizon. The most exciting development is the broad impact that Jewish Studies courses are having across the curriculum. Close to 1,000 students annually enroll in our courses. Undergraduates from diverse backgrounds participate in Jewish Studies classes, studying topics from the Hebrew Bible and the History of the Holocaust to Jews in Russian and Polish Literature and Religion in Modern Israel.

On the academic front, our faculty has introduced several new courses over the last eighteen months. Marcie Cohen Ferris, who serves as the Center's associate director, recently launched two popular new undergraduate seminars, one on the history of American Jewish women, the other on the Jewish experience in the American South. Last spring, Erin Carlston developed an exciting new course on Jewish American literature. Jodi Magness, who joined the faculty in 2002, has experienced record numbers in her lecture courses on Ancient Judaism. Last fall, she had 290 undergraduates in her Introduction to Early Judaism, and in spring 2004, she attracted 150 students to a new class

on the archaeology of ancient Israel. This spring I am teaching my undergraduate lecture class on German Culture and the Jewish Question to seventy engaged students, witnessing first hand how central Jewish Studies has become to the exceptional liberal arts education that Carolina offers its undergraduates.

The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies extends its reach beyond UNC through a variety of public programs. Thanks to a generous grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation honoring Eli Evans, '58, chair of the Center's Advisory Board, our outreach efforts have become a reality. This past fall, as part of the official commemoration of the 350th anniversary of Jewish life in North America, historian Jonathan Sarna visited campus to give a breathtaking lecture on the topic of his recent book, *American Judaism*. Close to 300 people—students, faculty, and community members—came to this event, and similar audiences attended lectures by Steve Oney, Dale Rosengarten, Hanan Eschel and Jack Sasson. We also send our own faculty across the state to lecture to public groups in urban and rural communities. Center faculty members have already spoken in Pembroke, Fayetteville and Asheville, and we are excited about



Jonathan M. Hess

developing this program in the months to come. In this newsletter you'll find ample information about our public events programming, and let me encourage you to join us in these exciting new programs—whether you live in Chapel Hill or Charlotte, New York, Miami or San Francisco.

The Center draws tremendous strength from UNC's committed alumni and friends. I hope the information about our program in this newsletter is of interest, and please feel free to contact me directly should you wish to learn more about the Center or if you would like to share suggestions about our growing program.

Jonathan M. Hess
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Student Profile: Daniel W. Singer, '05

Dan Singer, who serves as the student representative on the Center's Advisory Board, has deep UNC roots. His uncle, grandfather and great-uncle are all Carolina alumni, and deciding to travel north from his hometown of Tampa, Florida to study at Carolina was hardly a stretch. A major in public policy, Dan has come to treasure the university's commitment to a true liberal arts education. "The beauty of a school like UNC," he says, "is that every department

is incredibly strong." "UNC," Dan adds, "offers the advantages of a large, public university while still feeling very intimate in its educational setting."

As president of Alpha Epsilon Pi, the campus's predominantly Jewish fraternity, Dan has played an active role in Jewish life on campus, and he cites the creation of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies as one of the highlights of his undergraduate career. As a field covering Jewish history and culture from the

early days of Judaic civilization in the ancient Near East through the Holocaust and the creation of the state of Israel to Jewish life around the world today,



Dan Singer

See Singer, page 7



Eli Evans visiting Marcie Ferris's American Studies seminar, "Shalom Y'all: The Jewish Experience in the American South," fall 2004.

Singer, from page 2

Jewish Studies is truly global in nature. Indeed, for Dan, it is the wide reach of the field that makes Jewish Studies so attractive, "enabling there to be a more diverse curriculum for students interested in current affairs outside of the United States, including the contemporary conflicts in the Middle East." Dan has also enjoyed the Center's focus on things closer to home. As a student in Marcie Ferris's seminar on the Jewish experience in the American South, Dan found himself studying a "subject most of us had never explored—and a subject that Dr. Ferris brought to life through a truly interdisciplinary approach." The course

brought in a series of guest speakers, and Dan found this element of the course of enormous value. "To be able to have speakers like Eli Evans (author of *The Provincials* and Chair of the Center's Advisory Board) come speak to us firsthand gave us an interactive experience that could not have been rivaled anywhere else." For Dan, accordingly, deciding to join the Center's Advisory Board was an easy and natural decision. "The opportunity to serve on a board with so many well-educated and influential campus and community members has truly helped broaden my horizon, as well as enabling me to see the bigger picture of Jewish life on campus and beyond."

Spring lecture series, from page 1

Studies program at American University, explored how American Jews celebrated the 250th and 300th anniversaries of the founding of their communities.

For information about our 2005-06 public events program, please visit our website at <http://ccjs.unc.edu>.



Carolina Center for Jewish Studies 2004-05 lectures are available to view online! Please visit www.jewishsparks.net.

Carol and Seymour Levin Endowment

A gift of \$100,000 by Carolina alumnus, Seymour M. Levin, Class of 1948, of Greensboro, North Carolina will establish the Carol and Seymour Levin Fund in Jewish Studies. Income from the fund will provide unrestricted support to the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies. Such endowments are extremely valuable for they give those administering the affairs of the Center assurance of financial support in perpetuity. Seymour's wife, Carol, is an alumna of the University of Mississippi. Mr. Levin is the retired president of Levin Brothers in Greensboro.

Sneak peek! The 2005-06 lecture series will include Holocaust scholar Deborah Lipstadt, Israeli playwright Naomi Ragen, Political Scientist and Israel expert Ian Lustick, ancient Judaism scholar Ross Kraemer, and others. Please visit our website, <http://ccjs.unc.edu>, for more information.

Explore the Legacy of Terezín: A Continuing Education Seminar, May 9-10, 2005

Between 1941 and 1945, the Nazis established a “model” concentration camp at Terezín (also called Theresienstadt, near Prague in what is today the Czech Republic).

We are pleased to offer a two-day continuing education seminar on May 9-10, 2005 entitled “Confronting Darkness: Art and Propaganda in a Nazi Concentration Camp.” Working with UNC-Chapel Hill’s Program in Humanities and Human Values, the seminar will offer both public school teachers and members of the general public an opportunity to join together with UNC faculty, students and visiting speakers to study one of the most fas-

inating and disturbing aspects of the Holocaust.

Drawing on eyewitness and scholarly accounts, the seminar will examine musical compositions, short fiction, and children’s poetry, all produced in Terezín, as well as memoirs and post-World War II cinema. Speakers include Paul Weiner, a child survivor of Terezín, S. Lillian Kremer, an expert on Holocaust literature, and UNC professors Christopher Browning and Tim Carter. The seminar will also feature musical performances by UNC student Kate American and recent UNC alumnus Jeremy Peterman.

The seminar runs from 4:00 p.m.,

Monday, May 9, through 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 10, 2005. Registration is required. The tuition is \$140 and includes dinner on Monday evening. Scholarship tuition for teachers is \$70. Thanks to the generosity of the Harry Louis Yanoff and Jeanette Master Yanoff Charitable Trust of Cumberland Community Foundation, we are pleased to offer a limited number of teacher stipends for currently employed, full-time, public and private K-12 teachers and community college instructors. For more information, call Dr. Sally Gray at 919-962-1544 or consult the web page of UNC’s Program in Humanities and Human Values at <http://adventuresinideas.unc.edu/>

Heilig Endowment Gift Creates Annual Jewish Studies Lectureship at Carolina

Thanks to a \$125,000 endowment gift from Alan Heilig and his sister Deborah Heilig Schwartz this past December, the Center will launch an annual lectureship on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Starting this fall, the **Morris, Ida, and Alan Heilig Lectureship in Jewish Studies** will bring a major scholar or public intellectual to campus each year to speak on a significant aspect of the Jewish experience. This lectureship honors Morris Heilig and his wife Ida, as well as their son Alan Heilig, all originally from Kinston, North Carolina. Check out our website (<http://ccjs.unc.edu>) for details about this year’s Heilig lectureship.



Faculty News & Notes

Yaakov Ariel’s book *Evangelizing the Chosen People: Missions to the Jews in America 1880-2000* (UNC Press, 2000) was awarded the American Society of Church History’s Albert C. Outler Prize for the best book published in ecumenical church history. Professor Ariel spent the fall semester of 2004 as a faculty fellow at the UNC Institute for the Arts and Humanities working on a new research project entitled “Passionate Ambivalence: Evangelicals, Jews and Israel.”

Christopher Browning’s latest book, *The Origins of the Final Solution: The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy, September 1939–March 1942*, published by the University of Nebraska Press in spring 2004, has won numerous accolades. Lauded by István Deák in the *New York Review of Books* as “the definitive work on the road Germany took toward the Final Solution during the crucial first three years of the war,” *The Origins of the Final Solution* won the National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category for 2004 and was selected as an *Atlantic Monthly* “Book of the Year” for 2004. Professor Browning also recently won a Humboldt Research

Award in recognition of lifetime academic achievement from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Erin G. Carlston delivered a series of lectures at the Institute of Judaism at Wildacres in Little Switzerland, NC in August 2004 on Jewishness in the Late 19th Century, the Dreyfus affair and James Joyce. She is currently completing a book, *Double Agents: Jews, Homosexuals and Communists in the Twentieth Century Imagination*, to be published by Columbia University Press.

Marcie Cohen Ferris’s new book, *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South*, will be published by the University of North Carolina Press this coming fall. Ferris and Mark I. Greenberg are co-editing an anthology of essays entitled *A New History of the Southern Jewish Experience*, to be published by the University Press of New England in 2006.

Jonathan M. Hess’s book *Germans, Jews and the Claims of Modernity* (Yale University Press, 2002) was selected by *Choice* magazine as an “Outstanding Academic

Book for 2003” and won honorable mention in the Modern Language Association’s Scaglione prize in Germanic languages and literatures. Professor Hess delivered lectures on the topic of his book in England (at the Leo Baeck Institute-London and at the University of Lancaster), in Norway (at the University of Trondheim and at the Center for Human Rights in Oslo) and at the University of Virginia, Miami University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Toronto.

Jodi Magness was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to spend the current semester teaching at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, at the Institute of Archaeology. Her recent study *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Eerdmans 2002) was selected by *Choice* magazine as an “Outstanding Academic Book for 2003” and was the winner of the 2003 Biblical Archaeology Society (BAS) Award for Best Popular Book on Archaeology of 2001-2002.

For more information about Center faculty, visit <http://ccjs.unc.edu>



UNC Press Reissues Classic on Southern Jewish Life

The Provincials: A Personal History of Jews in the South by Eli Evans has recently been reissued by the University of North Carolina Press. This classic work on the history and experience of Jewish southerners captures the essence of Judaism in an unexpected world. First pub-

lished in 1973, this work brought attention to the study of the Jewish South and paved the way for future scholarship. To read an interview with Eli Evans about the new edition, go to http://www.uncpress.unc.edu/interviews/evans_interview.htm

Crown family gift helps establish professorship honoring Jewish community leaders

The Crown family of Chicago has pledged a gift to establish an endowed professorship in honor of the late Sara and E.J. Evans of Durham, N.C.

The Sara and E.J. Evans Distinguished Professorship will enhance the university's study of Israel and the Middle East in conjunction with the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies.

"The Sara and E.J. Evans Distinguished Professorship honors a 50-year friendship between the Crown family and one of the extraordinary Jewish families in North Carolina history," said Sara Crown Star, a 1982 UNC graduate who serves as a trustee of the Arie and Ida Crown Memorial, governor of the Hebrew Union College Board of Governors and advisory board member of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies. "The Evans' contributions to the Jewish

and civic culture of their city and state, the university and the nation have been legendary. In particular, we are thrilled to be able to honor the passion the Evans family has to support the furtherance of Jewish education at UNC-Chapel Hill."

E.J. Evans was mayor of Durham for 12 years (1951-1963), and played a nationally recognized leadership role in improving race relations in the city. Bringing together groups in the community to work together, he helped Durham desegregate its public accommodations, city agencies and schools. He also gave his time and energy to Jewish affairs, serving at least a decade in each of the following roles: president of the Beth El congregation in Durham, chairman of the statewide Bonds for Israel campaign and president of the statewide United Jewish



Mayor E.J. Evans and his wife Sara, with sons Bob and Eli (1957).

Appeal. Evans graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill ('28), was president of the university's General Alumni Association and received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1972.

Sara Nachamson Evans was a leader in the Jewish community locally, regionally and nationally. She served on the national board of Hadassah for more than 45 years. Her mother Jennie Nachamson founded the first Hadassah chapter in the South in 1919.

The Evans' sons, Eli and Bob, are also UNC-Chapel Hill alumni. Bob Evans, who was a special assistant to CBS news legend Edward R. Murrow, is a former CBS bureau chief who covered the South from Atlanta and the Soviet Union in Moscow. Eli Evans, the former president of the Charles H. Revson Foundation in New York City,

chairs the advisory board for the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies.

"Our family is deeply grateful to our old friends, who now span two generations of the Crown family, for this generous gift that enables our parents' memory to be associated with Jewish Studies at our Dad's beloved alma mater," said Eli Evans.

Bernadette Gray-Little, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said, "We are most grateful to the Crowns for their generous gift and to the Evans family for their extraordinary service to the university and to Jewish and civic affairs over several generations. The Evans professorship will further strengthen our faculty expertise and outreach programs in Jewish Studies, advancing our goal of making Carolina a national leader in the field."

On the road with the North Carolina Jewish Studies Lecture Series

One of the primary goals of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies is to provide educational outreach programs that bring the excellence of our academic program to all North Carolinians. Thanks to initial funding from the Charles H. Revson Foundation in honor of Eli N. Evans, '58, UNC-CH, the Center has created the North Carolina Jewish Studies Lecture Series, a state-wide lecture program that began in 2004-2005. The series brings university faculty to Jewish and non-Jewish institutions, to secular and interfaith groups in both major urban areas such as Charlotte, Greensboro, Wilmington and Asheville, and to smaller communities such as Pembroke and Fayetteville. Lectures are conducted by the Center's Jewish Studies faculty. See our speaker's list below, and visit our web site, <http://ccjs.unc.edu>, for descriptions of facul-



Bus for North Carolina circuit-riding Rabbi Harold Friedman, circa 1955. Courtesy of the Jewish Heritage Foundation of North Carolina.

ty and lecture topics.

Marcie Cohen Ferris, a faculty member in UNC's Curriculum in American Studies, spoke about southern Jewish food traditions at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke in the fall of 2004. This January 2005, Erin Carlston, an assistant professor in the English Department, lectured at Beth Israel Synagogue in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Jonathan Hess,

director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies and a professor in UNC's Department in Germanic Languages, will lecture at UNC-Asheville on April 27, 2005.

We invite your organization to participate in the North Carolina Jewish Studies Lecture Series. There is no fee to participate in this program. The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies underwrites the lecturer's stipend, travel, and lodging expenses. We ask that participating institutions provide appropriate lecture space, refreshments, and publicity for their scheduled lecturer, and that all lectures be free and open to the public. To participate, please contact Marcie C. Ferris, Associate Director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, 919-962-1509, ferrism@email.unc.edu, CB 3160, 310 Dey Hall, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-

Speaker List and Lecture Topics:

Yaakov Ariel, Department of Religious Studies

- American Judaism: Decline or Renewal?
- Evangelicals and Jews: A Unique Relationship

Christopher Browning, Department of History (not available spring 2005; now booking engagements for 2006.)

- Hitler and the Decisions for the Final Solution: Explaining the Holocaust Perpetrators
- Holocaust History and Survivor Testimony: The Case of the Starachowice Factory Slave Labor Camps
- Holocaust Denial in the Courtroom: The Historian as Expert Witness in the Zuendel and Irving-Lipstadt Trials.

Erin Carlston, Department of English

- Jewishness in the Late Nineteenth Century
- James Joyce and Jewishness
- French Secularism and the Legacy of the Dreyfus Affair

Marcie Cohen Ferris, Curriculum in American Studies

- Dining in the Dixie Diaspora: Exploring Southern Jewish Food Traditions
- Shalom Y'all: Exploring Southern Jewish History and Culture
- "We didn't know from fatback": A Southern Jewish Perspective on Barbecue
- Religion and Domestic Culture: Judaism at Home in the American South

Jonathan Hess, Department of Germanic languages

- Germans, Jews, and the History of Antisemitism
- Germans, Jews, and the Experience of Modernity

- Assimilation and Its Discontents: Untold Tales from the Early History of Reform Judaism

Jodi Magness, Department of Religious Studies (on leave spring 2005, teaching in Israel.)

- The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls
- Masada: Last Stronghold of the Jewish Resistance Against Rome
- Jerusalem in the Time of Herod
- Biblical Jerusalem
- Ancient Jewish Tombs and Burial Customs
- Ancient Synagogues

Rosa Perelmuter, Department of Romance Languages

- Reflections on Cuban-Jewish Exile
- Yiddish Cuba
- The Jews of Cuba, Then and Now

Jonathan Weiler, Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies

- Jews in American Sports: An Informal History
- Contemporary Human Rights Challenges: From Humanitarian Intervention to Human Trafficking
- Is There Still a Peace Process in the Middle East?
- The situation of Jews and anti-Semitism in contemporary Russia
- Jewish Public Opinion in the United States: Is there still a Distinct Political Voice?