Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. is a not for profit (501-c-3) organization dedicated to the advancement of pluralistic Jewish education. Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. provides support to four non-profit organizations based in Jerusalem, Israel:

**Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies:** A Graduate School offering innovative, interdisciplinary M.A. programs to Israeli educators of all backgrounds and beliefs.

**Schechter Rabbinical Seminary:** A Rabbinical School for the training of educational and community leaders for Israel and abroad.

**TALI Education Fund:** A nationwide Jewish education program providing enriched pluralistic Jewish Studies in 140 public schools and kindergartens throughout Israel.

**Midreshet Yerushalayim:** An educational program offering study opportunities in Jewish culture to immigrants from the former Soviet Union in Israel and in communities throughout Eastern Europe.
message from the chairman

My dear Schechter Friends,

I am proud to present to you the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. Report on Activities for 2004-05. As I enter my 6th year as Chairman of the Board, I can’t help but step back for a minute and ponder the impressive strides we have taken in these past five years.

It is now official. The Graduate School is an accredited Israeli academic institution. This new status only affirms what we have known all along: that Schechter is a top-notch indigenous Israeli institution that in the past twenty years has carved out a special niche in Israeli higher education. The Rabbinical Seminary is at the forefront of pioneering efforts in the field of hospital chaplaincy as well as continuing its advocacy for women’s rights in Jewish Law. Combining the highest level of academic studies with a deep respect for Judaism as a relevant and embracing religion, Schechter has graduated more than 700 educators and ordained close to 70 rabbis. This is indeed a new cadre of Jewish leadership ready to serve a Jewish state thirsting for authentic spiritual leadership.

The TALI Education Fund and Midreshet Yerushalayim are demonstrating real signs of growth both in numbers and in the consolidation and quality of their programming. In Israel, cities are asking that their entire school systems adopt the TALI approach to Jewish education. In North America, TALI textbooks are being translated for local consumption at the behest of Jewish day schools. In Israel, the magic of the MILLI game (experiential Jewish learning through use of a TV game format popular in Russia) is bringing more and more Russian-speakers into the fold of their reclaimed Judaism. Soon the game will go online, with a potential of reaching thousands of Russian-speaking Jews throughout the world.

In closing, let me say that the people of Israel, over the last few months, find themselves in the midst of a defining moment for the future of their Jewish State and its Zionist underpinnings. The national debate has been painful and at times, divisive and acrimonious. It is precisely these moments that point to the profound mission that the Schechter Institute has taken upon itself: to act as a bridge and an anchor; a bridge in bringing the disparate sides of Israeli society together over a common narrative of heritage and homeland; an anchor in rooting Israel’s future generations to a strong Jewish identity based on values of democracy and religious pluralism.

I urge all of you at this time to increase your support of the educational work of the Schechter Institute. Through Schechter, we are realizing the Israel of the Prophets, the Israel of our dreams.

Robert S. Rifkind
Chairman of the Board
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc.

message from the president

Dear Friends of Schechter,

During the past year, Israel has been preoccupied with the disengagement from Gaza and we are all relieved that Israeli democracy has weathered this difficult storm. Little has been said, however, about another type of disengagement that is so common in Israel today – the overwhelming majority of Israelis are disengaged from Judaism. It is the goal of the four amutot (non-profits) supported by Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. to enable Israelis to reengage with Jewish tradition, to reengage with Jewish history, and to reengage with Jewish culture.

Here are a few highlights of Jewish reengagement as we enter the year 5766:

The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Graduate School recently reached a major milestone. Last December, 70 Israeli educators received graduate degrees as the last graduates of the Jewish Theological Seminary’s branch in Israel, bringing the total to 707 graduates from Kiryat Shemona to Eilat. In June, Schechter received its final accreditation as an Israeli graduate school and recruitment is now running 28% ahead of last year.

The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary continues to train Conservative rabbis for Israel and Europe while hosting the one-year programs from JTS, UU and the Seminario. Today, almost all Masorti pulpit rabbis in Israel are graduates of Schechter. Fourteen rabbis are working as TALI rabbis while others work as hospital chaplains, Matnass (JCC) rabbis, and educators.

The TALI Education Fund received a one-million-dollar gift in the spring. As a result, 20 more Israeli schools and pre-schools have joined the TALI system this fall, bringing the total number to 63 schools and 74 pre-schools teaching over 25,000 Israeli children every year. TALI publishes at least four new textbooks per year and two TALI textbooks are being translated into easy Hebrew for use in the Diaspora.

Midreshet Yerushalayim now runs 44 outreach centers for Russian immigrants in Israel, including 16 MILI clubs for young adult immigrants. In the Ukraine, there are thirteen TALI schools from Munkatch to Donetsk. Camp Ramah Yachad just celebrated its 10th year with 200 campers, while the new Ramah Family Camp near Kiev held its second season with 150 parents and children. 28 teachers-in-training from the Jewish University in Budapest came in May to study at Schechter.

The four Schechter amutot now teach some 33,000 Israeli and European Jews every year. With your help, we will continue to help these and many other Jews reengage with their tradition, history and culture.

David Golinkin
President
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
The Schechter pace of programming is truly a 24/7 proposition. Twenty-four hours a day. Seven days a week.

On any given day of the week in Jerusalem, or Kiev, Kibbutz Givat Brenner or Berlin, Jewish learning is not only alive, it is flourishing.

The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Graduate School; The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary; TALI Education Fund; Midreshet Yerushalayim in the former Soviet Union and Israel. The Schechter curriculum, the classes, the programs and workshops offer a “24/7 Jewish Education Experience” that is touching the lives of tens of thousands of people of all ages coming from diverse locations and religious levels of observance.

24/7 at Schechter translates into more than 700 graduates of our MA, program who as educators are reaching tens of thousands through their daily educational work in the classroom and elsewhere.

24/7 at Schechter is a testament to the work of the 61 rabbis who have been ordained by the Rabbinical Seminary, with almost all Masorti synagogues in Israel being served by Schechter rabbis. Our graduates also serve as TALI rabbis, hospital chaplains and in other educational leadership roles.

24/7 at Schechter means more than 200 TALI teachers who have graduated or are currently enrolled in the TALI Leadership Development program which combines Jewish experiential pedagogy with the sound academics of the Schechter MA program.

24/7 at Schechter is creating a new and knowledgeable cadre of Russian-speaking Jews through the 44 MILI clubs and learning centers in Israel and 14 TALI schools and Ramah camps in the Ukraine.

24/7 at Schechter means reaching multiple communities at once: the tens of thousands of parents, children and teachers that make up the TALI community; the tens of thousands of Israelis being reached by our MA and Rabbinical graduates; the thousands of Russian-speakers in Israel and the former Soviet Union that comprise our Midreshet Yerushalayim community; and finally, those in the community at large, from the Israeli artists searching for the “Jewish” in their art to the hundreds of Masorti women who attend Women’s Study Days and the hundreds who attend Schechter-sponsored lectures.

Join us in exploring the days and the hours that make up our lives at Schechter.

24/7 2004-2005
Those who make education their business know that the road is long and sometimes enveloped in a thick cloud. But it is precisely in the mists that revelation has occurred more than once.

...The Schechter Institute is such a revelation, a place where "we shall hear" is inextricably linked to "we shall do," a place where learning and deed coexist peacefully under a single roof, a place that rather than talking about solutions for the nation’s problems from on high, enriches the Jewish identity of present and future educators, so critical to education and social action.

In the difficult reality of the State of Israel... the solution always comes back to education. Good education will solve the problem of violence. It will bring an end to the growing economic gaps; it will bring us the longed-for peace. Like a magic wand, it will save us from ourselves.
Highlights 2004-05

Accreditation Achieved

The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies received final accreditation as an Israeli academic institution by Israel’s Council for Higher Education in June 2005. Schechter is now able to grant Israeli Master’s Degrees in Jewish Studies. For the last fifteen years, from 1990, the Schechter Institute operated as a branch of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. Confering degrees through JTS was a privilege that Schechter acknowledges with the greatest respect.

Appointments

Dr. Guy Miron has been appointed Dean of the Graduate School, effective October 1, 2005. Miron, a Senior Lecturer in Jewish History, holds a doctorate from the Hebrew University and has worked at the Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem.

Dr. Alexander Even-Chen is stepping down as Dean and will return to full-time teaching. He held the position since 1994, and was instrumental in achieving accreditation and more than doubling the student body in the last decade.

Dr. Shula Laderman has become coordinator of the Judaism and the Arts M.A. track, replacing Dr. Amram Dolev, who will continue to coordinate the Family and Community Studies M.A. track.

Dr. Bat-Sheva Stern will coordinate the Women’s and Gender Studies Track while Prof. Renée Levine Melammed is on sabbatical at Yale University.

The Numbers

461 M.A. students specializing in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interdisciplinary Studies</th>
<th>131</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land of Israel Studies</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Jewish Studies</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Community Studies</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal Education</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judaism and the Arts</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty Members 52
Courses Offered 288
2004 Graduates M.A. and D.H.L. degrees 75

Scholarship Recipients

Substantial tuition assistance provided:

- 115 Davidson scholarships to first-year students
- 33 Kochav Trust and Jewish Agency scholarships for educators from development towns
- 14 scholarships through the UJC of Metro West, the JUF of Chicago and the Jewish Agency for professionals from community centers
- 65 TALI teachers and principals through the UJA Federation New York, Legacy Heritage Fund Limited, UJC Metro West for TALI Leadership Program
- 70 partial tuition scholarships through the Estate of Edythe Griffinger
- 10 Rifkind-Meresman Scholarships for academic excellence established by the Charles H. Revson Foundation
- 2 Shalvi Scholarships for Judaism and the Arts and Women’s and Gender Studies endowed by an anonymous donor
- 2 Sidney Frank Foundation Scholarships for outstanding students in the Women’s and Gender Studies M.A. track

24/7 MONDAYS 24/7 TUESDAYS 24/7 WEDNESDAYS 24/7

Dr. Guy Miron, incoming Dean of the Graduate School

Dr. Bat-Sheva Stern, program coordinator for Women’s and Gender Studies

6 | the schechter graduate school
Recruitment Up 26%
To date, the number of students enrolled for the 2005-06 academic year is up 26% over the number recorded for the same period in 2004. Part of this increase is due to the efforts of Racheli Brandshaft, a graduate of the Schechter M.A. program, who joined the Schechter staff in 2005 as recruitment officer.

Events to Remember
Commencement Exercises: Degrees conferred: 64 M.A., 11 D.H.L., JTS Honorary Doctorate to the Hon. Prof. Irwin Cotler, Canadian Minister of Justice, December 6, 2004
Marc and Henia Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance awarded to Osnat Elanatan, director of Kehilah, a community-based social action organization in Bet Shemesh, December 7, 2004
“From Breslau to Jerusalem: Rabbinical Seminaries in the Past, Present and Future” Academic Conference held at the Schechter Institute, Dec. 7-8, 2004

Library Acquisitions
► the honorable Prof. Aharon Barak, President of the Supreme Court, Jerusalem, from his father’s collection, with special concentrations in Holocaust Studies and Land of Israel Studies
► 2,000 volumes from the collection of Prof. Uriel Tal z’tl in the areas of History, Sociology and Jewish Studies
► Shoshana Ben-Dor, Board member, Jerusalem, close to 1,000 books from the collection of her late parents, Rabbi David and Ruth Bonder z’tl
► Dr. Norman Schanin, Jerusalem, former Director of David Yellin Teachers’ College, books in Jewish Studies and Jewish Education

Scholarships and Prizes
Kekst Faculty Fellowship
Dr. George Savran, senior lecturer in Bible, has notably served as the Kekst Faculty Fellow for 2003-05, during which time this respected Bible scholar published Encountering the Divine: Theophany in Biblical Narrative, by T and T Clark Publishers. Dr. Einat Ramon is the new Kekst Faculty Fellow for 2005-2007.

The Prof. Alice Shalvi Scholarships
The Prof. Alice Shalvi Scholarships for Excellence in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies and Judaism and the Arts were awarded for the first time in 2004-05 to two outstanding M.A. students. Ophira Krakover, a graphic artist, is very active in the community, having established a branch of Kolech (Religious Women’s Forum) in Modi’in. Ophira serves on the Modi’in Women’s Council and is active in Shachar, the movement for religious-secular cooperation. Naomi Sappir, an occupational therapist, has worked in the Talbieh Hospital, the “Magen” Hostel, the Center for Victims of Alcohol and the Youth Rehabilitative Center in Jerusalem.

Judge Simon Rifkind and Harry Meresman Scholarships
The annual Judge Simon Rifkind and Harry Meresman Scholarships will be awarded to ten graduating students chosen for their outstanding academic achievement at the Schechter Institute Commencement Exercises to take place on November 30, 2005. Funds from the endowment, which was established in 2001, will be awarded annually to honor students for academic excellence.
New Programs... New Initiatives

JTS’s Davidson School of Education turned to the Schechter Institute to plan and implement a three-week educational seminar for forty of their M.A. students, “Visions and Voices of Israel” took place December 23-January 13, 2005, and provided participants with visits to selected schools and meetings with educators combined with Jewish learning at the Schechter Institute. Planning for a 2005-06 program is already underway.

“Common Values-Different Sources” brought together fifteen Jewish and Muslim teachers from two neighboring Israeli public schools for a 14-session program where texts from Judaism, Christianity and Islam that relate to common values were taught by Schechter faculty, a Sufi Imam, and a Jesuit Priest, with the objective of educating toward coexistence. Some sessions focused on the application of these texts in the classroom. The program, established in conjunction with the Inter-religious Coordinating Council in Israel, will run a second course in 2005-06 in partnership with the Center for Educational Technology for an academic colloquium with Bar Ilan University and the KTU aimed specifically at classroom application.

An academic colloquium with Bar Ilan University, the Catholic Theological University in Utrecht, Holland (KTU) and the Schechter Institute organized an international conference on Iconoclash which took place in Utrecht in August 2005, where three Schechter faculty members spoke. This ecumenical gathering began in 1993 when Bar Ilan University and the KTU began an academic colloquium. In 2003, they asked the Schechter Institute to join the colloquium to provide a modern perspective on Jewish law and theology.

Curriculum Research in Israel: Views and Forecasts, a curriculum colloquium co-sponsored by the Schechter Institute, Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, all Israeli universities, the Jewish Agency and Ministry of Education, took place at the HUC Jerusalem campus in February 2005. Dr Brenda Bacon, a Schechter senior lecturer in Jewish education, was on the organizing committee of the conference and chaired a session of the colloquium which gave a prominent place to curriculum and Jewish education. The conference marked the founding of the Israeli branch of the International Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies.

A long-term academic strategic review to define the growth of the institution and to consider new directions in student enlistment and study progress has been initiated by the Management Committee of the Graduate School. Mr. Gury Zilka, former Director General of the Planning and Budget Committee of the Israel Council for Higher Education, has been contracted to assist in the process. The sub-committee will report to the Management Committee and the Board of Governors in Fall 2005.

We Remember...

Lucy Plitman, beloved lecturer of Bible, who passed away after a long illness, February 2005

Munir Morduch, beloved head of maintenance, passed away suddenly, December 2004

Binyamin Brenzel, beloved employee of the Finance Department, passed away at the age of 102, January 2005

Research Institutes

THE CENTER FOR JUDAISM AND THE ARTS

The Center for Judaism and the Arts was established in 2001 to enrich the culture of Jewish life in Israel and includes the M.A. track in Judaism and the Arts, the Artists’ Bet Midrash and the Judaism and Arts Curricula Writing Project for TALI Schools.

Highlights 2004-05

The M.A. track in Judaism and the Arts, established in 2000 with the cooperation of the Israel Museum, continues to be a popular M.A. program at Schechter, with forty students majoring in the program, while scores of students from all study tracks opt to take elective courses.

The Artists’ Bet Midrash was established in 2002 to bring about a creative interface between artists and scholars.

JTS Davidson School of Education M.A. students at Schechter

“Common Values-Different Sources”: (left) Azmi Arafat, principal of Abu Ghosh High School with Dr. Moti Arad, from Schechter

Rivka Myers (left), student in Judaism and the Arts, describes her work to Dr. Jo Milgrom (right) at the student art exhibit
This year, fifteen artists participated in interdisciplinary study which focused on The Land of Israel: Roots and Branches through a cooperative effort of faculty of the Schechter Institute, Midreshet Iyun in Tel Aviv and the Artists’ Residence in Herzliya, (see profile, page 26).

The “Art and Judaism” Website, the Center’s newest project, represents a pioneering effort to create a bridge between the world of art and Jewish education.

A collection of more than 4,000 slides illustrating Jewish themes was donated to Schechter and the TALI Education Fund. Over the next three years, Center staff will catalogue the collection electronically and develop educational materials (workbooks and teacher guides) based on it, the first step in building a unique “Arts and Judaism” educational website for schools, as well as for Jewish studies professors and Jewish educators around the world.

“Seeing the Voices” is a web resource developed by a team of artists and educators which employs visual art and music for teaching the Book of Exodus. Intended for 8th grade pupils and teachers, the site will soon appear on Israel’s educational website, as a project of the Center for Judaism and the Arts.

THE CENTER FOR WOMEN IN JEWISH LAW

The Center for Women in Jewish Law, since its inception in 1999, is devoted to researching, publishing and educating the public on the rights of women from the perspective of the Jewish legal tradition. The Center, through its seven issues of Jewish Law Watch, has advanced Jewish law advocacy research in the area of agunot (women whose husbands refuse them a writ of divorce and whose cases have dragged on in Israeli rabbinic courts). Most recently, a new popular series, To Learn and To Teach, has been distributed to targeted populations throughout the world. Each booklet is devoted to a specific topic on the status of women in Jewish Law.

Publications 2004-05

To Learn and To Teach: Mehitzah in the Synagogue, (August 2004) and Aliyot for Women (April 2005). Women in the Minyan and as Shelihot Tzibbur will come out in Fall 2005. Each booklet is published simultaneously in Hebrew, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

Solutions to the Agunah Dilemma in Our Day, the first comprehensive survey of proposed solutions for women unable to receive a Jewish divorce due to the recalcitrance of their husbands, will be published in November 2005. It is the culmination of six years of research by the Center’s staff. Center publications are available for purchase online at: www.schechter.edu. They can be downloaded for viewing at www.ResponseForToday.com.

Outreach 2004-05

Rabbis Diana Villa and Monique Susskind Goldberg, chief researchers at the Center, participated in a number of public events and committees focusing on women’s advocacy and Jewish law including:

► Rabbi Diana Villa served as chairperson of the Halakhic committee for ICAR (International Coalition for Agunah Rights) in 2004-05, and represents the Center on the coalition.

► Both rabbis taught at the Women’s Study Day, Schechter Institute, June 2005 as well as regional study days in February in the south, center and north of Israel, sponsored by Women’s League, Schechter Institute and the Masorti Movement.

► Both rabbis lectured at a national study day devoted to “Solutions to the Halakhic Problem of Agunot,” organized by ICAR, May 2005.

► Rabbi Villa presented an introductory lecture on halakhic solutions to the agunah problem in advance of the screening of “Sentenced to Marriage-Mekudeshet” at Beit Hillel, Hebrew University, November 2004.

THE INSTITUTE OF APPLIED HALAKHAH

The Institute of Applied Halakhah was founded in 1997 to publish a library of Halakhic literature in Hebrew, English and Russian for the Conservative/Masorti Movements.

Books published in 2004-05

Responsa and Halakhic Studies, Rabbi Dr. Isaac Klein, second edition, ed. by Prof. David Golinkin and Rabbi Monique Susskind Goldberg

The High Holy Days, by Rabbi Dr. Hayyim Kieval, ed. by Prof. David Golinkin and Rabbi Monique Susskind Goldberg

A Time to Be Born, A Time To Die: The Laws and Customs of Mourning, Rabbi Dr. Hayyim Kieval, ed. by Prof. David Golinkin and Rabbi Monique Susskind Goldberg

Prof. Ze’ev Falk Memorial Volume, ed. by Prof. M.D. Herr et al., Jerusalem: Schechter Institute and Meisharim Publications

Books in preparation

Kuntress Hateshuvot Hehadash, ed. by Prof. Shmuel Glick, a new bibliography of the Responsa literature, co-published with the Bar Ilan Law Faculty and the Schocken Institute. Vol. 1 will appear in December 2005

Malki Bakodesh, Vol. 1, by Rabbi Hayyim Hirschenson, ed. by Dr. David Zohar, co-published with the Bar Ilan Faculty of Jewish Studies, Fall 2005

Students of the Land of Israel M.A. track “in the field”

Prof. Irwin Cotler (left) receives JTS honorary doctorate from Prof. Ismar Schorsch, December 2004

A toast to accreditation! (From right) Prof. David Golinkin, Dr. Alex Even-Chen and Schechter faculty and staff
Julia Rubinstein-Solomon
1st year rabbinical student
Fall 2005

- 24; married to Colin Solomon
- Born in Moscow 1980, aliyah 1992
- Settled in Beersheva
- celebrated Bat Mitzvah at Eshel Avraham Masorti congregation, Beersheva
- Educational Officer in Israeli army; B.A. from Ben Gurion University
- Camp Counselor at Ramah Ukraine since 2003
- Earning Schechter M.A. degree in Judaism and the Arts and Jewish History

I come from a family deeply connected to their Jewish roots. My father underwent a circumcision in 1951—something totally unheard of during the Stalin reign of terror. His family could have been sent to Siberia for such an act.

I refused to buckle to the Orthodox establishment. Colin and I were married in Bulgaria. Then my mother Helena Rubinstein (first Russian-born Reform rabbi ordained in Israel) consecrated our marriage in Israel.

The summers I spend at Camp Ramah-Ukraine are indescribably important to me. The two weeks I share with the campers and staff have probably been the greatest influence in shaping my Judaism and values.

I am always pushing myself to get to the core of any given issue. Entering the rabbinical school, I acknowledge not only the supreme importance of our Jewish texts, but also the need to experience them and ‘wear’ them as part of our daily lives.

"I learned Jewish studies every Thursday at Schechter. She shares Jewish knowledge every day of the week.

Julie Rubinstein-Solomon
1st year rabbinical student
Fall 2005

- 24; married to Colin Solomon
- Born in Moscow 1980, aliyah 1992
- Settled in Beersheva
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"
### Highlights 2004-05

#### Appointments

Rabbi Dr. Einat Ramon was appointed acting Dean in June 2005, making her the first woman to head a rabbinical school in the Conservative Movement. A distinguished member of the Schechter faculty, Ramon is also the first Israeli woman to receive Conservative ordination (JTS, 1989). She succeeds Rabbi Dr. Harvey Meirovich who returns to full-time teaching after a five-year term as Dean of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary.

#### TALI Rabbis take Conservative Judaism to the Schools

The TALI Rabbi program sent fourteen TALI rabbis to 26 schools and 22 kindergartens where they taught 283 workshops on prayer to pupils and their teachers. Of the fourteen rabbis, twelve are Schechter Rabbinical Seminary students or graduates. Entering its fourth year in Fall 2005, the program reflects the ideal integration and application of Schechter education in the field, under the direct supervision of the TALI Education Fund Staff. Concentrating their efforts on classroom prayer and special programs for Jewish holidays, TALI rabbis made the Jewish experience come alive for thousands of TALI pupils and their teachers.

### The Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Israeli Rabbinical Track</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Year Program for Overseas Rabbinical Students:</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Jewish Theological Seminary</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Judaism</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminario Rabinico</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconstructionist Rabbinical College</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbis Ordained in 2004</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Ordained Rabbis since 1988</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Where are the Schechter Rabbis today?

- of the 26 Conservative congregations in Israel who employ rabbis, 21 employ Schechter-ordained rabbis

- 10 overseas pulpit rabbis including:
  - 1 in London
  - 2 in France (Paris, Nice)
  - 1 in Japan (Toyko)
  - 2 in Germany (Berlin, Weiden, Dusseldorf)
  - 1 in Italy (Florence)
  - 3 in North America

- 11 Jewish educators

- 5 educators for the Masorti/Conservative Movement

- 8 lecturers/researchers at Schechter Institute/Seminary

- 1 hospital chaplain

- 3 in social service work

- 1 Jewish Community Center rabbi

- 12 TALI rabbis
Graduation 2004
In 2004, six rabbis were ordained at Schechter's 17th Ordination Ceremony held at Jerusalem's Congregation Moreshet Yisrael on December 6th, including:

Uri Ayalon, spiritual leader, Yotzer Or, a learning community he established at a Jerusalem community center; TALI rabbi for schools in Jerusalem and Ashkelon
Florian Chinsky, Rabbi, Ya'ar Ramot Congregation, Jerusalem
Michael Kogan, Director, Midreshet Yerushalayim programs for Russian-speaking immigrants in Tel Aviv; from January 2005, rabbi for Russian-speaking families of Dusseldorf, Germany Conservative congregation
Yonatan Rudnick, Chaplain at a Jerusalem hospital
Lionel Levy, Rabbi, Conservative congregations in Modi'in and Hod V'Ha'adar
Idit Lev, coordinator, Rabbis for Human Rights

...and the 2005 Graduates are:
Tamar Elad Appelbaum, Rabbi, Magen Avraham, Omer
Michel Schlesinger, Rabbi, Congregation S.P., Sao Paolo, Brazil
Sarah Ben Moshe, Talmud Lecturer, Schechter Institute and Conservative Congregations
Igael Gurin-Malous, spiritual leader, Chavurat Tel Aviv
Avinoam Sharon, spiritual leader, Moreshet Yisrael Congregation, Jerusalem
Hagit Sabag, TALI rabbi and other educational projects

Amiti Emet: Building Bridges of Jewish Pluralism
Since its inception in January 2000, Amiti Emet has played an instrumental role in creating religious leadership dedicated to furthering religious pluralism in Israel. The third inter-stream dialogue group of “fellows” from the Schechter Seminary (Conservative), Hebrew Union College (Reform), Yeshivat Ma'ale Gilboa (Orthodox) and Oranim College (secular) met eight times for study and dialogue in 2004-05.

Number of Overseas Rabbinical Students on the Rise
In 2004-05, 28 student rabbis studied at Schechter, with an additional five students from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College taking classes. A required “year at Schechter” is an integral curriculum component of all rabbinical schools affiliated with the worldwide Conservative Movement. The year program in Israel immerses the overseas student in text study, Israeli culture and the Hebrew language, all essential experiences for these future spiritual leaders of Diaspora Jewry.

New Programs... New Initiatives
First in Israel: Course in Rabbinic Chaplaincy
A pioneering two-year course in pastoral care and crisis intervention was established in 2004-05 at Schechter. A year-long course in “Coping with Crisis” was offered to students, together with mentoring opportunities at a Jerusalem hospital with Schechter graduate Rabbi Yonatan Rudnick. In addition, 12 rabbinical students were invited to participate in the National Association of Jewish Chaplains Conference held in Israel in March 2005. Over the summer, two Schechter students participated in pastoral counseling programs in Kansas City and New York.

The concept of a rabbi as a spiritual and pastoral guide, trained in methods of psychological intervention, is virtually unknown in Israel. The course is a first step in remedying this situation, with its long-term goal aimed at making chaplaincy an integral part of the Israeli health care network.

The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary is an international Conservative Rabbinical School, training spiritual leaders, men and women, to serve and effect change in Israeli society and to renew Jewish communities in Europe.
Since 1988, over sixty Schechter-ordained rabbis have assumed leadership positions in Israel and around the world and are addressing the growing educational and spiritual needs of the non-Orthodox community that makes up close to 80% of Israel's population.
TALI participants in the leadership development course learned Jewish studies every Wednesday at Schechter. They share Jewish knowledge every day of the week.

Schechter presented us with new ways to approach Judaism. For me, Jewish knowledge is a direct line to Jewish continuity. We are taking this line back to our classrooms so each one of our students can reach out to it.

Ilana Tischler
Principal, TALI Usshishkin School, Netanya

The ‘tipping point’ came last year at Chanukah. We had a parents’ night of learning before the holiday. I felt insecure and sure that they would know more than me. But that evening I learned that I could teach Jewish subjects. It was a very rewarding moment... For Passover, I was put in charge of the ceremony for the entire school.

Marina Reznikov
4th grade teacher, TALI Har-El School, Ashkelon

I came to Schechter balking all the way. My entire life I perceived Judaism as a religion of ‘no’s, ‘can’t do’s and ‘forbidden actions.’ TALI and Schechter have introduced me to a world previously unknown: a Judaism that is kind and warm and encouraging of positive actions.

Idit Ben Ami
7th grade teacher and counselor, TALI Bet Hinuch Junior High School, Jerusalem

The courses at Schechter allow us an ‘opening.’ The answer is not always there, but the path to learning is. This critical and non-doctrinaire approach is what guides us in adapting the course material to our classrooms.

Hanni Shapira
5th grade teacher, TALI Usshishkin School, Netanya

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Highlights 2004-05

$1 Million Dollar Grant Allows for 20% Leap in TALI Growth: 13 New Elementary Schools and 7 Pre-Schools

The TALI Education Fund received a gift of one million dollars in June 2005 through the good offices of PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc. As a result of this and other gifts, the TALI network is expanding by 20% in 2005-06.

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The Numbers

- 14 pedagogic counselors worked with teachers and principals in TALI schools, helping more than 700 teachers plan lessons and providing resource materials; six of the counselors are Schechter MA program graduates
- 6 early childhood counselors worked with teachers in 67 TALI pre-schools on curriculum and implementation
- 16 training seminars for pedagogic counselors were held during the year on “teaching prayer,” including a national conference for 200 teachers, and a two-day workshop for music teachers
- 204 Teachers’ Room Workshops were held in all TALI schools where lecturers, many coming from the Schechter Institute, taught classes designed to enrich the teachers’ Jewish backgrounds and build a common basic vocabulary of Jewish knowledge
- A sampling of courses: Window to the World of Prayer; TALI Culture in the School; Art as a Tool in Teaching Jewish Subjects; Introduction to Talmud; Jewish Feminism – Educational Implications; Issues in Modern Jewish Thought; Streams in Judaism; Ideological Identity and Jewish Education; Window to the World of Midrash
- 82 informal educational activities were facilitated in 27 schools with 6,000 TALI pupils and thousands of parents participating, including:
  - 53 TALI Parent-Child Workshops
  - 13 Bar-Bat Mitzvah Seminars
  - 16 “Pinat Shorashim” Seminars at Kibbutz Gezer
- 6 National Service volunteers, ages 18-19 worked full time for TALI this past year, marketing and facilitating TALI experiential activities.

Prizes

Genger Prize for Outstanding TALI Principal

The winner of the fourth Shraga and Devorah Genger Prize for Outstanding TALI Principal for 2003 was Aviva Oren, principal of the Ma’ale Adumim Mamlachi Gimel School outside Jerusalem. Presenting the award in December 2004 was Salai Meridor, Chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

TALI Pre-School Teacher Wins Education Award

Mira Lilian, teacher at the TALI Frankel kindergarten in Jerusalem, won the prestigious Jerusalem Department of Education prize for best pre-school educator in the city.
New Programs... New Initiatives

Talking TALI in Tel Aviv

TALI has made a significant breakthrough in “secular” Tel Aviv. The TALI Education Fund is establishing an outreach center in Tel Aviv, which will work intensively with six Tel Aviv schools. The project, to begin in Fall 2005, will expose over 2,500 pupils, their teachers and parents to an open and relevant Judaism through TALI education. In these pilot schools, TALI will conduct teacher training, parent-teacher learning communities, family education, and curricular guidance as well as market the program with the goal of expansion to additional schools in 2006-07. The three rabbis involved, Roberto Arbib, David Lazar, and Elisha Wolfin, all of whom are graduates of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, are outstanding spiritual educators capable of working with sophisticated secular populations.

Ma’ale Adumim: A Total TALI City

On September 1, 2005, the fifth public school in Ma’ale Adumim became a TALI school, making Ma’ale Adumim the first Israeli city to make TALI’s pluralistic Jewish studies program available to its entire mamlachti (secular) public school system.

TALI to Enter Special Education Schools

In September 2005, TALI will begin adapting its curriculum to the Ahava Residential Village near Haifa. The institution is home to 200 children (grades 1-12) who come from unstable homes and by court order have been placed with foster families at the residence. The school will receive a TALI pedagogical counselor, and a TALI school rabbi will provide spiritual education and guidance. The special education school is

THURSDAYS 247 FRIDAYS 247 SHABBAT 247

Bat-Elah Birenbaum teaches “Rosh Hodesh Tunes” to teachers from TALI schools in Pisgat Ze’ev

Parent-Child Workshop at Retamim School, Ashdod

The TALI Education Fund (TEF) supports the growing network of 137 Israeli public schools and pre-schools from the Galilee to Eilat that have taken up the challenge of teaching Judaism to their 25,000 pupils, using a pluralistic, inclusive approach to Jewish life. Through TALI experiential learning, children gain direct access to their Jewish heritage, learn the values of social justice and the sanctity of human life embodied in Judaism, and develop a strong sense of connection with the Jewish people.
part of a network of 60 similar institutions around Israel. A pilot project for five such schools is now being planned.

**TALI Goes Virtual**

TALI’s recent partnership with Snunit, Israel’s largest educational portal, has resulted in a substantial increase in exposure to and use of its curricular materials. From February 2005, when the TALI Weekly Torah Portion Book was uploaded onto Snunit’s Galim website for elementary schools, visits to the TALI website, which is linked to Galim, climbed to more than 20,000 hits a month - a full 200% jump in visits. The goal is to put all TALI textbooks online.

**TALI Core Curriculum to Extend to High School Level**

Following the success of the new TALI grade 1-6 curriculum introduced in Fall 2004, TALI has been asked to prepare, together with the Ministry of Education, a core curriculum for grades 7-12. A committee comprised of professional teams from the Ministry of Education, the TALI Education Fund and the Schechter Institute will begin working in Fall 2005. The new syllabus, combined with the Ministry of Education Set of Directives that were published in 2003, will guide the expansion of TALI at the secondary school level.

**TALI Evaluation**

The TALI Education Fund has always relied on feedback from its schools consisting of questionnaires and formal discussions with principals and teachers, as the basis for program evaluation. It was decided this past year that sustaining and expanding TALI’s educational services at the highest level requires that it turn to outside evaluators as well.

Two doctoral researchers under the guidance of Prof. Hanan Alexander, Dean of Haifa University’s School of Education, examined teacher training programs, pedagogical counseling, and textbook development at the TALI Education Fund. The study is already assisting the TALI staff in better coordinating and improving the level of educational services provided to its schools.

Dr. Haim Amstel, in cooperation with Shatil, has designed a long-term study of TALI education, which will be implemented beginning in the fall of 2005. Throughout 2004-05, focus groups consisting of TALI constituents (teachers, parents, principals, pupils, municipalities, and funders) met to define the parameters of the study.

**Translation of TALI textbooks for North America**

_Tolerance in the Mishnah_, a TALI textbook published in 2004 for 4th graders, is now available in an easy Hebrew version.

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**24/7 at Schechter**

**Sundays**

**Mondays**

**Tuesdays**

**Wednesdays**

TALI Rabbi Hagit Sabag with students of the Neve Dekalim School, Ashkelon

Over 700 teachers participated in TALI training workshops during the 2004-05 school year

Bat Mitzvah Ceremony for 6th grade girls of the TALI Alonim School in Pardes Hannah
It was published in September 2005 for pilot use in Toronto Jewish day schools. 

Friends Across the Ocean (Chaverim Mei’eiver Layam), the first Israeli textbook on Jewish Peoplehood, was published by the TALI Education Fund in the Fall of 2004, and was used on a pilot basis in six TALI schools. Conveying values of klal Yisrael and introducing pupils to Jewish communities around the world, the book’s educational value and potential use in Jewish Day schools around the world became evident. The textbook is now being translated into simple Hebrew and will be published in the summer of 2006. TALI workshops for Diaspora teachers will be offered to introduce the material to educators.

TALI Publications
Reach the General Population

The TALI Grade 1-6 Curriculum, released in September 2004, was sent to all 900 State (secular) public elementary schools. Any school wishing to use TALI materials may do so and several schools have ordered TALI textbooks, including a school in Canada. Six new TALI textbooks are scheduled for publication in 2005-06:

▶ Man and God in the Weekly Portion – 6th grade
▶ Bible Stories for Young Children – Kindergarten and 1st grade
▶ Holidays and Festivals – (1st book in a series for elementary grades similar to Weekly Torah Portion books)
▶ To Give with All Your Heart – a curriculum for 9th graders on organ donations, developed in partnership with ADI (the Israeli association for organ donations)
▶ Ceremony and Symbol in Jewish Culture – An electronic resource on the Snunit internet portal

▶ Seeing the Voices – A web resource to appear soon on Snunit, employing visual art and music for teaching the Book of Exodus, intended for 8th grade pupils and teachers

TALI Pre-Schools Adorned with Pinot Kodesh (“Children’s Ark Corner”)

Three TALI pre-schools in Hadera, Rosh Ha’ayin and Ashkelon now celebrate special Friday Kabbalat Shabbat services in their newly installed “Children’s Ark Corner.” The innovative niche houses a children’s ark for the Torah (Aron Kodesh) with two children’s Torah scrolls, shelves which hold special ceremonial objects for the holidays and space for other learning aides. Additional pre-schools are in line to receive Pinot Kodesh in the coming year.

Experiencing Judaism through Music

Rosh Hodesh Tunes (Niggunei Rosh Hodesh), was first introduced in 2003-04 as a pilot project to teach prayers through music to pre-schoolers and their parents. Due to its tremendous popularity and growing demand, TEF produced a CD featuring a selection of prayers and a guide to enable TALI teachers to prepare and conduct ceremonies on their own. A CD and workbook on Kabbalat Shabbat is also planned for older children in elementary schools.

TALI Shabbat Retreats: New Way to Share Jewish Experience

During 2004-05, teachers and counseling staff of three TALI schools participated in Shabbat retreats facilitated by TALI rabbis. The weekend allowed the teachers to come together in an experiential expression of Shabbat through prayers at a local Conservative synagogue, and songs and study conducted in a warm and bonding environment. An additional Shabbat retreat was held in Zichron Ya’akov in March 2005 for an entire TALI school population including parents, children and teachers. Extremely positive feedback has prompted TALI staff to look into expanding the program for 2005-06.

TALI Parental Leadership Program

Developing parental leadership will strengthen the whole TALI network, bring additional resources to TALI schools, and promote the idea of reinforced Jewish studies throughout the educational system. In 2005-06, TALI will initiate a program of leadership training, stressing organizational skills, advocacy, and Jewish enrichment.

TALI education fund
Yulya and Stanislav ("Slavic") Vorobyov

Mother and Son Participants in MILI Moderators’ Judaism Course at Schechter

- Yulya, 46, aliya from Odessa to Haifa in 1996 with her daughter and mother
- teacher, assistant principal in Odessa schools; brought the first What? When? Where? game to the teachers’ room in Odessa
- volunteered for What? When? Where? games in Haifa schools; in 1999, formed club for young Russian immigrants with Ministry of Absorption support; began sending her club to MILI competitions
- joined the Sunday MILI Moderators’ Course at Schechter, September 2004
- Today, moderates three MILI clubs in Haifa for young people and soldiers

- Slavic, 27, aliya before Yulya in 1995, with Jewish Agency’s Na’aleh program
- played What? When? Where? game in school in Russia
- studied at Machon Lev, Jerusalem, and Haifa University
- learned in MILI Moderators’ Course with mother Yulya on Sundays
- Today, moderates MILI clubs in Upper Nazareth

Yulya and Stanislav ("Slavic") Vorobyov

Learned Jewish studies every Sunday at Schechter. They share Jewish knowledge every day of the week.

MILI is the rapidly growing network of clubs in Israel for young Russian immigrants aged 13-35, which employs the popular Russian game What? When? Where? to introduce Jewish heritage to a population that has been cut off from its Judaism.

"Just as "Slavic" was a 'Rishon L’Zion’ (a first to Zion) for the Vorobyov family, now we are the 'Halutzim’ (pioneers) for MILI … Our goal: to combine our technical knowledge of game rules with the Judaic knowledge that Schechter’s faculty is giving us.

Yulya

In formulating a MILI question every word is significant. The rules of the game demand an answer in one minute or less .... while the actual preparation for each question can take hours, if not weeks!!

Yulya

We’re starting to build a "bank" of MILI Jewish content questions which will be accessible to Russian-speakers around the world via the internet.

Slavic

Russians have been addicted to “What? When? Where?” for thirty years. MILI takes the game onto a higher plane: turning trivia into Jewish identity for three generations of Russian-speaking Jews. MILI you are the winner!

Yulya

"
**MILI: A Jewish Outreach Success Story**

**The Background:** The first MILI club (Hebrew acronym for Midreshet Yerushalayim for Creative Study) was established in Jerusalem in May 2001. Young new immigrants meet weekly to compete in a specially devised live trivia game modeled on the popular Russian television game show *What? When? Where?* Participants are quizzed on subjects relating to Russian and general culture. Questions on Jewish culture are included and are progressively increased in quantity and difficulty. After questions are answered correctly, several minutes are devoted to an explanation of the new Jewish concepts they learn. Ensuing questions build on the new knowledge which participants have acquired.

**The Aim:** The vast majority of Russian-speaking immigrants, (aged 13-35), have had no Jewish background or education, are not attracted to classes or synagogue life and lack the tools or the inclination to connect with Jewish heritage or culture. MILI provides a framework that enriches their knowledge of Jewish culture and strengthens their Jewish and Israeli identities, by integrating Jewish culture into the game format, as opposed to transforming the game into a quiz on Jewish subjects.

**MILI 2005:** 16 MILI clubs, with more than 500 young immigrant members, are operating in Jerusalem, Rishon L’Zion, Netanya, Petach Tikvah, Haifa, Karmiel, Ariel, Ashdod, Eilat, Upper Nazareth and Holon. National competitions held to coincide with Jewish holidays drew 150-300 participants, with a record-breaking 400 participants traveling to Eilat for a Yom Ha’aztmaut two-day event. (See New Programs...New Initiatives, page 23)

**The Numbers**

- 44 Jewish education programs operated throughout Israel from Eilat to the Galilee reaching over 1200 Russian-speaking immigrants of all ages. The year-long programs included:
  - 18 academic courses offered in twelve cities throughout Israel for 650 new immigrants
  - 5 Land of Israel seminars which combined classroom study with “Bible in Hand” field trips taught by Schechter rabbinical and M.A. students
  - 16 MILI clubs, including 6 new “Junior MILI Clubs” for high school teenagers
  - 6 MILI holiday competitions including Sukkot, Chanukah, Purim, Pesach, Independence Day and Shavuot
  - 4 “Heritage Trail” (*Shvilei Moreshet*) year-long seminars for Jerusalem high school and university students
  - 12 MILI students participated in a year long course to train additional MILI quiz moderators that took place at the Schechter Institute every Sunday
Learning Centers with High Academic Standards

Midreshet Yerushalayim classes attracted more than 650 participants to Jewish studies programs in 18 courses in 12 cities including Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Bat Yam, Ma'aleh Adumim, Tel Aviv, Ashdod, Kiryat Bialik, Karmiel, Nesher, Upper Nazareth, Rehovot and Or Akiva, with additional classes opening up in Karmiel and Or Akiva, and a new branch in the East Talpiot neighborhood of Jerusalem.

New Programs… New Initiatives

Schechter Seminary Graduate Joins MILI Team

Rabbi Reuven Resnick, a Schechter Rabbinical Seminary graduate, will supervise the content of MILI competition questions as well as work directly with clubs throughout the country. Rabbi Resnick is fluent in Russian and has worked as a coordinator of Russian-speaking kehillot for the Masorti Movement and as a shaliach in the FSU.

“Junior MILI Clubs” Established

A national league of Junior MILI Clubs was established in November 2004 to accommodate the growing numbers of high school students interested in joining MILI clubs. Approximately 100 young immigrants (aged 13-21) meet on a monthly basis for regional competitions held in Rehovot and Tel Aviv. Effectively reaching out to this age group is important not only for instilling Jewish identity but also for providing a strong net of social and emotional support for adolescents still adjusting to a new culture and language.

MILI Partners with Community Centers

MILI and Israel’s Community Center Association have forged a partnership with the potential of taking the MILI model of Jewish informal education to hundreds of community centers throughout Israel. The community center, historically a meeting place for new immigrants, was a natural venue for the MILI concept of socializing and learning to take root. To date, eight MILI clubs are operating in community centers in Jerusalem, Holon, Ashdod, Karmiel, Hadera, Yavne, Eilat and Upper Nazareth with immediate plans to open clubs in Ashkelon and Petach Tikvah.

MILI National “Israel Cup” Competition

In May, five buses from across Israel brought 400 participants to MILI’s first “Israel Cup” two-day competition held in Eilat for Israeli Independence Day. Questions on Passover and Jewish customs were part of the program. Junior MILI Clubs (high school and army age) made up 22 teams while university and post-university participants comprised an additional 16 teams.

MILI Moderators’ Course Ensures Growth in Clubs

Twelve Russian-speaking immigrants joined a year-long course at Schechter designed to educate a “second generation” of MILI moderators equipped to lead the new MILI clubs sprouting up all over the country. The program expanded students’ general proficiency in Jewish subjects, helped them integrate what they learned into questions for competitions, and provided them with organizational skills for planning large competitions. (see Profile page 20.)
Elsewhere in Midreshet…

“Heritage Trails”: High Road to Jewish Discovery

“Heritage Trails” (Shvilei Moreshet), a program for Jerusalem’s Russian-speaking high school and university students, is a new initiative of Midreshet Yerushalayim and Keren Klita, taught by innovative educator, Michael Korol, an immigrant from St. Petersburg. For university students, pre-site lectures were held at Schechter, followed by Friday excursions to remote archaeological and geological sites. Twelfth-grade students learned about the Holocaust by archiving documents in Russian at Yad Vashem, complemented with lectures on Jewish traditions. A third group of tenth-graders living at the Goldstein Youth Village in Jerusalem, worked in small groups around a computer, collecting materials for discussions that relate both to the Holocaust and religion.

Innovating for Family Education in Ashdod

Malach, a new family education project run in conjunction with Ashdod’s Conservative congregation through its Yahalom program, was taught by Schechter rabbincial student Hannah Klebansky. The eight-part series for children aged 7-13 and their parents, focused on “Jewish Heritage in a Modern Spirit” through use of play-acting, discussion and interactive study of Jewish texts. Ms. Klebansky also initiated the Malach program in the Conservative synagogue in Kiryat Yovel, Jerusalem.

Jewish Liturgy in Russian

A lecture series on Jewish liturgy was given by rabbinical student Hannah Klebansky in the Conservative congregations in Karmiel and Kiryat Bialik. Hannah, who majored in music in Tbilisi, Georgia before making aliyah, taught classes on prayers, the prayerbook and prayer melodies once a week to a large and receptive audience.

Aficionados Book Club Evolves into Broader Israel Culture Club

As a result of the success of last year’s Aficionados Book Club that met at the Jerusalem branch of Midreshet Yerushalayim, group leader, Rabbi Michael Rivkin, a Schechter rabbincial graduate, enlarged the scope of the club. In 2005, cultural encounters included a monthly series, Melody-Lovers’ Club, which focused on Jewish and Biblical themes in western classical music; Current Events Club, a group for veteran immigrants interested in discussing modern Jewish culture; a Bet Midrash for Beginners, where Jewish texts were studied in a Bet Midrash environment, along with the continued activities of the Book Club.

Torah Portion Sheets Debut New “Jewish Concepts” Dictionary

The Torah Portion Study Sheet in Russian which is distributed weekly to Midreshet Yerushalayim and MILI learning centers throughout Israel and the Ukraine and to Conservative congregations in Israel and Europe, added a dictionary of Jewish concepts to each mailing. This year, subjects focused on Wisdom, Pesach, judges of Israel, Giving of the Torah and Daniel.

MIDRESHET YERUSHALAYIM UKRAINE

The Numbers

- 1,000 children and their families experienced Midreshet Yerushalayim Jewish learning through:
  - 12 TALI education frameworks including:
    - 8 TALI Sunday Schools (over 400 pupils attending in Kiev, Chernowitz, Uzhhorod, Mukhatsh, Khust, Berdichev, Pilula, and Vinnitsa)
    - TALI Chernowitz Day School with over 300 pupils
    - Chirkas and Nikolayev schools receiving pedagogical support
    - High school program in Kiev
    - Summer camps (Ramah-Ukraine, Ramah-Ukraine Family Camp)
    - 60 teachers of Jewish studies attended a teachers’ training seminar (outside Kiev)
    - 4 pre-Passover model seders for teachers, students and parents

New Initiatives... New Programs

New TALI–Solomon High School Program in Kiev

In September 2004, Midreshet Yerushalayim significantly expanded its programs in Kiev with the opening of a TALI Academic Track for high school students in conjunction with the International Solomon University and Prof. Leonid Mazikh, head of its Jewish Studies program. The program aims to develop a cadre of young people with a strong commitment to Jewish studies who will enroll in the University’s Jewish studies...
program and form a nucleus for a future educational leadership for Ukrainian Jewry.

Twenty-three 9th - 11th grade pupils met three times a week to study Jewish Civilization, Hebrew and English. A number of experiential Kabbalat Shabbat programs were also held, culminating in a three-day Shabbaton for students, parents and teachers which focussed on Passover and the meaning of individual freedom.

For 2005-06 16 students will continue for a second year of study, with 15-20 new students joining them, bringing total enrollment to 35. Six of the High School graduates have enrolled in the Jewish Studies Department at Solomon University.

New TALI Sunday School Opens in Vinnitsa
In January 2005, a TALI Sunday School opened in the city of Vinnitsa, with 40 children, aged 6-16, and 5 young adults, aged 18-25.

To Open in 2005-06 A new Sunday school in Donetsk
A new Cultural Center in Kiev which will include the existing Sunday School, Adult Education and Kabbalat Shabbat and Holiday services.

Ramah Camps
2nd Annual Family Camp
Camp Ramah-Ukraine held its second Family Camp for children, aged 6-10, and their parents. The 150 “campers of all ages,” coming from ten Ukrainian cities, focused on What the Book Tells Us, based on stories from the Bible and Legends. The week’s experiences made a huge impact on parents, prompting them to get more involved in their children’s school life as well as participating as a family in Jewish ceremonial events and holidays.

Camp Ramah-Ukraine Celebrates Bar Mitzvah
For 13 seasons, Camp-Ramah Ukraine has provided Jewish experiential education which has left an indelible mark of Jewish continuity on thousands of children and young adults from throughout the Ukraine. This year, 200 children and forty staff members (ten coming from Israel) celebrated the camp’s Bar Mitzvah year, along with the Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies of a number of the campers. Prof. David Golinkin was thrilled to participate in the camp, where he conducted services and taught the staff about the meaning of Tisha B’Av.

MIDRESHET YERUSHALAYIM HUNGARY
Hungarian Student Mission to Israel and Schechter
Twenty-eight Hungarian students representing all faculties of the Jewish University, participated in a two-week study program in Israel in May. The group studied at the Schechter Institute and visited TALI schools. They also toured many educational sites in Jerusalem as well as traveled to the Galilee, Judean Desert and Masada.

Conservative Judaism was introduced to the group through two Shabbat visits to Jerusalem and Tel Aviv Conservative congregations. In Jerusalem, Yehudit Rubin, a Hungarian-born Schechter rabbinical student, conducted a full Shabbat program. The program was planned by Gila Katz and by Rabbi Barry Schlesinger, Schechter graduate. Feedback from the group was unequivocally positive.

Visiting Faculty
Midreshet Yerushalayim brings visiting faculty to the University of Jewish Studies to conduct intensive courses in subjects germane to the professional development of Hungary’s future educators, rabbis and community leaders. This year, Prof. Shmuel Glick, associate professor of Talmud and Rabbinics at the Schechter Institute, traveled to Budapest twice, where he taught Jewish education and Rabbinic Literature.

The Rabbi Arnold and Noemie Turetsky Scholarship Fund
Marking the first anniversary of the passing of beloved Midreshet Yerushalayim educator and supporter, Rabbi Arnold Turetsky z”l, the fund successfully raised substantial stipends to support the student and faculty exchanges that take place between the University of Jewish Studies in Budapest and the Schechter Institute.

Dear Professor Golinkin,
…when I arrived at the University, completely wet from the heavy rain that fell outside, I was met by a group of shining sun-tanned faces sharing their fabulous stories of Jerusalem and Eretz Israel with great enthusiasm, noting as well, a slight sadness in their voices because of their return to gloomy Europe from the bright Holy City…
To tell you the truth, during the last few years I have never seen these students of mine so happy and satisfied. Thank you!

Judith Karpati
Teacher and Coordinator
Pedagogium, Jewish University
Budapest
May 19, 2005

First day of Camp Ramah-Ukraine
First day of Camp Ramah-Ukraine
Training seminar near Kiev draws over sixty Jewish educators from throughout the Ukraine.
Hungarian students from the Jewish University in Budapest learn at the Schechter Institute.
In the formative years of the State, the ‘universal’ (secular) approach of Zaritsky defined the national, cultural and artistic ethos of Israel. Today, there is a new momentum. I saw this taking shape during our Bet Midrash discussions at Schechter.

As artists we accept the overriding influence of ‘universal’ and ‘western’ truths on our art, but there is a growing awareness of an internal truth that flows out of the ‘wellspring’ that is our Judaism.

At Schechter, I was impressed by both the depth and seriousness of the learning. Lecturers presented ‘The Land of Israel’ through a wide array of approaches: Midrash, Bible, Archeology, Jewish Thought, History and more.

Schechter’s Friday sessions gave me great ‘food for thought’... which I then used in the workshops I conduct for teachers and principals. My work connects them to their Judaism through the creative process.
Artists’ Bet Midrash: Creative Initiatives

Fifteen Israeli artists representing a variety of artistic media took part in a year-long program of interdisciplinary Jewish study which focused on The Land of Israel. The Bet Midrash, founded in 2002, creates an interface between artist and Judaic scholar for inspiring artworks based on themes found in Jewish texts. It is a joint project of the Schechter Institute, Midreshet Iyun in Tel Aviv, and the Artists’ Residence in Herzliya, whose director, Varda Genossar, coordinates the program (see page 26).

Women’s Study Days: Strength in Numbers

Over 300 women made their way to Jerusalem and the Schechter Institute to participate in the 6th annual National Women’s Study Day held in June 2005, with special guests, Gloria Cohen, President of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism and Evelyn Seelig, past president, attending. This year’s theme, Jewish Women and the Fight for Justice, was taught in Hebrew, English, Russian and Spanish. Sponsored by the Schechter Institute, Women’s League for Conservative Judaism and the Masorti Movement, and organized by Diane Friedgut, the study also takes place in three locations in Israel’s north, center and south, each February, drawing 400 women.

Schechter “Opens the Week” at Van Leer

Schechter faculty members, including Prof. Haim Be’er, Dr. Prina Galpaz-Feller, Prof. David Golinkin and Prof. Eliezer Schweid, participated in the Van Leer Institute’s “Opening the Week” Lecture Series on the Torah portion.

Ministry Cadets Get a Lesson in Judaism

Israel’s Ministry of Commerce and Industry turned to the Schechter Institute to provide courses in basic Judaism to new economic attaches set to leave for duty abroad. Rabbi Peretz Rodman, a Schechter Rabbinical Seminary graduate and President of the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel, conducted a day’s workshop in September 2005 on Jewish holidays and basic skills needed for synagogue.

NASHIM Debuts at Capital Coffee House

Tmol Shilshom, Jerusalem’s famous coffee house of the capital’s literati, hosted the “founding “mothers” of NASHIM, a journal of Jewish Women’s Studies and Gender Issues in May 2005. Prof. Alice Shalvi, Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, Debbie Greniman and Judith Margolis spoke about the editorial process. NASHIM is co-published by the Schechter Institute, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute and Indiana University Press.

LIMMUD Showcases Schechter Faculty

England’s LIMMUD Conference, which took place in Nottingham in December 2004, featured Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, who taught classes on women in the 12th -15th centuries. Rabbi Diana Villa taught classes on Women and Jewish Law. And in Israel: LIMMUD ISRAEL featured Dr. Shula Laderman on “The Ten Plagues Depicted in Illustrations from the Middle Ages,” January 2005.

Schechter Joins Sukkot “Happening”

The Sukkot Learning Festival, “Hakhel,” (October 2004) featured Schechter faculty members Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, Dr. David Levine, Dr. Einat Ramon and Dr. George Savran who taught a workshop on “Zealotry and Moderation.”
Schechter: Popular Venue for Public Lectures

The Schechter Institute hosted a number of lectures throughout the year that were open to the public:

Study Evening in memory of faculty member Lucy Plitman z"l, co-sponsored with the Ben Zvi Institute and the Hebrew University Overseas Program, with Dr. Gabi Barkay, and Schechter students, June 2005

Holocaust Memorial Day Service, with survivor Sabina Schweid and Megillat Hashoah reading, May 2005

The Annual Nechama Leibowitz Memorial Lecture, with Rabbi Daniel Topper, “Parshat Keichosh: Matters of the Heart,” May 2005

Annual Prof. Saul Lieberman Memorial Lecture, with Prof. Ranon Katzof and Prof. Menachem Hirschman, chaired by Prof. Shamma Friedman

Women’s Seder, led by Rabbi Dr. Einat Ramon and seminary student Haya Becker, in cooperation with YALTA, and celebrated by Schechter rabbinical and M.A. students, April 2005

Annual Rabbi Noah Golinkin z"l Memorial Lecture, with Prof. David Golinkin, “Erev Pesach Which Falls on Shabbat,” April 2005

Annual Rabbi David Aronson Memorial Lecture and Memorial Service for Matt Eisenfeld z"l, with Prof. David Golinkin, “The Use of Science in 20th Century Responsa,” March 2005

Lunch ‘N Learn with Prof. Benny Begin, “Where were the Lachish Letters Sent on the Eve of the Destruction of the First Temple?” March 2005


Seder Tu B’shvat celebrated by Schechter Rabbinical and M.A. students, February 2005

Brenda Kaufman-Berman Memorial Lecture, with Dr. Yoel Donchin, “The Best of Doctors are Destined for Hell...?!” January 2005

“Schechter Artists’ House” exhibit opens with works by Judaism and the Arts M.A. students, coordinated by Dr. Jo Milgrom, January 2005

Lunch ‘N Learn with Aluf Hareven, “Acknowledging When we Don’t Know: Judaism for Knowing,” January 2005

Lunch ‘N Learn with Dr. Gail Reimer, Boston University, on “Virtual Archive on Women: a special project,” December 2004


Opening of academic year with faculty: Screening of movie Mekudeshet on agunot, followed by panel discussion, October 2004

“Scholarship Serving Society” is the credo that guides the Schechter Institute in every educational endeavor it initiates.

An institution dedicated to applied learning and research, Schechter is committed to sharing Jewish knowledge and expertise with the people and institutions of the State of Israel and beyond.
Conferences, Lectures and Symposia

September 2005

August 2005
Schechter Contributions to Iconoclash: Struggle for Religious Identity, the Second Conference of Church Historians, Utrecht, Netherlands:

Schechter Faculty Lectures at the 14th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem:
- Dr. Alexander Even-Chen, “Symbolism and Prayer in Abraham Joshua Heschel’s Philosophy”; Dr. Brenda Bacon, “The Fate of Learned Women in Nineteenth Century Eastern European Traditional Society”;
- Dr. Pnina Galpaz Feller, “The Symbolism of Hair”; Prof. Shmuel Glick, “Kuntress Ailinyan: Shabbat Chatuna: on a Unicum from the Schocken Library”;
- Dr. Yigal Levin, “The Southern Frontier of Yehud and the Creation of Idumaia”;
- Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, “The Partisan from Salonika: Creativity and Destruction”;
- Dr. Eiat Ramon, “The Influence of Secular Zionist Thinkers on Abraham J. Heschel’s Thought”; Dr. George Savran, “Moses and Elijah at Horeb”;
- Dr. Sara Strasbourg-Dayan, “Zion: Kingship of God or Israel’s Kingship? Between ‘Brith Shalom’ and ‘Brith Ha-Biryonim’”;
- Dr. Yossi Turner, “The Maimonidean Influence on Rabbi Chaim Hirschenssohn’s Jewish Political Philosophy.”


Dr. Eiat Ramon: “The Destruction of Jerusalem as a Warning for the State of Israel” Panim-Kol Yehudi: Tel Aviv University
Dr. “The History of the Different Denominations in Modern Judaism and Israel,” theology students, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, Schechter Institute

July 2005

June 2005
Dr. Brenda Bacon, “Between Spiritual Education and Cultural Education: Teaching the Schildur in Israel,” the Research Network in Jewish Education, Brandeis University.


Dr. Pnina Galpaz Feller, “Man: Higher than the Beasts,” Education Center, Tel Aviv University.

Prof. Shmuel Glick, “Corporal Punishment in Judicial Rulings: A Reassessment of Educational Policy in Israel,” Israeli Association for Research on the History of Education, Tel Aviv University.


Dr. Guy Miron, “German Jews in Israel: Memories and Past Images,” Memorial Study Evening for Rabbi Dr. Yosef Zvi Carlebach, Bar Ilan University.

Dr. Michal Oren and Dr. Batzheva Stern, “ICA (Palestine Jewish Colonization Assoc.): Its Roots and Operation,” Tel Hai College.

Dr. Sara Strasbourg-Dayan, (series) “Exile and Redemption in Modern Jewish Thought,” Israel-Uruguay Friendship Association, Tel Aviv.

May 2005

“Biblical Cosmology in Art and Liturgy of the Spanish Inquisition,” Haifa University.

Dr. Guy Miron, “Jewish Regeneration under Siege: The Challenge of German Jewry in the 1930s,” Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Dr. Brenda Bacon, “How Shall We Tell the Story of the End of Beruriah,” Jewish Educators’ Assembly, Jerusalem.

Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, “Male and Female Witnesses in the Spanish Inquisition,” Bar Ilan University.

February 2005

Dr. Guy Miron, “Jewish Regeneration under Siege: The Challenge of German Jewry in the 1930s,” Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Dr. Brenda Bacon, “How Shall We Tell the Story of the End of Beruriah,” Jewish Educators’ Assembly, Jerusalem.

Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, “Male and Female Witnesses in the Spanish Inquisition,” Bar Ilan University.

March 2005
Dr. Pnina Galpaz Feller, “Wisdom Literature in the Bible,” Weizmann Institute, Rehovot.

Dr. Yossi Turner, “Visions of the Promised Land in the Zionist Thought of Martin Buber and Montdecai Kaplan,” Annual Conference of the Departments of Jewish Thought, Bar Ilan University.

Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, “Gender and the Spanish Inquisition,” Haifa University.

April 2005

Dr. Brenda Bacon, “A Gender and Theological Reading of Three Israeli Bar-Bat Mitzvah Curricula,” Melton Center, Hebrew University.

Dr. Eiat Ramon, “Religious Feminism and the Israeli Constitution: Israel’s First Woman Knesset Member, Ada Maimon,” Conference on Women and Gender Studies, Tel Aviv University.


May 2005
Dr. Yossi Turner, “‘PICA’ (Palestine Jewish Colonization Assoc.): Its Roots and Operation,” Tel Hai College.


“Religious Feminism and the Israeli Constitution: Israel’s First Woman Knesset Member, Ada Maimon,” Annual Conference of the Departments of Jewish Thought, Bar Ilan University.

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February 2005

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Dr. Brenda Bacon, “How Shall We Tell the Story of the End of Beruriah,” Jewish Educators’ Assembly, Jerusalem.

Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, “Male and Female Witnesses in the Spanish Inquisition,” Bar Ilan University.
January 2005

Dr. Eitan Chiki, “Educational Programs for Judaism in the Public Schools,” Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, with contributions by Schechter graduates: Margalit Kunshuck, Dr. Hagit Dinur, Drora Halevy and Pnina Shor


Prof. David Golinkin, “The Use of Science in 20th Century Responsa,” Halakhah and the Philosophy of Halakhah Conference, Hebrew University

Galia Hacco, “Notebooks of Malayalam Women’s Liturgy,” Jewish Women’s Songs from Kerala Seminar, Hebrew University, Jerusalem

December 2004

Academic Conference Marks 20th Anniversary

Honoring the 150th anniversary of the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary and the 20th anniversary of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, an academic conference “From Breslau to Jerusalem: Rabbinical Seminaries in the Past, Present and Future” was held at the Schechter Institute. The conference was co-sponsored with the Leo Baeck Institute and was organized by Dr. Guy Miron, incoming Dean of the Schechter Institute.

Prof. Eliezer Schweid, Prof. Steven Cohen, “Education, Community and Norms,” Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem

Prof. Alice Shalvi, Opening Speaker, Global Women for Peace, Israeli-Palestinian Conference, Dead Sea, Jordan

November 2004

Dr. Guy Miron, “Leo Baeck Institute and the Jewish-German Historiography of the Holocaust,” Holocaust Research Conference, Yad Vashem


September

Dr. Guy Miron, “Anti-Semitism: Toward a Profile of Hate,” Ort Seminar, Tel Aviv

Dr. Brenda Bacon, Visiting Researcher at the Melton Center for Jewish Education, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, while on sabbatical, 2004-05
Publications

(published by the Schechter Institute or authored by Schechter Faculty)

Books

Solutions to the Agunah Dilemma in Our Day, by the staff of the Center for Women in Jewish Law, Jerusalem: Schechter Institute, Hebrew with English abstract, 2005

To Learn and To Teach, no. 2, “Aliyot for Women,” Rabbis Monique Goldberg Zusskind, David Golinkin, and Diana Villa, Center for Women in Jewish Law, Jerusalem: Schechter Institute, Hebrew, 2004

The Rabbinate in Italy During the Renaissance, Dr. Reuven Bonfil, second ed., Jerusalem: Schechter Institute, Schocken Institute and Mossad Bialik, Hebrew, 2005

On Three Bridges, Jonathan Fine, Jerusalem: Carmel Publishers, Hebrew, 2005


Meditations on the Parshah: The Weekly Torah Portion as an Inspiration for Jewish Thought and Creativity, ed.: Naftali Rothenberg, Tel Aviv: Yediot Ahronot, Hebrew, 2005; with contributions by Dr. Pnina Galpaz Feller; Rabbi Dr. Einat Ramon; Dr. Yossi Turner; Prof. Eliezer Schweid

A Question of Identity: Iberian Conversos in Historical Perspective, Prof. Renee Levine Melammed, NY: Oxford University Press, 2004


Encountering the Divine: Theophany in Biblical Narrative, Dr. George Savran, London: T and T Clark, 2005

Responsa and Halakhic Studies, by Rabbi Isaac Klein, second revised ed., edited by Rabbis David Golinkin and Monique Susskind Goldberg, Rabbi Israel Levinthal Institute of Contemporary Responsa, Schechter Institute, Jerusalem: 2005


Prof. Ze’ev Falk Memorial Volume, ed. by Prof. M.D. Herr et all, Jerusalem: Schechter Institute and Meisharim Publications, Hebrew, 2005

Nashim, A Journal of Jewish Women’s Studies and Gender Issues, academic editor, Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, managing editor, Deborah Greniman, a joint publication of the Schechter Institute, Brandeis University’s Hadassah International Research Institute on Jewish Women and Indiana University Press: No. 8, Multiculturalism in the World of Jewish Women, Fall 2004; No. 9, Jewish Women’s Spirituality, consulting editor, Prof. Vanessa L. Ochs, Spring 2005
THURSDAYS 24 7  
FRIDAYS 24 7  
SHABBAT 24 7

Articles


Dr. Guy Miron: “Between ‘Center’ and ‘East’ – On the Unique Path of Jewish Emancipation in Hungary,” *European Jews and Jewish Europeans between the Two World Wars*, ed. Raya Cohen, Tel Aviv University, 2004


Dr. Bat Sheva Stern: “Poetics As Poison,” review of Neomi Shiloach’s *Vanishing Center: Citizens Interest Groups in Israel in the 30s*, Jerusalem: Yad Ben Zvi, *Israel*, 6, 2004


Breslau Conference: Dr. Guy Miron (left) with Betty and Paul Alsberg (right), students of the last Breslau class
schechter friends

Join us in our mission:

To reach out every day with a Judaism which is inclusive yet passionately committed to tradition.
1. David Rotenberg from Toronto, and his granddaughter, Cecile Rotenberg, dedicate a “Children’s Ark” in a TALI pre-school in Haifa.

2. Young mission members from Beth Emeth Congregation, Toronto, led by Rabbi David Bauman, participate in a TALI workshop.

3. Howard and Carole Tanenbaum, Toronto, present David Golinkin with a valuable daguerreotype.

4. Rabbi Susan Grossman (foreground) with Beth-Shalom Congregation mission.


6. Right: Patti Kroll and Diane Azorsky from Kansas City Community Professionals’ Mission visit TALI Bayit V’Gan class with teacher Ads Bradsky.

7. Rabbi Harold Kravitz (right) learns text with members of his Congregation Akiba Yeshurun mission to Schechter, Eileen and Jerry Siegel.

8. Left: Chana Zweiter, Legacy Heritage Fund and Arlene Edelman, Keren Klita, join a MILI game.


10. Rabbi Michael Caplan, Arcadia, CA, brings Shaarei Tfilah Congregation members to Schechter.

11. Rabbi Ethel Mishkin, left, and his Beth Hillel Congregation, Wilmette, IL.

12. Rabbi Matt Berkowitz (left) addressing the JTS National Leadership Mission at Schechter.

13. The Shaarei Zedek Congregation Family Mission, St. Louis, MO, led by Rabbi Mark Fasman.


15. Board member Aaron Priest, Scarsdale, NY, with Linda Price, Director of Communications.

16. Right: Rabbi Raphael and Jeanette Miller, Delray Beach, FL, visit a TALI school in Ma’ale Adumim with Jewish Educators’ Assembly Mission.

17. The Harold Grinspoon Foundation Mission with Dr. Harvey Meirovich and Schechter students.

18. Members of the Metro West Pluralism sub-committee with Schechter rabbinical students.

19. TALI Executive Director, Dr. Ethan Chizik (left) addressing Jerusalem Fellows.


22. From left: David Golinkin, Randie and Aaron Mallinsky, NY, and Shlomo Tucker at Schechter.

23. From left: David Golinkin meets with Buddy and Fran Brandt, NY and Aaron Priest, NY.

24. Canadian Justice Minister Irwin Cotler (left) and Supreme Court President Aharon Barak at the Schechter Graduation.
Development

It is with pride and accomplishment that the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies announces that between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005, $4.4 million in gifts were received in support of the Schechter Institute Graduate School, Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, TALI Education Fund, and Midreshet Yerushalayim.

NEW MAJOR GIFTS 2004-05

Schechter Graduate School
Scholarships
► Harold Grinspoon Foundation, Springfield, MA
► Rabbi Morris Gordon (z”l) bequest, FL
► Miroslav and Esther Kerner (z”l) bequest, Boston
► Aaron and Arleen Priest, Scarsdale, NY

Faculty Research
► Kochav Trust

General Support
► Sidney Frank, NY, Women in Judaism
► Harvey & Lyn Meyerhoff Fund, Baltimore
► Irma and Paul Milstein Fdn., NY
► Ben & Ester Rosenblum Fdn., Baltimore
► David and Aviva Rubin, Chicago

Research Institutes
► Howard and Carol Tanenbaum, Toronto, The Center for Judaism and the Arts, “Art and Judaism” Website
► The Dorot Foundation, The Center for Women in Jewish Law

The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary
Rabbinical Scholarships
► Beverly Baker, Detroit
► Rabbis Alan Cohen, Amy Katz, Cong. Beth Shalom, Kansas City, Jack Kay, Washington DC; Chaplaincy Program
► Blanche and Philip Meisel, Las Vegas

TALI Education Fund
Funding for New TALI Schools
► Daron and Ron Barness, Phoenix
► Doreen Hermelin, Detroit
► Jerome and Miriam Katzin, San Diego
► Aaron and Randie Malinsky, New York
► David and Inez Myers Foundation, Cleveland
► PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc., NY
► Ruderman Family Foundation, Boston
► Phillip Solondz, Boca Raton, FL

New TALI Programs
► Beverly Baker, Detroit, endowment for music programs
► Harold and Penny Blumenstein Foundation, Detroit, endowment for music programs
► Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, TALI outreach in Tel Aviv
► JUF of Greater Chicago, TALI rabbis
► The Legacy Heritage Fund Limited, NY, outreach programs to open in TALI Schools nationwide, in a Jerusalem Community Center, and in Tel Aviv
► Shoel Silver, Toronto, TALI textbook translation for Diaspora Day Schools
► Liz Wolfe, Toronto, TALI textbook translation for Diaspora Day Schools

Midreshet Yerushalayim
► Aaron and Arleen Priest, Scarsdale, NY, in memory of Rabbi Arnie Turetsky (z”l), scholarships for Hungarian student trip to Israel; Russian-Hebrew TALI siddur
► The Legacy Heritage Fund Limited, NY, learning centers and MILI clubs nationwide
► The Alvin & Fanny Blaustein Thalheimer Foundation, Baltimore, schools and camps in Ukraine
► The Rothschild Foundation, London, Jewish Cultural Center in Kiev
► Gidwitz Family Foundation, JUF of Chicago and Congregation Anshe Emet, pre-academic TALI-Solomon University High School program in Kiev
UPDATE ON CAMPAIGN FOR NEW SCHECHTER INSTITUTE CAMPUS

The early stages for the capital campaign for the Schechter Institute Campus were begun and a number of very generous initial commitments were made in 2004. A generous planning grant from the Jerusalem Foundation has enabled Schechter to retain the pre-eminent Israeli architect Ada Karmi-Melamede, who has designed a campus worthy of our site next to the Israel Museum and Knesset in Jerusalem. We are now in the process of assembling a top caliber North American campaign leadership team and moving forward with campaign plans.

Communications

The Communications and Development Department supports the fundraising efforts of Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. through the production of promotional materials, the on-going cultivation of media contacts both in North America and Israel, the encouragement of mission visits to Schechter, and the strengthening of communication avenues between Schechter and its growing donor base.

Website and Electronic Mailings

www.schechter.ac.il - the Hebrew website features monthly faculty articles, news bulletins and the entire course catalogue.

www.schechter.edu - the English website for SIJS, Inc. features Insight Israel, by Prof. David Golinkin; Faculty Forum, a monthly column presenting original research by Schechter faculty; Ask the Rabbi, a service staffed by SIJS rabbinical graduates; and the Schechter Bookstore where SIJS publications can be purchased.

E-mail - Schechter continues to expand its email address base reaching a direct mailing of 5,000 individuals around the world.

Missions and Guests Hosted by Schechter

August 2005 Beth Emeth Congregation Mission, Toronto, led by Rabbi David Bauman
  • Beth Hillel Congregation Mission led by Rabbi Michael Mishkin, Wilmette, IL
  • July 2005 JTS National Leadership Mission, led by Chancellor Ismar Schorsch and Rabbi Matt Berkowitz
  • Beth David B'nai Israeli Beth Am Congregation Mission, Toronto, led by Rabbi Philip Schein
  • Beth-Shalom Congregation Mission, Columbia MD, led by Rabbi Susan Grossman
  • RA rabbis from Israel and abroad, meeting with Prof. David Golinkin, Fuchsberg Center, Jerusalem

June 2005 Gloria Cohen and Evelyn Seelig, Women’s Study Day at Schechter
  • Sharaei Zedek Congregation Mission, St. Louis MO, led by Rabbi Mark Fasman
  • Rabbi Steve Silberman, Congregation Ahavas Chesed, Mobile AL
  • Detroit Federation Jewish Educators’ Mission, led by Judah Isaacs

April 2005 Kansas City
  • Community Professionals’ Mission, led by Alan Edelman
  • Norman and Brenda Kamen, Toronto

March 2005 Aaron and Randie Malinsky, NY
  • Beverly Hills CA
  • Adath Yeshurun Congregation Mission, Minneapolis MN, led by Rabbi Harold Kravitzi
  • Howard and Carole Tanenbaum, Toronto

February 2005
  • UJC of Metro West Pluralism sub-committee, Metro West NJ

Women’s League Mission

January 2005 CoJIR, UJA Fed of NY, Russia Sub-committee

Mandell Fellows Visit

December 2005 Amity Yerushalayim

JTS Davidson School of Education Study Group, NY

November 2004 Harold Grinspoon Foundation Mission

We salute our growing circle of friends whose wholehearted support ensures the steady growth of the Schechter enterprise of Jewish learning in Israel and around the world. Together with Schechter’s faculty, students, educators and professional staff, you are shaping the Israel of tomorrow: a Jewish nation knowledgeable of its heritage and history; a Jewish people dedicated to Jewish values based on pluralism, modernity and democracy.
Jerusalem, December 2004


The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc.

The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc. (SIJS) is a not-for-profit (501-c-3) organization dedicated to the advancement of pluralistic Jewish education in Israel and Europe. SIJS provides support to four non-profit organizations based in Jerusalem, Israel: Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies; The Graduate School; Schechter Rabbinical Seminary; TALI Education Fund; Midreshet Yerushalayim.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SIJS, INC. ACTIVITIES

New North American Headquarters
At a meeting of the Board of Directors held in May 2005, it was decided to transfer the SIJS, Inc. national office from New York City to the Philadelphia-based EHL Consulting Group, Inc., a respected firm with extensive fund raising experience in Jewish communities across North America. One of EHL’s Consulting Principals, Mr. Avrum Lapin, now serves as Schechter’s representative in North America. The move was made after SIJS Inc. Executive Director Ms. Raquel Flatow decided to end her term of service. We wish her much success. The Board of Directors is confident that the new arrangement will enhance the organization’s fund raising capabilities.

Upper West Side Crowd Takes in Schechter
SIJS, Inc. Board members Barry and Mimi Alperin, hosted an evening in their home on the Upper West Side in November 2004 to introduce friends and colleagues to the work of the Schechter Institute. Prof. David Golinkin spoke on “The Jewish Education Revolution in Israel” to a group of thirty people including Board Chairman, Robert Rifkind, JTS Chancellor Alisa Doctoroff and Rabbi Harlan Wechsler of Congregation Or Zarua.

Board Meetings in Jerusalem and New York
The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc., under the chairmanship of Robert Rifkind, held its annual board meeting in May 2005 in New York. In Jerusalem, the annual Schechter “December Events 2004” brought together Board of Governors members of both the Rabbinical Seminary and the Graduate School for meetings and welcomed their participation in the Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance; Ordination and Commencement Exercises; and an academic conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary.

“The Best of Schechter” Study Days
Schechter faculty members Prof. David Golinkin, Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, Dr. Harvey Meirovich, and Dr. Gabi Barkay spoke at a number of North American communities during the intersession break in February 2005. Lecture venues included Beth Tzedek Congregation, Toronto; Aclas Israel Congregation, co-sponsored by the Foundation for Jewish Studies, Washington DC; the North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park, IL; Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; and Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago.

Prof. David Golinkin addressed major Conservative convocations and served as a scholar-in-residence at a number of North American Jewish communities in 2004-05, including the Women’s League Convention, Orlando FL; Rabbinical Assembly Convention, Houston; Beth Yeshurun, Houston TX; Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Toronto, Canada; Congregation B’nai Tzedek, Potomac MD; Jewish Community Center of Puerto Rico; Beth El Congregation, New Rochelle NY; Etz Hayim Synagogue, Manitou GA; Or Zarua Congregation, New York City; Oceanside Jewish Center, Oceanside, NY; and Park Synagogue, Cleveland.

Schechter Faculty Visiting Lecturers at JTS
Dr. Brenda Bacon taught at the summer school, "Curriculum and Instruction in Jewish Educational Settings," May-June 2005. Prof. Haim Be’er taught courses in Hebrew Literature, Fall 2005. Prof. Moshe Benovitz, a visiting Associate Professor of Talmud and Rabbinics, taught “Talmud” and “Advanced Halakhah on Marriage and Divorce,” in the Rabbinical School, Fall 2004.
## Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
### The Graduate School

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<th>Expenses</th>
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<td>Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
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<td>Endowment Income</td>
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**Total** | $2,436,682 | **Total** | $2,436,682 |

## Schechter Rabbinical Seminary

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**Total** | $854,955 | **Total** | $854,955 |

## TALI Education Fund

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**Total** | $1,720,909 | **Total** | $1,720,909 |

## Midreshet Yerushalayim
### Israel

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**Total** | $388,409 | **Total** | $388,409 |

## Midreshet Yerushalayim
### Eastern Europe

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**Total** | $378,390 | **Total** | $378,390 |

**Grand Total** | $5,779,345 | **Grand Total** | $5,779,345 |

* Serves all four Schechter Amutot
partners in development
our leadership
(September 2005)

Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, Inc.

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Avrum Lapin, North American Representative

Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies

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