

2018-2019



Yeshiva University LIBRARIES

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MISSION

Yeshiva University Libraries nurture excellence in pursuit of the liberal arts and sciences, support professional education, promote faculty scholarship, and advance the university as a center for Jewish studies. The libraries achieve this through commitment to service, accessible collections, comprehensive information resources, engaging programs, and an inviting, functional, and flexible physical environment.

VISION

Yeshiva University Libraries will assume a central role in the academic enterprise by nurturing discovery, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary information exchange to help students and faculty collaborate, grow intellectually, and acquire skills for life-long learning. The libraries will maintain a global dimension in advancing research and scholarship in Jewish Studies.

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- Sandra Moore began as Head Librarian of the Pollack Library.
- Adina Brizel Pollack began as Cataloging Associate.
- Rebecca Shoemake began as Interlibrary Loan Coordinator.
- Leah Adler, Head Librarian of Hebraica-Judaica since 1986, died during a medical leave and after 38 years of service to the University Libraries. The university held a tribute in her memory on June 26, 2019 in the Mendel Gottesman Library of Hebraica-Judaica, and the University Libraries produced a tribute book in her memory.
- Zahava Cohen, Cataloging Associate, retired after more than 25 years of service.
- Steven B. Essig, Public Services Librarian (weekends), resigned.
- Aaron Goukman, Circulation Associate (weekends), resigned.
- Mary Ann Linahan, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator, retired after more than 25 years of service.

Outreach

Celebration & *Catalog of University Authors* | May 2, 2019



Librarians compiled and edited the catalog. In cooperation with the Office of Academic Affairs, the celebration included an interdisciplinary faculty symposium on disparities and challenges in modern society. Moderated by Stuart Halpern, Senior Advisor to the Provost, the symposium panelists were Vera Békés, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology; Lisa Chalik, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Stern College for Women; Jannine Lasaleta, Assistant Professor of Marketing, Sy Syms School of Business; Matthew Incantalupo, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yeshiva College; Lisa Henshaw, Clinical Assistant Professor, Wurzweiler School of Social Work; and David Bashevkin, Instructor, Sy Syms School of Business and Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies.

Scholarship

Librarians delivered talks at the 54th annual conference of the Association of Jewish Libraries on June 19, 2018 at Temple Israel in Boston. The conference assembles an international group of information professionals in academic institutions, museums, day schools, and synagogues to report on innovation, collaborations, and best practice.



Shulamith Berger, Curator of Special Collections and Hebraica-Judaica, spoke on "Genealogical Resources in Yeshiva University Library's Special Collections" at the conference as well as at the Center for Jewish History in cooperation with the Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute.

Marlene Schiffman, Catalog Librarian, spoke on *It All Adds Up: Chronograms in Hebrew Books*.

Avrom Shuchatowitz, Judaica Cataloger, spoke on *Early Tanach Printings in the Yeshiva University Library*.

Data

Information literacy sessions	62
Information literacy sessions, total attendance	967
Year-end number of titles in collections	702,799
Year-end number of electronic journal titles (in cooperation with Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Cardozo School of Law)	118,572
Interlibrary loan, outgoing items	1,634 returnable 4,202 non-returnable
Interlibrary loan, received	1,797 returnable 1,172 non-returnable

POLLACK LIBRARY

Public service librarians created instructional videos for new online social work programs that started in January. Orientation for the new Sara Schinerer/Wurzweiler MSW program was launched, with two sessions in Borough Park, Brooklyn and a third taught via Zoom. A legal resources class in Israel during the spring semester received instruction via Zoom.

The Personal Librarian Program continued with guiding Schottenstein Honors Program students in the research phase of their thesis projects.

Pollack Librarians created and updated research guides. The "Library Research Jump Start" guide is the most viewed, with 9,327 views this year. Other new and updated guides include "Entrepreneurship Strategy," "Legal Research," and "Jewish Genealogical Research."

MENDEL GOTTESMAN LIBRARY

The university held a tribute in memory of Head Librarian Leah Adler, who served for over 38 years, on June 26, 2019 in the Mendel Gottesman Library of Hebraica-Judaica, and the University Libraries produced a tribute book in her memory. Rabbi Ari Berman, president of the university, headed the program of speakers. The Zoltan Erenyi Fund established a restricted fund of \$50,000 annually for acquisitions in her memory.

Visitors and scholars of note:

Yitzhak Berger
Barak Cohen

Menachem Butler
Rabbi Chaim Dalfin

Aharon Gimani	Ephraim Halivni
Elisheva Hochstein	Avraham Holtz
Rabbi Barry Kornblau	Rabbi Chaim Rapaport
Edward Reichman	Chezky Sofer
Rabbi Kalman Topp	Amram Tropper
Rabbi Gideon Weitzman	Rabbi Daniel Yolkut

Acquisitions of note:

Books

- Max Vasmer, *Russisches Geographisches Namenbuch*.
- Dan Diner (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Jewish History*.
- Stefan Schorch (ed.), *The Samaritan Pentateuch: A Critical Editio Maior*.
- Rudolf Klein, *Metropolitan Jewish Cemeteries of the 19th and 20th Centuries in Central and Eastern Europe*.
- Gerrit Bos, *Novel Medical and General Hebrew Terminology from the 13th Century*.

Archival materials

- Budapest Orthodox Jewish Congregation records, 1890-1944.
- Hivya de-Rabanan [anti-Sabbatian proclamation from leaders of 3 European communities, c. 1725].
- Na'akat Yisra'el [prayers to halt a cholera epidemic in Germany, 1831].
- Autograph will of a wealthy German Jewish woman, 1777.
- Proclamation of Orthodox convention in Kihailovic in opposition to religious reform efforts.
- Important letter by R. Isaac Hutner on Torah study by women (1953).

HEDI STEINBERG LIBRARY

- To cultivate undergraduate library use, staff members sponsored the "Great Stern Read," and students were invited to submit a short e-mail message describing a book they enjoyed. Their blurbs, along with a photograph of each book cover, were displayed. All participants received a free book.
- The Personal Librarian Program continued with guiding Abraham Honors Program students in the research phase of their senior projects.
- Before the final examination period in the fall 2018 semester, the public service librarians set up a Library Help Table in the Stanton Hall lobby to promote the benefits of library resources.
- To celebrate National Poetry Month, students were invited to write poems in either English or Hebrew on a magnetic board located in the 2nd floor library. Over 25 students participated anonymously. 8) 9) The library participated in the pilot program of online registration for patron use of group study rooms.
- The library instituted a de-selection program in anticipation of a renovation of the facilities with a grant from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York earmarked by New York Assembly Member Nily Rozic.
- The library participated in the Success Fair at Freshman Orientation and gave out bookmarks and a brochure, "Library Fast Facts," which staff members created.
- The library continued with the Star Project of the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) by placing a star on books that committed to retention.
- Hallie Cantor, Acquisitions Associate, edited the New York Metropolitan Area Chapter of the Association of Jewish Libraries *Newsletter*.

- At the end of March, Rina Krautwirth, Research and Instruction Librarian, hosted an event at the library for the New York Metropolitan Area Chapter of the Association of Jewish Libraries about recent innovations in digital resources and their accessibility. Speakers from JSTOR, the Dorot Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research spoke about their projects in this area.
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ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- Islandora implementation: staff members engaged in time-intensive preparation of special collections material for mounting in Islandora (e. g., transferring material from the old system and testing new types of material, such as video).
- Cooperated digitization: the National Library of Israel digitized rabbinic/historic manuscripts from 165 reels of microfilms as part of its KTIV portal of Hebrew manuscripts.
- Hundreds of scans of photographs and other documents were supplied to various university departments: President's office, Alumni Affairs, Marketing & Communications, Institutional Advancement, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University High School for Boys, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and various professors for their research and publication. Images supplied to Marketing & Communications were utilized on university social media.
- Staff members provided information and images to *Jewish Action* (a publication of the Orthodox Union) and outside researchers and students, for both scholarly and personal research.
- Three classes were delivered as rare book room sessions (Professors Perelis, Carlebach and Leiman).

WEB & DIGITAL SERVICES

- Implemented single sign-on (SSO) authentication for library e-resources off-campus access.
- Set up a new online group study room booking system for Hedi Steinberg Library.
- Upgraded and migrated three Windows servers hosting library applications.
- Create and updated the content of YU Press and YU Faculty Publications webpages.
- Collaborated with Marketing & Communications and an outside vendor to review and enhance library webpage accessibility with the WCAG 2.0 AAA standard.
- Assumed responsibility for managing Virtua, the integrated library system.

Further developed YAIR: Yeshiva Academic Institutional Repository

- YAIR is indexed by major search engines, including Google, Bing, Google Scholar, and EBSCO Discovery Services. Last year, more than 39k sessions visited site globally.
- An online self-deposit form and YAIR User's Guide are now available on YAIR's landing page.
- The Scholarly Communication Librarian cultivated faculty and administrators from various departments via both e-mail and personal interviews. 247 articles published by faculty and staff members were uploaded to YAIR.

- 288 honors theses and 3,647 dissertations were uploaded with, restricted to university- community access only. A new consent form will be distributed to the honors students in the future with the selection option of open access.
- A retrospective collection of student publications from among Archives holdings, such as *Chronos*, *Derech HaTeva*, *Women in Science: Undergraduate Achievements in Biology, Chemistry and Physics*, was created.
- Work from the Michael Scharf Publication Trust of Yeshiva University Press (e. g., *Maimonidean Studies*, *Azrieli Papers*, and *Orthodox Forum*) was uploaded.

METADATA SERVICES

- Catalogers added 121 records to NACO: Name Authority Cooperative Program.
- A total of 4,207 volumes were added to the online public access catalog (including 534 for Pollack Library, 577 for Hedi Steinberg Library, and 2,993 for the Mendel Gottesman Library of Hebraica-Judaica).

STRATEGIC PLAN WORK GROUPS

DIGITIZATION

- Agreement was reached to partner with National Library of Israel in digitizing Hebrew manuscripts from 165 reels of microfilm for placement on their KTIV repository. The Libraries will receive copies of the digital files.
- Staff members created a detailed proposal for digitization of *Commentator/Observer* undergraduate student newspapers, in collaboration with student editors and other stakeholders. Managed preliminary review of content for copyright exposure. They presented plan to Institutional Advancement for funding support.
- Staff members composed a proposal for digitization of Libraries' Ladino language book collection (approximately 500 works) and the Ladino language newspaper *La Vara* (1922-1948) and submitted it to several funding entities and individuals.
- Working with the vendor Born-Digital since mid-March, staff members launched a project to implement a replacement for the current Digital Library. The new platform will contain rich metadata and more robust functionality and will enable the creation and presentation of additional digital collections.
- As part of the group's preservation initiative, staff members transferred over 1 TB of video material on DVD to a standard web preservation format.

INSTRUCTION & PUBLIC SERVICES

Student Library Research Award

A team of seven librarians (Zvi Erenyi, Paul Glassman, Stephanie Gross, Rina Krautwirth, Wendy Kosakoff, Sandy Moore, Deena Schwimmer) evaluated 22 entries based on an updated rubric. The winner, Alyssa Wruble, graduated this spring with a Political Economy (shaped) major. Alyssa's paper is entitled "Supervised Injection Facilities: How Facilitating Opioid Injections Can Save Lives (and

Money).” She wrote the paper for her Public Policy course in the fall. Alyssa’s paper has been uploaded to the Research Award LibGuide and is also available on YAIR.

Personal Librarian Program

This program is in the process of being updated for fall of 2019 to focus on first-time-on-campus students.

Social Media

The following library social media platforms are updated regularly:

- Twitter: @yulibraries
- Facebook: Yeshiva University Libraries
- Instagram: YULibraries
- YouTube: Yeshiva University Libraries

New Faculty Orientation

New faculty were introduced to the University Libraries via a presentation describing collections and services and giving an overview of the website.

TECHNOLOGICAL SERVICES

- Established an online group study room booking system for Hedi Steinberg Library.
- Ordered and installed flat-panel monitors and ancillary equipment for collaboration in Pollack Library group study rooms.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- **Quarterly Staff Newsletter**

- **Staff Symposium**

Held on January 16, 2019, the symposium features three speakers from City University of New York on their experiences with open educational resources. Afternoon sessions introduced a design thinking exercise and instruction with TV clips.

- **Lunchtime Learning**

November 19 & 20, 2018: **3-D Printing**. David Kohanchi, president of the 3-D Printing Club at the Yeshiva University High School for Boys, presented two sessions on 3-D printing in the STEM lab.

May 7, 2019: **Fair Use**. Archivist Deena Schwimmer explained the fair use doctrine, its relation to the public interest, and the four factors used as guidelines.



OUTREACH

Library Book Talks 2018-2019

library.yu.edu

13
DECEMBER
2018
Thursday, 7PM
Gottesman Library
Room 507
2520 Amsterdam Ave
Wilf Campus

24
FEBRUARY
2019
Sunday, 4 PM
Belfer Hall room TBA
2495 Amsterdam Ave
Wilf Campus

9
APRIL
2019
Tuesday, 6 PM
Stanton Hall
Room TBA
245 Lexington Avenue
Beren Campus

Ronnie Perelis
Chief Rabbi Dr. Isaac Abraham and
Jelena (Rachel) Alcalay Associate Professor
of Sephardic Studies

**Narratives from the Sephardic Atlantic:
Blood & Faith**

Ephraim Kanarfogel
E. Billi Ivry University Professor of Jewish
History, Literature and Law; Chair, Rebecca Ivry
Department of Jewish Studies

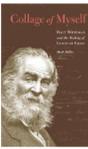
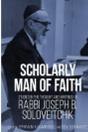
**Scholarly Man of Faith:
Studies in the Thought and Writings of
Rabbi Joseph D. Soloveitchik**

Co-sponsored by Bernard Revel Graduate
School of Jewish Studies

Matt Miller
Associate Professor of English

**College of Myself:
Walt Whitman and the Making of Leaves of
Grass**

In honor of National Poetry Month



Ronnie Perelis, Chief Rabbi Dr. Isaac Abraham and Jelena (Rachel) Alcalay Associate Professor of Sephardic Studies
Narratives from the Sephardic Atlantic: Blood & Faith

Ephraim Kanarfogel, E. Billi Ivry University Professor of Jewish History, Literature and Law; Chair, Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies

Scholarly Man of Faith: Studies in the Thought and Writings of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Co-sponsored by Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies

Matt Miller, Associate Professor of English

Collage of Myself: Walt Whitman and the Making of Leaves of Grass

In honor of National Poetry Month

COLLECTIONS

- Newspapers: boxing and housing on the basement and 6th-floor levels is completed.
- Older periodicals in the basement level are currently being organized chronologically and boxed.
- Newspapers will be cataloged by title.