Schechter Celebrates 30!
Sharing Jewish Knowledge
Transforming Israeli Society
Schechter Celebrates 30!
1984-2014

1984 »
The Schechter Institute is born in Jerusalem, in makeshift quarters, with five Schechter Rabbinical Seminary students and a handful of dedicated faculty members. Their goal is to train Conservative spiritual leaders for Israel with a Judaism that is halakhic, Zionist and pluralistic.

1987 »
TALI Education Fund (TEF) established. Its goal is to teach Jewish tradition and culture in Israel’s secular public schools. Today, TEF runs a national network of 260 TALI schools and pre-schools, for more than 45,000 children.

1988 »
First ordination ceremony of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary. Since that time, 87 Conservative rabbis have been ordained and are working as educators and pulpit rabbis throughout Israel and Europe.

1990 »
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies M.A. program, established as a branch of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is today the largest M.A. program in Jewish Studies in Israel with 670 students.

Midreshet Yerushalayim, the Jewish Studies program for Russian-speaking Jews in Israel and the former Soviet Union is established at Schechter.
1991 »
First annual Kekst Fellowship awarded. Twelve distinguished Schechter faculty members have been honored with the prize since its creation.

1992 »
Camp Ramah-Ukraine opens its doors to the children of Midreshet Yerushalayim. The popular camp combines Jewish learning with the best Ramah camping traditions.

M.A. Track in Informal Education established.

1993 »
Valerie Stessin is the first Israeli woman to receive ordination from the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary.

M.A. track in Family and Community Studies established in conjunction with Israel’s Community Center Association.

1994 »
First graduation Ceremony of the Schechter M.A. program held. Since then, Schechter has awarded 1360 degrees, mainly to Jewish educators.

1995 »
Women and Jewish Studies M.A. Track established, the first of its kind in Israel.

1996 »
Institute of Applied Halakhah established. Since then it has published 26 popular and scholarly volumes in Hebrew, English, and Russian for Jews throughout the world.

1997 »
First Liebhaber Prize for the Promotion of Religious Tolerance and Cultural Pluralism awarded in Israel. Since then, 23 Israelis engaged in exceptional works of religious pluralism have been honored.

NASHIM, the first academic journal of Jewish Women’s Studies and Gender Issues is published by the Schechter Institute, Brandeis University and Indiana University Press. 26 issues have appeared to date.

TALI Early Childhood Education Department founded. Today, 162 TALI preschools introduce the beauty of Judaism to Israel’s youngest citizens.

1999 »
The Center for Women in Jewish Law is established to conduct and publish advocacy research by and about women. The Center has published 5 books and 2 periodicals.

Masorti Women’s Study Days established together with Women’s League and the Masorti Movement.

2000 »
TALI Education Fund publishes its first textbooks and sourcebooks for teachers, which today number 40.

TALI Educational Leadership Program established for principals and lead staff. The two-year program has graduated 225 educators, with the majority continuing on for an M.A. in Jewish Studies at the Schechter Institute.

$1 million William Davidson Endowment established, which enabled Schechter to begin accreditation process as Israeli academic institution.

2001 »
MILI (Midreshet Yerushalayim Creative Study) competitions established for young Russian-speakers with the emphasis on Jewish knowledge questions.
Sharing Jewish Knowledge
Transforming Israeli Society

Revson Foundation established the Judge Simon Rifkind and Harry Meresman Student Fellowships for Excellence in the Graduate School.

First Genger Prize for Outstanding TALI Principal awarded. Its mandate has evolved into a broader prize for Excellence in TALI Education and is bestowed in a number of areas.

Center for Judaism and the Arts established to teach Jewish Studies via art.

M.A. in Judaism and the Arts established.

2002 »
William Davidson Scholarships for M.A. students established. Over 1600 scholarships have been awarded to date.

2003 »
TALI Rabbi program established. Today, a dedicated group of rabbis and Jewish music specialists provide spiritual direction in the TALI schools.

1st edition of Megillat Hashoah, co-published with the Rabbinical Assembly. Since then, the book has appeared in six editions and five languages.

2004 »
Camp-Ramah Ukraine holds its first annual Family Camp for parents and children to encourage Jewish family life throughout the year.

Prof. Alice Shalvi Scholarships for Excellence in Women’s and Gender Studies and Judaism and the Arts established.

The Jerome and Miriam Katzin Presidential Chair in Jewish Studies established.

Schechter Rabbinical Seminary initiates a two-year course in CPE - the first accredited chaplaincy program in Israel, in partnership with National Association of Jewish Chaplains and the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Jersey.

First Annual Conference on the Status of Women in Israeli Society held at Schechter.

2006 »
Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Schechter Campus is held in Jerusalem.

New M.A. track in Contemporary Jewry established.

TALI embarks on Dialogue and Identity Project with TALI and Arab schools in the Galilee which today operates in 16 schools in northern and central Israel.

2007 »
The Susan and Scott Shay TALI Director General position is established at the TALI Education Fund.

New M.A. track in Sephardic Jewry and Jews from Islamic Lands established.

The Midrash Project established to provide critical editions of midrash. To date, four volumes and four online synoptic editions have been published.

2008 »
Legacy Heritage Rabbinic Fellows begin to work in new and veteran Masorti synagogues.

1st Annual Jerusalem Conference held, co-sponsored by Keren Kayemet L’Israel.

2009 »
Schechter receives permanent recognition as an Israeli academic institution from Israel’s Council for Higher Education.

Schechter Rabbinical Seminary inaugurates Mishlei, a combination Bet Midrash- Jewish Studies M.A. program offering an option to continue on to rabbinic ordination.

Center for the Study of Bio-social Perspectives on Judaism established at Schechter to promote research in the field of evolution and Jewish religious practice.

2011 »
Schechter launches Marpeh - a groundbreaking academic program combining CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) with an M.A. degree in Family and Community Studies or Spiritual Education.

TALI Music festivals launched for 16 choirs around the country. Today, 38 schools participate with choirs, dance troupes and orchestras.

2012 »
Legacy Heritage Classroom Building opens in Jerusalem and the Neve Schechter-Legacy Heritage Center for Jewish Culture opens in Tel Aviv’s Neve Zedek neighborhood.

Institute for Applied Research and Advancement of Spiritual Education in TALI Schools established including Neshama Yetiera program to teach spiritual educators.

“Israeli Friends of Schechter” established. Since that time, two gala fundraising events as well as a number of fields trips and lectures have been held.

2013 »
New M.A. specialty in Spiritual Education established within the Education track.

Lehava Bet Midrash established at Schechter for Masorti rabbis and rabbinical students. Co-sponsored by the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel.
2014 Schechter Celebrates 30!

Thirty years ago, five daring students embarked on a course that would change the religious landscape of Israel.

They dared to dream of a future where Judaism and Jewish practice would engage in a lively dialogue with the vast middle ground of Israeli society.

That future is here today for Israel:

- Over 600 students in the M.A. program and 1360 graduates working in Jewish education throughout Israel;
- 87 rabbinical graduates leading spiritual growth in Masorti communities and educational frameworks;
- 260 TALI schools and pre-schools throughout Israel;
- 1,000 participants a month attending cultural events at Neve Schechter in Tel Aviv.

The numbers speak of extraordinary growth but more essentially, of Schechter’s ability to gauge the needs of this evolving Jewish nation.

Over the last three decades, as Israelis moved from nation-building to spiritual quest, Schechter responded with Jewish education for all ages that stressed the values of pluralism and democracy.

The Talmud tells us that “30” is the age of “Koach”, of “strength”. (Ethics of the Fathers, 5:21)

Schechter is clearly in its prime! We thank all of you who believed in our dream and dared, together with us, to make it happen.
Shalom to all of our Schechter Friends,

As I sit here in Israel in late August, I am contemplating the impact of the latest cycle of conflict on all of our programs. The missiles falling on many parts of Israel affect us, our students and our community. We have over 200 students and graduates of Machon Schechter living in the hard-hit southern areas. Residents of Ashkelon, Ashdod, Beersheva, Sderot, Netivot and other nearby areas, they are trying to maintain a semblance of normalcy in their lives. Tragedy has struck deeply in our community: Zohara Heiman, a longtime member of our accounting staff, lost her son in battle on the Gaza border. Over 10 TALI Schools and 16 TALI pre-schools lie in the areas most affected. Rabbi Jonathan Sadoff, a graduate of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary is diligently serving his Masorti community in Omer, outside of Beersheva.

How have we been responding? Schechter workers have been collecting essential supplies for soldiers serving near Gaza. We have organized special performances for TALI children in the affected areas. Pre-schoolers have helped prepare “care” packages for soldiers and families in the South and their parents have delivered them personally. With the start of the school year, TALI and Schechter are preparing special programming using their expertise in spiritual education and care-giving to ease our young students’ transition back to school after such a difficult summer.

Our programs in Israel are not the only ones affected by armed conflict. Midreshet Yerushalayim runs many programs in the Ukraine. Our Schechter–trained Rabbi Reuven Stamov in Kiev has been working tirelessly to aid his congregation during the troubles that culminated in street battles in Kiev and now the war with the pro-Russian separatists in Eastern Ukraine. Our TALI school in Kharkov has been most affected by the fighting. But thanks to a special emergency campaign that many of you supported, together with Masorti Olami, the security of all our programs in Ukraine has been greatly enhanced. Despite these troubles, Camp Ramah Ukraine hosted 135 teenagers for its summer session and provided them a welcome respite from their country’s troubles.

Today more than ever, the Schechter mission of pluralism, tolerance for others and moderation is needed in Israel. In addition to awarding our Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance to two notable Israelis this year, we ran a multi-faced publicity campaign about religious tolerance with an emphasis on social media. Please google “Spring of Tolerance” and “Like” the Schechter Institute’s Facebook page to visit some of the online portions of this campaign.

In Neve Zedek, in southern Tel Aviv, participation has more than tripled at our Neve Schechter Legacy Heritage Center for Jewish Culture. This year, well over 1,000 people per month have attended Neve Schechter programs as Israelis continue to seek spirituality and connections to Judaism. In addition, we launched “Rabbi at the Bar” in Tel Aviv, a successful outreach program with Schechter rabbis engaging groups of young pub-goers on “hot” issues of religion and state. Similarly, our Israel Friends of Schechter which was formed in 2013, held numerous lectures and events as well as a successful gala fundraising event in Neve Schechter.

Our faculty and staff continues to excel. Shamma Friedman, renowned Talmud scholar and professor at Schechter won the Israel Prize this year. David Golinkin, Rabbi, Professor and President of Machon Schechter, was named one of the world’s top Jewish leaders by the Jerusalem Post.

2015 is Schechter’s 30th anniversary. We have so much to be proud of in the work you have helped us carry out. From June 8-13, 2015, there will be a special international mission for our supporters to help us celebrate this momentous event. Please plan to join us for lectures, events, visits to historical sites, the graduation ceremony of our newest Masters candidates of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies and the ordination of the newest rabbis from our Schechter Rabbinical Seminary. I hope to see you there.

I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year and one that is hopefully more peaceful.

Saul I. Sanders
Chairman of the Board
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
I am writing these words in Jerusalem after a very difficult summer, during which a vindictive enemy once again showed the relevance of the verse from the Haggadah that “in every generation they stand up against us to destroy us, but God saves us from their hands”. Seventy-two Israeli soldiers and civilians were killed during Operation Protective Edge, including Second Lt. Yuval Heiman z”l, the oldest son of our veteran worker Zohara Heiman, who fell defending Kibbutz Nir-Am near the Gaza border.

I believe that there are three major ways in which the Schechter Institutes can help Israeli society at this difficult time:

**Comfort and strengthen the Jews of Israel by studying Torah:**
We are now reading the seven Haftarot of consolation which are recited between Tisha B’av and Rosh Hashanah. They open with the verses from Isaiah, chapter 40:  "Comfort, oh comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem’.

And how should we comfort the people of Israel? Throughout Jewish history, when Jews faced external enemies they went back to the sources for comfort and inspiration. This is epitomized by a famous verse from Psalms (119:92): “Were your Torah not my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.”

When our enemies attack us, Israelis want to know: why are we here and why should we stay? The four Schechter non-profits provide the answers by going back to the sources and imparting the sense of history and destiny which our texts and tradition supply.

**Jewish Unity:** There was one very positive outcome of the latest war -- an incredible sense of unity throughout the State of Israel. Tens of thousands volunteered, contributed food and money, and attended the funerals of the fallen, especially of the lone soldiers from abroad. Jewish unity has been one of the goals of Schechter since it was founded 30 years ago. It is epitomized by the Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance which we have been awarding since 1997 and by the Spring of Religious Tolerance Campaign which we conducted in 2014 (see below, p. 26). We hope to build on the unity of the summer of 2014 as we continue to teach this major Jewish value throughout the year.

**The Middle Way:** Finally, the latest war in Gaza was part of a worldwide phenomenon of religious fundamentalism and extremism. Israeli society, thank God, does not usually express its extremism via physical violence, but there is still quite a bit of fundamentalism and extremism in Israel today. As I have explained in my new book (*Responsa in a Moment*, Vol. 3, pp. 16-26), “the middle way” in Judaism is the best. As we learn in the Talmud Yerushalmi (*Hagigah* 2:1, fol. 77a): “This Torah is like two paths, one of fire and one of snow. If he strays into one, he dies of fire; if he strays into the other, he dies of snow. What should he do? He should walk in the middle”.

Indeed, Bahya ibn Pakuda and Maimonides in medieval times and Rabbis Nachman Krochmal, Zekhariah Frankel and Solomon Schechter in modern times all advocated the middle way. This too is the way of the Schechter Institutes since 1984. We are the middle way between fundamentalism and secularism, the middle way which now draws over 55,000 Israelis to our educational programs every year.

As we enter our fourth decade, the Schechter Institutes will continue – thanks to your crucial support – to comfort and strengthen the Jews of Israel by going back to the sources, to unify the Jewish people, and to advocate and teach the middle way in Judaism.

With my best wishes for a year of Shalom,

David Golinkin
President
Jerome and Miriam Katzin Professor of Jewish Studies
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
Academic Excellence

Shamma Friedman and David Golinkin
Fêted with Top Israeli Honors

Prof. Shamma Friedman Receives 2014 Israel Prize for Research in Talmud

Prof. Shamma Friedman received Israel’s highest honor, the Israel Prize, “for his remarkable endeavor to research the various forms of Talmudic literature. He has acquired an international reputation as a leading figure in the study of the Mishnah and Tosefta, in questions regarding the literary structure and development of the text of the Babylonian Talmud, in the development of motifs in Aggadic literature, in lexicographical studies of rabbinic language, and in the study of rabbinic literature from the time of the Geonim and Rishonim.”

– Israel Prize Committee, January 2014

Shamma Friedman is the Jewish Theological Seminary’s Benjamin and Minna Reeves Professor of Talmud and Rabbinics. He has taught hundreds of students at the Schechter Institute during the past 25 years.

In 1985, Friedman founded the Saul Lieberman Institute of Talmudic Research at the Schechter Institute, which today, under Friedman’s direction, distributes the Talmud Text Databank, a computerized database containing the text of almost all surviving Talmud manuscripts and a computerized page-by-page index of hundreds of books.

In July 2013, Prof. Friedman was awarded an Israel Science Foundation 3-year research grant, under the auspices of the Schechter Institute, for preparation of “A Critical Commentary on Three Chapters from the Babylonian Talmud (Bava Metzia 7, Bava Qamma 8, Avoda Zara 3).

“A discipline that allows today’s scholars to dialogue with the ancient commentaries of our wisest sages, and at the same time utilize modern methodologies and tools of scholarship, allows one to discover new levels of aesthetics and culture in this ancient work of law and morals,” explained Prof. Friedman.

“An additional definition to the “Israel Prize”: Israel IS the prize, (Israel, the state and the people.) One who is involved in the research of the Talmud is privileged not only to gain from the vast possibilities found in Israel, but to share this knowledge with students who will be the next generation of researchers.”

Prof. David Golinkin Chosen One of World’s 50 Most Influential Jews

‘The Jerusalem Post’
Top 50 Jews of 2014

David Golinkin, President of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies

Rabbi David Golinkin is one of the leading figures in the Conservative Movement and a prolific author and scholar, who seeks to advance the Jewish approach to modernity within the parameters of Halacha. His relentless activity in the realm of Jewish law has earned him one of the most influential figures within the movement, and he has also gained the respect of Orientals scholars.

Golinkin currently serves as president and professor of Jewish Law at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, which provides Jewish education to over 50,000 children and adults every year. He also served for 20 years as the chairman of the Law Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly, which writes responsa and gives halachic guidance to the Modern Movement in Israel.

The rabbi founded and directs the Institute of Applied Halacha at the Schechter Institute, which seeks to create a library of halachic literature on a variety of topics in Jewish law for the Conservative Movement. He has written or edited 45 books, including Halakha for Our Time. An Index of Conservative Responsa and Halakhic Studies 1917-1960, Rediscovering the Art of Jewish Prayer, The Jewish Law of Watch and The Status of Women in Jewish Law: Response. Additionally, Golinkin has published over 200 articles, responses on Jewish law and sermons.

Along with his other leadership roles, Golinkin is also director of the Center for Women in Jewish Law at the Schechter Institute, dedicated to finding halachic solutions for women and “chain women” who are unable to obtain a get (halachic divorce) from their husbands, and edited Talmudic Solutions for the Agunot of our Time, a seminal work dealing with the issue and how to resolve it.

– Jeremy Shanas
“I took the ‘theoretical’ literally down to the street, building a program for women to hear their Jewish voice - not just Orthodox feminists, but all women.”

Idit Rubin is a modern Orthodox woman committed to Jewish renewal in the public sphere. She is passionate about changing perceptions and language.

Mother of five and a full-time educator and teacher at the Hartman Boy’s High School in Jerusalem, Rubin was raised in a family where the first two words taught her were “community activism.”

She earned an M.A. degree at Schechter in Women’s and Jewish Studies, complementing her Hebrew University M.A. degree in Public Policy and Political Science. “I was looking for an academic program that offered text study that exposed the cultural language found between the lines. Too often in academia, it’s all about research ‘solo-acts’, but not at Schechter. Here, the focus is on community-building.”

In December 2010, Idit was elected to Jerusalem’s Ginot Ha’ir neighborhood council, whose director, Shaike El Ami, is a Schechter graduate and former board member. She agreed to chair a public committee on Diversity (G’vanim) to strengthen the language of pluralism and religious tolerance in the city. “I took the ‘theoretical’ literally down to the street, building a program for women to hear their Jewish voice - not just Orthodox feminists, but all women.”

She began modestly in Fall 2013 with one program-Ushpizot (a play on words of Ushpizin-the act of welcoming guests to the Sukkah) with a host of women performances (for men and women) in the Sukkah of the First Station, Jerusalem’s newest venue for culture. The response was overwhelming. “We wanted to give a platform to less exposed populations; a stage for all ages where one could express the language and ritual of the Jewish people.”

From its first success, G’vanim went on to initiate and coordinate four additional events that year, culminating in Sharot Yerushalayim (Women Sing Jerusalem!). Produced by Schechter with women faculty members providing the content, the event drew over 350 people and was part of Schechter’s Spring of Tolerance Campaign (see page 26).

“In Orthodoxy, being a religious pluralist is often perceived as less serious, more compromising. I challenge this premise. Pluralism leads to richer religious practice and belief.”

Idit Rubin
Jerusalem community activist; as Chair of the “G’vanim (Diversity) Public Forum, launched a series of events to allow “the women’s Jewish voice” to be heard.
“The ordination was important to my Kehillah. It was ‘our’ ordination; not ‘my’ ordination. ‘Consensus’ is the key to our success.”

Gustavo stood beaming as his “immediate family” — wife, Analia, their three children, his mother and father, his partner in the architecture firm he has worked for since his aliya 22 years ago, and over 150 congregants of his congregation — all stood to honor him at his ordination on May 20, 2014 at Schechter.

Years ago, when applying for rabbinic studies at the Seminario Rabinico in Buenos Aires, Gustavo, who was studying for his B.A. in architecture, was asked how his profession could help him in the rabbinate. With no hesitation, he replied: “I’ll be able to build the Third Temple!”

And so, applying this boundless energy, good humor and initiative, Rabbi Gustavo has transformed the Kehillah in Ra’anan into a vibrant community filled with young families and over 100 children aged 4-18. A large and active youth group – Ruach Amitai – The Spirit of Amitai is the focus of his community building.

Growing up in Buenos Aires in a family strongly connected to Jewish education and Israel, Gustavo lives by a motto given to him by his grandfather: Learning, Intellectual Pursuit and Belonging.

He gave his first sermon at age 15 as a rabbinical assistant in a large Conservative congregation in Buenos Aires, Kehillat El-Chai. At 18, the Seminario sent him out to a small outlying Jewish community to conduct High Holiday services.

Pursuing one dream at a time was never Gustavo’s style. Studying architecture took place in the morning hours with Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutoring to follow. Classes at the Seminario’s Abarbanel Teacher’s College were attended in the evening. A few years later, Gustavo combined both architecture and rabbinic internships in Santa Fe, Argentina.

Today in Israel, his schedule remains the same. The day of this interview, he was out of the house at 6 AM for an early morning meeting with clients of his latest architecture project in Jerusalem. Later on, back in Ra’anana, he taught a Talmud Torah class with members of his youth group, followed by two conversion classes.

Gustavo, how do you manage? “With little sleep, but a great deal of satisfaction,” he smiles.

“How will architecture help you as a rabbi? ‘I’ll be able to build the Third Temple.’”
Yafit Quick is deeply committed to creating a Jewish environment for her young pupils. She works closely with a TALI coordinator who is helping her introduce new TALI materials into the classroom. Every Sunday, the children greet the new week with Havdalah. Spices are taken from the school garden. “We will be learning about the Shmita year this Fall, dealing with both Jewish Law and ethical questions of leaving the land fallow.” Two years ago, the idea of Shmita was as far off my radar as Mars!

“My way of life is secular,” says Yafit, who has lived on Kibbutz Hamadia in the Jordan Valley for the past 18 years. Yafit joined the TALI Educational Leadership program last year and will continue at Schechter for an M.A. in Jewish Studies. The program has changed her life both professionally and personally.

“I was raised on Zionist values that assured me that a connection to the land and our people was enough. Today I know that a full Israeli identity must include a strong connection to our Jewish tradition and texts.”

The impressive growth in numbers of TALI pre-schools is presenting TALI with new challenges. “We must ensure that our pre-schools are able to stream into TALI elementary schools. Today, only about 50% of them do,” explains Shira. “Expanding the numbers of pre-schools where a TALI school does exist is a top priority, as is conversely, establishing TALI schools in areas with large numbers of TALI kindergartens.”
“We were only two short Metro stops from Maydan Square - the heart of the revolution. But our Kehillah never stopped meeting. There were times where we literally locked ourselves in. But today, thanks to the Emergency Campaign, our doors have been fortified and we have hired security staff.”

Rabbi Reuven Stamov, Kehillat Masoret, Kiev

Camp Ramah-Ukraine: Acted as an island of tranquility, especially for those families living in war zones like Kharkov. The camp provided extra security as well as additional guards on trains to protect the children to and from camp. Although camp was located far from the fighting, there was difficulty in getting the medical staff to camp as many of the roads were blocked. Morning services included a prayer for the welfare of Israeli soldiers. On Tisha B’Av, a memorial program for Israel’s fallen soldiers took place.

Kiev Kehillat Masoret and Educational Center: “The on-going crisis has brought us new members. There is a sense that we all need to be together, and that there is strength in numbers,” explains Rabbi Reuven Stamov. Hundreds of people turned out for the Purim celebration as well as for the communal Seder. The Kehilla moved into larger premises in September, 2013. “But even here we are sometimes short of room,” says Stamov.

Kharkov TALI Shaalavim School: On the Russian border, this city has found itself on the war’s front line. The school has tried to maintain the fine balance between ensuring the safety of its 120 pupils and keeping to a normal routine. Guards ride on school buses, all school entrances have been reinforced and a long school day introduced. 11 Kharkov children attended Camp Ramah-Ukraine, 3 on full scholarship. “What gratitude we feel toward Midreshet Yerushalayim. You have given our children happy moments during these dark days,” says school principal, Prof. Eugene Persky.

“Everyone is afraid and insecure about the future. But we have provided families with a stronger connection to Israel and the Jewish people. Many are showing a greater interest in learning Jewish sources, of working out self-identity in the context of these confusing times.”

Gila Katz, Pedagogic Supervisor

Odessa Education Center: Midreshet Yerushalayim’s newest community borders Crimea, the disputed region recently taken over by Russia. Incidents, including a major fire in a government building, have kept the community on edge, but emergency funding has provided them with additional security and funds for holiday programming. “The emergency campaign, in addition to its material benefits, is providing a sense of spiritual and emotional security for young and old alike,” explained Ze’ev Wacksman, Odessa community leader.
Neve Schechter

“Neve Schechter is an island of pluralism in the midst of Tel Aviv. We are a microcosm of Israeli society with a difference: Here, everyone listens and all can be heard.”

Yonit Kolb-Reznitzki, Director, Neve Schechter

In less than two years, the Neve Schechter-Legacy Heritage Center for Jewish Culture has endeared itself to the discerning residents of a cosmopolitan city inundated with “Culture” and wary of most anything that smacks of religion. “The place exudes a magic that captivates,” explains Yonit Kolb, who has taken Neve Schechter on an innovative and exciting course in her first year as Center Director. Focusing on larger cultural events to introduce Neve Schechter to wider circles has proved to be a successful strategy. This year, over 10,000 visitors from Tel Aviv and farther a field have enjoyed a wide array of cultural events, holiday happenings and Jewish enrichment courses.

Alexander Voiler is a veteran “Tel Avivian” who made aliyah from Moscow 24 years ago. For this intellectual “renaissance man” with degrees in theatre, electronics and physics, finding his rightful place in the complex puzzle of Zionism, Judaism and self-identity was no mean trick. “I define myself a religious-secularist,” he opines with a smile.

Alexander’s first introduction to Neve Schechter was a mini-course on “Meditative Judaism” given by a Schechter lecturer. “I saw an ad for Neve Schechter and came to a lecture. The minute I walked through the doors I knew this was a place that I could feel comfortable in,” says Voiler.

Voiler is now a regular at Neve Schechter, participating in holiday programming with the Masorti Congregation of Neve Zedek, led by Rabbi Roberto Arbib, who is also educational director of Neve Schechter.

Today, Alexander is a full-time student at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem with majors in Jewish Thought and Land of Israel Studies. “I thought I knew something about Jewish culture and my Jewish identity. I realize now that I am only at the beginning of my journey. But the fact that so much learning and life lie ahead of me is exciting.”

“I was looking for a learning community that nurtures self-respect, spirituality and tolerance. I found that at Neve Schechter.”

Alexander Voiler, a “regular” at Neve Schechter lectures and events
Schechter Institute Graduate School

Numbers 2013-14
» 673 students, including 148 first-year students
» 56 faculty members
» 14 interdisciplinary M.A. tracks of Jewish Studies
» 86 graduates in 2014
» 1360 graduates since 1992
» 8 books published
» 9 conferences and study events

Faculty Fêté (see page 4)
» Prof. Shamma Friedman awarded Israel Prize for Talmud research
» Prof. David Golinkin named one of the world’s top 50 Jewish leaders by the Jerusalem Post
» Prof. Renée Levine Melammed wins Canadian Jewish Book Award for An Ode to Salonika: The Ladino Verses of Bouena Safatty

Liebhaber Prize and Graduation Ceremonies
Schechter Commencement Exercises took place on June 10, 2014 in the Arnold and Pat z”l Gittelson English Courtyard where 86 M.A. degrees were conferred, including the first Marpeh Spiritual Care graduate and 1st Mishlei M.A./Bet Midrash graduate. A highlight of the Ceremony was the awarding of the Annual Dr. Henia z”l and Rabbi Marc Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance in Israel. Musical artist Ehud Banai and philosopher Dr. Micah Goodman received the Prize, now in its 17th year. (see page 26)

Scholarships & Fellowships
» William Davidson Scholarships awarded to all 148 first-year students
» The Edythe Griffinger Scholarship for Educators from Development Towns awarded first time to distinguished student
» Judge Simon Rifkind and Harry Meresman Scholarships for Outstanding Scholarship and Commitment to Jewish Pluralism awarded to six exceptional students
» Prof. Alice Shalvi Scholarships for Outstanding Students in Gender and Judaism and the Arts to two students
» Evolution and Judaism Fellowship, Binah Yitzrit Foundation

Chair, Board of Trustees: Saul Sanders
Chair, Executive Committee: Colette Avital
President: Professor David Golinkin
Dean: Dr. Doron Bar
Vice President for Finance and Administration: Liat Citron
Vice President for Development: Eitan Cooper
Students in the TALI Leadership Program awarded to 15 TALI school teachers

Scholarships for Teachers in Development Towns awarded to 26 students

Kekst Faculty Fellow, 2013-15: Dr. Doron Bar, Dean, Senior Lecturer in Land of Israel Studies

Library Acquisitions

2013-14 acquisitions to Schechter include: 2,000 books from the library of Rabbi Harvey Meirovich and books from the libraries of Rabbi Elliot Gertel, Amiram Simon z”l, Elisheva Sompolinsky, Prof. Yehoshua Ben Arieh, Rabbi Pesach Krauss z”l, Rabbi Hayim Halpern and Rabbi Angel Kreiman z”l.

Of Special Note: Ora Lipschitz, in addition to donating her 20,000 volume collection of Bible and Ancient Near East Studies, is donating her unique 147,000 item index of Biblical scholarship “Bibli-Ora Online” which will be available to Bible scholars around the world.

First M.A. Graduate of Marpeh Spiritual Care Program

MARPEH – to “cure” in Hebrew – is also the name of Schechter’s ground-breaking program which confers CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) certification with an M.A. degree in Family and Community Studies or Spiritual Education. A total of 26 students are enrolled in this popular program, which each year has a waiting list. In June, Schechter conferred its first Marpeh certificate and M.A. degree to Yona Me’eri, who is working as a spiritual caregiver in Israel’s north. In November 2013, a historic certification ceremony of Israel’s first healthcare chaplains took place in Jerusalem, with Schechter lecturer and founder of Marpeh, Dr. Einat Ramon, one of the 22 Israeli graduates. “Spiritual care is a blessing to the Jewish People, to the State of Israel and to the Middle East. I have seen people grow closer to themselves and to one another in the context of offering and receiving spiritual care and in the process of training spiritual care givers,” said Dr. Ramon.

Prof. Renée Levine Melammed Wins Canadian Jewish Book Award

An Ode to Salonika: The Ladino Verses of Bouena Safatty, by Renée Levine Melammed, professor of Jewish History and Women’s Studies at Schechter, won this year’s Canadian Jewish Book Award in the biography/memoir category. Levine Melammed’s meticulous research sketches the life and demise of the Sephardi Jewish community that once flourished in Salonika, Greece, through coplas, the Ladino poems telling the history of this once vibrant world. This is Levine Melammed’s third major award, being the first time dual-winner in the Jewish Book Council’s 50-year history, receiving National Jewish Book Awards in Women’s Studies and Sephardic Studies for her 1999 Heretics or Daughters of Israel? The Crypto-Jewish Women of Castile, published by Oxford University Press.
Schechter Scholarship for the Community

Conferences and Lectures


» Book Launching, Images of Cosmology in Jewish and Byzantine Art, by Dr. Shula Laderman, May 2014

» Women Sing Jerusalem! Jerusalem’s “First Station” outdoor plaza with readings by Prof. Alice Shalvi, Dr. Tamar Kadari, Sivan Har Shefi, Dr. Carmela Avdar and Prof. Michal Govrin, May 2014

» Israel Friends of Schechter Gala, with Liebhaber Prize winners Ehud Banai and Rabbi Roberto Arbib on David and Saul, Neve Schechter, April 2014

» Holocaust Memorial Day: Writings of Etti Hillesum z”l, Rabbi David Aronson Memorial Study Day at Neve Schechter; evening program on Libyan Jewry during the Holocaust at Neve Schechter; The Holocaust in North Africa, Rabbi Dubi Haiyun at Schechter Institute, April 2014

» Tribute to Prof. Shamma Friedman, Israel Prize Laureate 2014, with Prof. David Golinkin, Dr. Aharon Amit and Nathalie Lestriger, April 2014

» Three Annual Masorti Regional Women’s Study Days, February 2014

» Writing and Remembering/Remembering and Writing, 9th Annual Academic Conference on The Status of Women in Israeli Society, in memory of Moshe Shalvi, z”l, March 2014

» “The Vital Religious Center” Study Evening with Chancellor Arnold Eisen, Prof. David Golinkin and Dr. Tova Hartman, Schocken Institute, December 2013

» Returning the Conversos of Portugal to Judaism, Amb. Colette Avital, Fall Faculty Meeting, October 2013

The Goldstein-Golinkin Adult Education Program provided 31 high level lectures to Masorti communities throughout Israel. Twelve Schechter faculty members including Dr. Paul Mandel, Dr. Ari Ackerman, Dr. Sarah Efenberg, Dr. Bat-Sheva Stern, Dr. Brenda Bacon, Prof. Yossi Turner, Dr. Michal Oren, Rabbi Roberto Arbib, Dr. David Frankel, Dr. Paul Shrell-Fox, Dr. Ronit Steinberg and Dr. Anat Navot shared their scholarship on Midrash, Jewish Thought, Land of Israel Studies, Jewish Education, Bible, Women’s Studies and more to the following congregations in 2013-14: Kehillat Ya’ar Ramot, Jerusalem » Kehillat Ramot Zion, Jerusalem » Kehillat Hod V’Hadar, Kfar Saba » Kehillat Netzach Yisrael, Ashkelon » Neve Schechter, Tel Aviv » Kehillat Tiferet Shalom, Ramat Aviv » Kehillat Adat Shalom, Rehovot
New Books 2013-4
By the Schechter Institute


NASHIM, A Journal of Jewish Women's Studies and Gender Issues, academic editor, Renée Levine Melammed, managing editor, Deborah Greniman, a joint publication of the Schechter Institute, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute and Indiana University Press: No. 25, Women, Jews, Venetians, Consulting Editors: Gretchen Starr-Lebeau and Ariella Lang, Fall 2013; No. 26, Salome: Woman of Valor, Gretchen Starr-Lebeau and Ariella Lang, Fall 2013


Esther Rabbah, eds., Yosef Tabori, Arnon Atzmon, Jerusalem: Schechter Institute, 2014 (Hebrew)

Midrash Hadash, ed., Gila Wachman, Jerusalem: Schechter Institute, 2013 (Hebrew)

By Schechter Faculty and Graduates

The Sermons of Zerachia Halevi Saladin; Ari Ackerman, Beer Sheva University Press, 2013 (Hebrew)

Talmud Ha-Igud: BT Sukkah Chapter IV and Chapter V with Comprehensive Commentary, Moshe Benovitz, Jerusalem: Society for the Interpretation of the Talmud, 2013, (Hebrew)

Collected Studies on the Tannaim, Shamma Friedman, TA: Mossad Bialik, 2013 (Hebrew)

Seride Teshuvot of the Ottoman Empire Sages, Vol. 3, Shmuel Glick, Jewish Theological Seminary of America & Cambridge University Library, 2014 (Hebrew)

La Senora, (a novel about Dona Gracia), Naomi Keren, Tel Aviv: Kineret Zemora Beitan, 2013 (Hebrew)

An Ode to Salonika: the Ladino Verses of Boueno Sorfatty, Renée Levine Melammed, Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2013

From Berlin to Shanghai: Letters to Eretz Yisraeil, ed. Guy Miron, Yad Vashem, 2013 (Hebrew)

The Relation to Zion and the Diaspora in 20th Century Jewish Thought, Joseph Turner, Ha-Kibbutz Ha-Me'uhad, 2014 (Hebrew)

Research Institutes

The Center for Judaism and the Arts includes the M.A. track in Judaism and the Arts and TALI's Visual Midrash Electronic Archive - www.tali-virtualmidrash.org.il - which includes 850 explicated images of art relating to Biblical subjects.

The Center for Women in Jewish Law has published a series of books and periodicals by and about women in Jewish Law. Go to www.schechter.edu to see its list of publications.

The Institute of Applied Halakhah publishes a library of Halakhic literature in Hebrew, English, and Russian for Jews throughout the world. It has to date published 26 popular and scholarly volumes.

The Center for the Study of Bio-social Perspectives on Judaism promotes research in the field of evolution and Jewish religious practice, convenes an international conference bi-annually and sponsors two research fellowships.

The Midrash Project is publishing a series of books on midrash. Published to date: Legends of the Jews, Midrash Shmuel, Midrash Hadash Al HaTorah, Midrash Esther Rabbah with synoptic editions of Midrash Shmuel, Esther Rabbah, Kohelet Rabbah and Shir Hashirim Rabbah on Schechter websites.
Numbers 2013-14
48 students learned in the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary: 6 rabbinical students; 20 Mishlei students and 22 JTS students (15 rabbinical and 7 cantorial)

Mishlei – Priming Students for the Rabbinate
The Mishlei program, now in its third year, with twenty students, has created an entirely new paradigm for Jewish learning in Israel. Combining traditional Bet Midrash study (Hevruta) with an M.A. degree in Jewish studies, Mishlei is today one of Schechter’s highest-level study programs. Best proof of the program’s success? Its graduates. Three Mishlei graduates are learning in the 3-year rabbinical program and two more students will enter the ordination program in Fall 2014.

Mishlei Graduates.
Today Ordination Students.
Tomorrow Masorti Leaders.

» Yerah Meirsdorf, born in Israel, grew up in an Orthodox family, served in the Hesder Army-Yeshiva program, found his spiritual home in Masorti Judaism

» Dikla Drukman, secular Israeli background, counselor in Noam Youth Movement and summer camp, active in the Marom Student Movement, interned at Masorti Kehillot in Omer and Jerusalem

» Naomi Dar, 2nd year rabbinical student, rabbi for the Holon Kehillah, rabbinic intern in Haifa’s Kehillat Moriah, active member of Masorti Kehilla in Modi’in

» Ari Hasitt, born in the U.S., acting rabbi for Noam Youth Movement, taught at Ramah High School program-Israel, Ramah counselor in the U.S, interned at the Masorti Chavura in Kfar Veradim (Upper Galilee)

» Lucas (Pato) Leiderman, born in Brazil, Jewish Day School graduate, aliyah 2007, directs Marom student organization/ South America and lectures to Jewish Agency groups visiting Israel
26th Ordination: Filled to Overflowing

200 well-wishers, family and friends gathered in the Harvey L. Miller Family Bet Midrash at Schechter to celebrate the ordination of Gustavo Gryncwajg, Annabelle Herciger-Tenzer and Yisrael Serok, who join the leadership ranks of the 84 Schechter rabbis ordained to date. Gustavo Gryncwajg has transformed his Masorti Kehillah “Amittai” in Ra’anana into a thriving community with many young families and an active youth group. (see profile, page 6). Annabelle Herciger-Tenzer, the 24th woman to be ordained at Schechter, arrived in Israel in 1980 from Belgium. Rabbi Annabelle is an accredited spiritual caregiver through Schechter’s Marpeh program. Yisrael Serok, who worked for the Jewish Agency and WZO in various educational roles will continue his work with Jewish communities overseas.

“Lehava” Continuing Education for Rabbis

The new Lehava program established this year by SRS and the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel is providing Masorti rabbis with practical knowledge on contemporary halakhic issues. The bi-weekly study sessions have created a high-level Masorti Bet Midrash at Schechter as well as established a regular forum in which Masorti congregational rabbis can connect, meet and discuss common issues central to their communities and interact with rabbinical and Mishlei students in the Schechter Bet Midrash. The majority of participants are congregational rabbis coming from around Israel. Lehava studies are having a direct impact on over 1,000 members of the rabbis’ Kehillot. 2014-15 study topics: Laws of Mourning and Kashrut Supervision.

Schechter - Legacy Heritage Partner for Kehillah Growth

SRS believes that the training of outstanding spiritual leaders must involve their empowerment through practical experience and contribution to Masorti communities. Mentored by rabbis in the field, the Legacy Heritage Rabbinic Fellows work one day a week and one Shabbat a month in established Masorti/Conservative congregations. The Rabbinic Fellows conduct synagogue outreach programs for families and youth, teach in the community Batei Midrash and local schools and make a vital contribution to congregations around Israel. This year, rabbinical students Nathalie Lestriger interned in Jerusalem’s Kehillat Moreshet Avraham, Naomi Dar in Haifa’s Kehillat Moriah and Dikla Drukman in Kehillat Ramot Zion, Jerusalem.

In Omer’s Kehillat Magen Avraham, a successful intern program provided Mishlei colleagues Amirit Rosen and Yerah Meirschof essential pulpit skills while contributing to Kehillah life. Yerah’s decision to enroll in the ordination program in Fall 2014 was a direct result of the positive experience he had in Omer.

Interfaith Programs at Schechter

SRS continues to develop its interfaith programs with the Netherlands Israel Study Institute and the Inter-religious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI). In January 2014, 28 Protestant ministers studied in Hevrutot with over 30 SRS students and faculty. A book summarizing the proceedings of the first conference held at Schechter in February 2012 is being published jointly by the Center and Schechter.

SRS Leaves the Holy Mountain for Tel Aviv Pub Scene

Schechter rabbis Michael Schwartz, Roberto Arbib, Liron Levy and Nathalie Lestriger spent a fascinating May evening in Tel Aviv with young pub-goers who came to hear “Rabbis at the Bar” as part of Schechter’s Spring of Tolerance Campaign. Breaking long-held religious stereotypes, our rabbis related to contemporary issues on the minds of young Israelis, including “How Judaism sees the Problem of Refugees and Asylum Seekers” and “Making a Contemporary and Meaningful Huppah in Israel”.

1. Talmud study in the Harvey L. Miller Family Bet Midrash at Schechter.
2. 2014 ordinees from left: Gustavo Gryncwajg, Annabelle Herciger-Tenzer and Yisrael Serok.
3. Interfaith at Schechter: A participant from Netherlands Israel Study Institute in common text study with SRS Dean, Rabbi Shlomo Tucker.
4. Mishlei students from left: Yossi Ohana, Esther Ottolenghi and JTS student Max Yadin (middle).
5. “Lehava” Continuing Education for Masorti rabbis in the Bet Midrash. Rabbi Dubi Haiyun (center), RA co-president, helped launch the program.
6. Rabbi Diana Villa emphasizes an halakhic point with Mishlei student Mauricio Acebrud.
7. Rabbi Michal Schwartz (left), one of Schechter’s “Rabbis at the Bar”, with pub-goers in Tel Aviv.
TALI Expansion Continues

TALI has recorded unprecedented growth in the past four years. Comprising well over 10% of all elementary schools in the secular public school system, TALI is by far the largest provider of pluralistic Jewish studies and values education in Israel. In Fall 2014, 6 schools and 22 pre-schools joined TALI, bringing the total to 260.

Numbers 2013-14

- 92 schools and 140 pre-schools, totaling 232 TALI frameworks with 45,000 pupils; including 8 new schools and 40 new pre-schools
- 12 pedagogic counselors worked in 75 schools with 1,500 teachers
- 11 pedagogic counselors worked in 65 pre-schools
- 52 TALI teachers and principals studied in the TALI Leadership Program
- 15 graduates of the TALI Leadership Program received Schechter M.A. degrees

- 8 TALI books or kits were published, bringing total number of TALI textbooks to 40, with additional use in U.S., Canada, Paris and Mexico
- Over 23,800 TALI textbooks sold to over 80 schools and to the Ministry of Education
- 12 TALI rabbis worked in 54 TALI schools and pre-schools
- 25 teachers and TALI rabbis completed the Neshama Yiteira training program for spiritual educators
- 510 pupils from 8 TALI schools and 8 Arab schools participated in the Dialogue and Identity Co-Existence Program
- 1,850 pupils from 24 schools participated in the TALI Bar/Bat Mitzva Seminars at Kibbutz Hanaton

- 3,900 pupils from 49 schools and pre-schools participated in TALI Niggunim music workshops
- 1,500 pupils from 38 schools participated in the TALI Choir Festivals
- 1,350 pupils from 21 schools took part in the 'TALI-Leket' Tzedakah activities

Initiatives 2013-14

Increased Resources for Early Childhood Education

The inclusion of 162 pre-schools in the TALI network (92 in the last three years) has prompted the Early Childhood Division to expand its services by creating new curriculum and increasing educational staff for the more than 5,000 pre-school children in 21 cities and towns. About 50% of the pre-schools feed into TALI schools. Where there is no TALI school, the pre-schools act as a catalyst for establishing a TALI presence.
**Pre-School Educational Initiatives**

» Systematic 3-year development program implemented, with performance benchmarks for assessing educational progress

» New curriculum, *Ethics of the Fathers*, introduced as a pilot in a number of pre-schools

» Calendar produced which integrates content pertinent to holidays and the Hebrew calendar into one interactive tool. Excellent feedback received from pre-school educators.

**TALI Center for Spiritual Education**

» In 2012, the TALI Education Fund opened the Institute for Applied Research and Advancement of Spiritual Education in TALI Schools.

2013-14 Highlights:

» **First 3-semester course of Neshama Yiteira (An Extra Soul)** concludes successfully in January 2014. 25 participants (Masorti rabbis, TALI teachers and pedagogic counselors and other informal educators) received the tools to deepen the impact of TALI education and nurture in children a sense of wonder and mindfulness.

» **Neshama Yiteira pilot programs** were implemented in 8 TALI schools/pre-schools.

» **Multi-disciplinary research forum**, led by Prof. Hanan Alexander, is compiling research for a comprehensive database for educators in this new and exciting field. Materials in English and Hebrew for awakening spiritual intelligence can be found at [www.talispiritualeducation.org.il](http://www.talispiritualeducation.org.il).

**Informal Education: New TALI Direction**

» **Vacation mini-camp “Hofesh-TALI”** filled with creative experiences relating to Pesach themes, took place at Kibbutz Hanaton Education Center, Spring 2014. 55 fifth/sixth grade pupils from 8 TALI schools attended. Pilot was a great success with plans to expand the program which transforms TALI classroom “learning” into “living” experiences.

» **TALI Family Haggadah** combining traditional texts with a wealth of family activities was marketed widely to the general public as well as TALI community, with the new Haggadah receiving positive reviews.

» **Bat Mitzvah program** piloted in Israel’s north enabled 120 girls in 9 TALI schools to observe their Bat Mitzvah in a meaningful way with study and a ceremony. The five-part workshop is especially relevant to TALI schools which stress gender equality. A Bat/Bar Mitzvah Kit including sources and activities is being produced to augment an expanded series of workshops.

**Closer ties between TALI and Beersheva’s Kehillat Eshel Avraham**

In Beersheva, the TALI Amirim School and Kehillat Eshel Avraham have initiated a number of educational programs designed to bring the two communities closer. This year’s events included joint celebrations for Tu B’shvat, Lag B’omer and Shavuot as well as regular visits to the school by TALI rabbis Mauricio Balter and Hagit Dotan.

**2013-14 Project Updates**

**TALI Leadership Development Program** boasted a record-breaking 52 participants who studied in the two-year program which develops competent and professional educational leadership, conversant with Jewish texts and capable of achieving the goals of TALI schools. Since its establishment in 2001, 225 educators from 80 TALI schools have studied in the leadership program, with most of them completing the M.A. Program at the Schechter Institute.

**Dialogue and Identity Program** is designed to expose children to the multiple cultures and religions in Israel, providing a positive educational encounter between Jewish and Arab children based on the *Three Religions in the Holy Land* curriculum. The program, now in its eighth year, operated in 16 schools with 510 children: 8 Jewish TALI schools and 8 schools from the MENA Catholic-Arab Network (with Muslim and Christian pupils.) The program empowers the teachers to lead the educational program themselves, which is based on shared cultural experiences.
Jewish Communities Band Together in Response to Political Unrest and Violence

2013-14 was a year of upheaval, violence and uncertainty for Midreshet Yerushalayim communities. Gila Katz was in constant contact with Rabbi Reuven Stamov and his wife, Lena, spiritual leaders of Kehillat Masoret in Kiev, as well as with school principals and community leaders in Kharkov, Chernovitz, Berdichev and Odessa, where a new Midreshet Yerushalayim community formed in 2014.

Special Emergency Appeal Eases Fears

In response to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, Schechter and Masorti Olami joined together in a special emergency appeal to aid Midreshet Yerushalayim communities in need. The funds provided security guards and video surveillance, communal Pesach Seders, hot meals for children, enhanced security at the Ramah-Ukraine summer camps and additional camp scholarships in light of Ukraine’s worsening economic situation.

Midreshet Yerushalayim

MIDRESHET YERUSHALAYIM UKRAINE

Crisis is Catalyst for Larger Attendance at Holiday and Shabbat Celebrations

2013-14 saw a rise in attendance for Kabbalat Shabbat and holiday celebrations, including: Kiev, a bigger hall was rented to hold the Purim Megillah reading for the more than 100 parents and children who attended. Tensions were very high at the time. Two Passover Seders were held, with a total of 100 guests reading the Hagaddah. Kharkov: the TALI school’s 120 children participated with their parents in a model Seder. The school is only 15 km. from the center of Kharkov where Ukrainian and pro-Russia forces continue to clash. Emergency funds have provided a permanent school guard as well as extra protection on the buses which take the children to and from school. Chernovitz’s new Aviv Family Kehillah rented a large hall to conduct a Seder for over 70 people followed by a second Seder for 30 community activists. Berdichev: a Seder was conducted for 70 parents and children from Midreshet Yerushalayim’s Jewish Community School and graduates of the school who are now young adults. In light of the area’s worsening economic conditions, a “hot lunch” program was launched for the children of the school.

» 50 young adults from Odessa, Midreshet Yerushalayim’s newest community, turned out for an introductory Passover class, followed by a model Seder. 80 young adults and families participated in the actual Seder.

Director, MY – Israel: Dr. Yair Paz
Pedagogic Supervisor, MY – Ukraine: Gila Katz
Kiev Kehillat Masoret Moves to Larger Premises

In spite of the political and economic hardship faced by Ukraine, or maybe because of it, Kiev’s Kehillat Masoret is flourishing with over 200 weekly participants. On September 1, 2013, the congregation and Midreshet Yerushalalyim/Masorti Olami Center for Jewish Education and Culture moved to larger premises. The Center, led by Rabbi Reuven Stamov, the first Masorti/Conservative rabbi in Ukraine, is offering its members a rich Jewish program of study and enrichment.

**Highlights:**
- Kabbalat Shabbat followed by a meal and singing
- Shabbat Mincha program with Torah portion lessons followed by Havdalah
- Armon Family Education Center for all ages includes a Sunday school, Bet Midrash, Hebrew Ulpan, Family Club, Culinary/Kosher Workshop, Arts and Midrash Workshop, Israeli Dance classes
- Special holiday events for Purim, Passover, Israel Independence Day, Shavuot and the High Holidays

**Numbers 2013-14**
- 1,000 children and their families participated in Midreshet Yerushalayim programs, the only Conservative Jewish educational network in the former Soviet Union, in the following frameworks:
  - **TALI Family Education Centers** in Kiev, Chernowitz, Berdichev and Kharkov
  - **New! Odessa Education Center** in formative stages with 50 young leaders (mainly in their 20s) and Odessa Hebrew Club and Café offers rich weekly program of study and social events
  - **Kharkov TALI Day School**, with 120 students (grades 1-10)
  - **Kiev Family Education Center** programming seven days a week, attracting 200 participants weekly
  - **Teachers’ Seminar for 40 teachers and camp counselors** in western Ukraine, June 2014
  - **Ramah-Ukraine Family Camp for 26 families** (three generations) near Cherkassy, five days on *The Family in Judaism*, June 2014
  - **22nd Annual Ramah-Ukraine Summer Camp**: 135 teenagers (aged 11-17) from 11 Ukrainian towns, 10-days of Jewish adventure on *Personalities in the Bible*
  - **Ramah Family Mini-camp, Chanukah 2013**, near Berdichev, 15 families, mainly from Kiev and Berdichev, with families turned away due to lack of funds
  - **MIDRESHET YERUSHALAYIM ISRAEL**
    - “Midrashot Schechter” Flourish in Israel’s North
      - **Midreshet HaKarmel**, the Bet Midrash of Kehillat Moriah in Haifa is thriving under the able direction of its spiritual leader, Schechter graduate Rabbi Dubi Haiyun. In 2013-14, 160 participants studied in eleven on-going study frameworks including a traditional Bet Midrash, guided study trips, a liturgical poetry workshop and more. “Satellite” Bet Midrash in Kfar Tabor, Ramat Ishai and Shlomi met weekly with courses on Jewish Philosophy and Family Issues in Judaism.
      - **Midreshet HaKerem for Jewish Culture**, affiliated with Karmiel’s Masorti Kehillat Hakerem offered a varied study program to over 100 students in Hebrew and Spanish directed by Schechter graduate Rabbi Michael Even David, which included classes on The Book of Judges, Cinema and Judaism, Maimonides and Basic Talmud.
  - **Numbers 2013-14**
    - 43 Jewish studies courses were conducted in twelve cities including Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Karmiel, Nesher, Upper Nazareth, Ramat Yishai, Kfar Tabor, Shlomi, Maale Adumim and Eilat with over 1,000 participants
    - 6 MILI clubs attracted 200 young Russian-speaking immigrants to an intellectual quiz game that provides an introduction to Jewish subjects and 3 MILI National Competitions which took place on Hanukkah, Purim and Jerusalem Day, drawing 150 game enthusiasts each time
    - 9 fieldtrips throughout Israel for Midrashot Schechter in the north
    - 20,000 visitors per year go to the Midreshet Yerushalayim Jewish studies resource website in Russian, www.mili.org.il
Neve Schechter
Legacy Heritage Center
for Jewish Culture

Neve Schechter: The Home for Jewish Culture in Tel Aviv
Opened in 2012 in the trendy Neve Zedek neighborhood of Tel Aviv, Neve Schechter has come to embody the vision of Israeli culture as an ongoing dialogue between contemporary life and the traditional sources of Judaism. Offering a rich schedule of programs and study options, it is today recognized as a leading venue for Jewish culture and the arts in the “city that never sleeps.”

Numbers 2013-14
Over 10,000 people attended lectures, holiday events and exhibits during the year, with an average of 1,000 participants a month

Jewish Holidays Take on New Meaning
Holiday “happenings” are a focal point at Neve Schechter, where residents of the neighborhood and beyond join in celebrations with members of the Masorti Kehillah of Neve Zedek.

2013-14 Highlights:
» Shavuot: All night Tikun Study, with A.B. Yehoshua and other Israeli artists, 450 participants, June 3
» Holocaust Memorial Day: evening program on Libyan Jewry during the Holocaust, 250 participants, April 27
» Rabbi David Aronson Memorial Study Day on Diaries of Etty Hilsum z”l, Dutch Jew who died in Auschwitz, in partnership with Keter Publishing House, 90 participants, April 28
» Passover: Launch of new Haggadah by young Tel Aviv artists in partnership with “Out of the Box” NPO; 400 participants, March 27
» TALI Family Haggadah launch, 60 participants, April 2
» Purim Celebration: Megillah Reading and Concert; over 300 participants, March 15
» Tu B’Shevat Happening: combining ecology with Judaism; over 150 participants, January 17
» Chanukah Events for the entire family, including “A Spark from the Light” art exhibit of student works, 260 participants, December 3 & 4
» Morning Opening Event: movie screening and classes offering “a taste of learning”, 200 participants, October 4
» Evening Opening Event: concert with artists Shai Tzabari and Carolina, 500 participants, October 3
» Liturgy of Selihot Prayers: 120 participants, September 10

Director: Yonit Kolb-Reznitzki
Educational Director: Rabbi Roberto Arbib
Highlighting a Rich History – The Neve Schechter Story
The beautifully restored 19th century Templer building in which Neve Schechter resides boasts a rich and colourful history. Highlights of this recognition:

» **Café Lorenz - Templers, Bohemia and S.Y. Agnon**, a new one-hour play already seen by over 800 visitors in 12 performances, is being successfully marketed to tour groups in Tel Aviv

» **The Society for the Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites** recently recognized Neve Schechter as an “Israeli Heritage Site”

» **Lorenz Photographs** - a unique exhibition of historic photos which brings the building’s colourful past to life, co-sponsored by the Council for Historical Sites, 70 participants at opening, March 15 – May 30

» **Workshop in Conservation and Restoration of Murals** brought Israeli volunteers and oversees students together to restore the original wall paintings in the Simha and Sara Lainer Bet Midrash, May 2014

» **Tel Aviv “Open Houses”,** one of the city’s most popular cultural events, selected Neve Schechter to participate, May 23-24, 2014

Jewish and Israeli Art in Focus
A number of art exhibits have been held at Neve Schechter, including:

» **A Different Illusion**, by famed Israeli artist Ilan Siman Tov, 260 guests at opening, over 1,000 people visited exhibit, February 7 – March 14

» **Art exhibit by Josie Katz**, well known Israeli singer, 60 guests at opening, 150 visitors, March 10-14

» **Letters of Healing**, Kabbalistic Art by Holocaust survivor Fishel Rabinowicz, Locarno, Switzerland, 60 guests at opening, April 25-June 9

The Masorti Kehillah of Neve Zedek
Neve Schechter houses the Masorti Congregation of Neve Zedek, led by Rabbi Roberto Arbib, which embraces families and individuals who seek an inclusive and inspiring spiritual community, progressive yet traditional, in the heart of the secular urban landscape. Drawing young families has been a major objective of the Kehillah:

» 53 children had their Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the Atid Sanctuary of the Masorti Kehillah of Neve Zedek in 2013-14

» **A creative children’s play on the Torah Portion**, with actress Irit Sopran, takes place two Shabbat mornings a month, attracting thirty to forty families who then join the congregation for Kiddush

» **A monthly Wednesday afternoon Bible and Midrash storytelling** by Irit Sopran is attracting neighborhood mothers and their children

A Tel Aviv Bet Midrash... with a twist
Neve Schechter offered a diverse selection of Jewish studies ranging from a classic Introduction to Talmud to the exploration of Judaism from an Evolutionary Perspective. Sixteen courses and workshops took place, including Piyut/Liturgical Poetry, Guided Imagery, Creative Writing and the Jewish Sources and a special four-part series on **Fighting Racism from the Perspective of Jewish Sources**, co-sponsored by Shatil and the Social Justice Bet Midrash. Many of these lectures were given by Schechter Institute faculty, providing a rich context for intellectual pursuit.
Schechter raised $5,618,615 for operating expenses from the period of July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014, despite the many challenges of a slow-growth economy. The continued fundraising success enabled Schechter’s four Amutot (nonprofits) to sustain and grow numerous academic, educational and outreach activities and initiatives at its main campus in Jerusalem, at Neve Schechter in Tel Aviv, in TALI schools throughout the State of Israel, at Batei Midrash in Northern Israel, and in Eastern Europe.

Schechter’s two beautiful new facilities, the Legacy Heritage Classroom Building in Jerusalem and the Legacy Heritage Center for Jewish Culture in Tel Aviv opened in 2012. Payments on multi-year pledges made to the capital campaigns for these buildings have continued to arrive through 2013-14.

In 2013 Schechter launched a new capital campaign for the Center for Jewish Education, a second facility that will complete the Neve Schechter Campus in Tel Aviv. The Center will contain TALI pre-school classrooms, additional facilities for family education and Neve Schechter’s program and management offices. During the past year, a total of $950,000 in commitments toward a total goal of $2 million were made to the building by nine generous donors, with $520,000 paid during the period.

In partnership with Masorti Olami, over $70,000 was raised to help Midreshet Yerushalayim meet the emergency situation in Ukraine, which paid for security guards at all activities, steel doors and security cameras in Kiev, Chernowitz and Kharkhov, and hot meals at our community schools and camps.

Our generous community of donors enables the Schechter Institute to advance its mission of Jewish education and promoting religious pluralism and tolerance in Israel. We are grateful to each and every donor and funder for their generosity and look forward to their continued support, partnership, and involvement in Schechter’s mission.

New Endowments and Bequests
Louis and Judith Miller, Bequest, TALI Education
Cantor Abe Golinkin, Book Publication Fund
Barry and Mimi Alperin, M.A. Scholarships
Michael Gould, M.A. Scholarships
Josiah Rotenberg in Memory of Aubey Rotenberg z”l, M.A. Scholarship and Annual Pirkei Avot Lecture

New Capital Commitments ($25,000 and up):
Hannah S. and Samuel A. Cohn Memorial Foundation
Lester Crown
Claudio and Penny Pincus
Saul and Mary Sanders
Ben Stein
Carl and Tove Sunshine
Harold and Carole Wolf & Ab and Phyllis Flatt
Ed and Barbara Zinbarg
New Major Operating Gifts and Grants ($20,000 and up)

Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, Neve Schechter
Dr. David Katzin, Schechter and TALI General Support
Sara and Simha Lainer Family Foundation, Neve Schechter
Rabbi Marc Liebhaber, Spring of Tolerance Campaign
Harvey L. and Jan Miller, General Support
Louis and Judith Miller, TALI General Support
David and Inez Myers Foundation, New TALI School and TALI Teacher Training
Carl and Tove Sunshine, General Support

FUNDRAISING NEWS: NORTH AMERICA

RESHET Expands to New Regions

Schechter Reshet (Network) is an innovative project inaugurated in 2013 to more strongly connect committed Jewish leaders in communities throughout the U.S. to Schechter's mission. Through personal interaction, learning and dialogue with Schechter's outstanding faculty in intimate forums, Reshet is building a strong and informed leadership dedicated to the Schechter agenda to promote religious pluralism through Jewish education programs in Israel. Initiated in the Bay Area, Reshet has spread to additional communities in Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Denver, Boca Raton and Palm Beach.

Rabbi Benjamin Segal, past president of the Schechter Institute and active board member, initiated challenging discussion around the topic The State of Jewishness in the Jewish State in the homes of Laura and David Sher, Denver, CO; Rabbi Michael Gottlieb, Santa Monica, CA; Madelyn and Dov Isaacs, Saratoga, CA and in larger forums in Shomrei Torah Synagogue with Rabbi Richard Camras, West Hills, CA; Bnai Torah Synagogue with Rabbi David Steinhardt, Boca Raton, FL and Temple Emanu-el with Rabbi Michael Resnick, Palm Beach, FL.

Schechter Board News

The Schechter Institutes, Inc., under the leadership of Saul Sanders, met in New York in September 2013 and February 2014. The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Board of Trustees, led by Saul Sanders and by Executive Committee Chair Colette Avital convened in December 2013 and May 2014 in New York and Jerusalem via videoconference. The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, led by Board Chair, Prof. Hanan Alexander and Executive Committee Chair Ilana Laderman Mushkin, conducted place at Schechter's Jerusalem Campus in October 2013 with the participation of all Miller children, many grandchildren and a few great-grandchildren. TALI Music Director Bat Ella Birnbaum honored the Miller’s and entertained the enthusiastic audience. The Millers have generously supported TALI education for many years as well as dedicated a classroom at the Schechter Jerusalem campus.

June 2015 International Mission to Israel

Schechter leaders, donors and friends from around the world will gather in Israel from June 8-14, 2015, to mark the 30th anniversary of The Schechter Institutes. A rich program is being planned which will take place at the Schechter campuses in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Additional details will follow. Show your support for Schechter and reserve the dates for this major event.
their board meetings via video conference in Jerusalem and New York in January and June 2014.

New Leadership
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
A number of prominent Israelis have joined the board this year: Prof. Ed Greenstein, Bible Department, Bar Ilan University; Barry Rivken, retired Jerusalem hotel executive and Yosef Lentz, Director for Finance and Administration of the Israel Academy of Sciences were elected to the Board and Audit Committee. Board Member Avi Porten was elected to the Executive Committee. Jonathan Steinberg, a member of the Executive Committee and Board was appointed Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. Prof. Dalia Ofer retired from the Executive Committee after six years of dedicated service. Yoram Gordon stepped down from the Board after many years of faithful service on the Audit Committee.

Schechter Rabbinical Seminary: Rabbi Prof. Hanan Alexander is stepping down as Chair of the SRS Board of Trustees after a decade of exceptional leadership. We wish him much luck. Longtime Executive Committee Chair Ilana Laderman Mushkin has succeeded Hanan as Chair of the Board. Jerusalem businessman Rabbi Barry Leff has been elected to succeed Ilana as Chair of the Executive Committee. We wish the new leadership team great success and welcome new board member Gillian Caplin, International Chair of Masorti Olami who is replacing Alan Silberman.

TALI Education Fund: Strategy and business development professional Lonny Rafaeli joined the TALI board this year.

Midreshet Yerushalhayim: Moshe Cohen stepped down as Chair of the Midreshet Yerushalayim Board. We thank him for his dedicated service. We congratulate him for being awarded the Mercaz Olami Award in Jerusalem, November 2013. Moshe will continue on the Boards of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary and Midreshet Yerushalayim.

We Remember
Schechter mourns the passing of Jerome Katzin z’l and Miriam Katzin z’l, San Diego, CA, pillars of support for Schechter for decades whose commitment to pluralistic Jewish education in Israel was unrivalled in dedication and stature.

We note the tragic and untimely death of Anne Hyman z’l whose vision established the TALI Dialogue and Identity program, which in eight years has provided thousands of Israeli Arab and Jewish children the tools for learning and living together in peace.

We mark the passing of long time supporter and friend, Jerry Cohn, from Ventura, FL.

Following the President
Prof. David Golinkin served as a scholar-in-residence at numerous Conservative congregations and spoke at various conferences in Israel and abroad in 2013-14. In North America: Agudath Israel Congregation, Rabbi Barry Schlesinger, Ottawa, Ontario » Bnai Israel Congregation, Rabbi Jonathan A. Schnitzer and Rabbi Michael Safra, Rockville, MD » Beth El Synagogue, Rabbi Jay Kornsgold, East Windsor, NJ » Beth Tikvah, Rabbi Amos Chorny, Naples, FL » Congregation Beth El, Rabbi Philip Graubart and Rabbi Avi Libman, La Jolla, CA » Moriah Congregation, Rabbi Samuel Fraint, Deerfield, IL


Bringing the Schechter Name Overseas...
Schechter faculty served as scholars-in-residence and spoke at international conferences:

Dr. Tamar Kadari: “Midrashic Literature,” 10-day course at Paideia - The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Stockholm, Sweden, September 2014


10th European Association of Jewish Studies, Paris: Schechter represented by Dr. Ari Ackerman, Dr. Tamar Kadari, Dr. Shula Laderman and Prof. Renée Levine Melammed, July 2014

Rabbi Diana Villa: “Women, Israel, Jewish Identity” Plenum with Rabbi Debra Cantor and “Conditional Marriage as a Preventive
Solution to the Agunah Dilemma,” Women’s League Convention, Whippany, New Jersey, July 2014


Prof. Renée Levine Melammed traveled to Toronto to receive the Canadian Jewish Book Prize in the biography/memoir category, May 2014

Dr. Doron Bar, “Aspects of Architecture and Design in the Re-interment of Notable Zionists in Israel”, Jewish Architecture: New Sources and Approaches Conference, Braunschweig, Germany, April 2014

Dr. Ari Ackerman, “Mordecai Kaplan on Individualizing the Jewish Nation”, Mordecai Kaplan Conference, University of Maryland, February 2014

Prof. Yossi Turner, “Mordecai Kaplan as a Philosopher of Jewish Existence,” Association for Jewish Studies 45th Annual Conference, Boston, MA, December 2013

Dr. Tomer Persico, “The Importing and Appropriation of Hindu and Buddhist Meditative Practices in Contemporary Jewish Spirituality, Brandeis-Jindal Workshop on Israel Studies, Jinda Global University, Haryana, India, December 2013

Dr. Ronit Steinberg, “Memory and Journey, Dimensions of Israeli and Jewish Art,” Heinrich-Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany, July 2013

FUNDRAISING NEWS: ISRAEL

“Israeli Friends” Rich Program Increases Membership and Campaign Results

Under the able direction of Moshe Sharashove, Chair of the Schechter Israel Friends Association and Iris Shvil, Association Director, both of whom are Schechter graduates, “Israeli Friends of Schechter” achieved its 2013-14 goals of increasing membership and campaign results. Through a coordinated calendar of events that were well attended, Schechter’s message of the imperative to provide pluralistic Jewish education to Israelis of all ages was successfully conveyed to new communities and institutions throughout Israel.

» Schechter’s Annual Gala Event took place under the stars in the beautifully renovated Jake and Janet Farber Courtyard in Neve Schechter. Over 250 “Israeli Friends” came to hear Kehillat Neve Zedek’s Rabbi Roberto Arbib and Israeli music legend Ehud Banai, both Liebhaber Prize winners, create a stimulating musical conversation around the enigmatic relationship of David and Saul. The Gala’s fundraising goal was reached, April 2014.

» Pre-Shavuot tour of the Teperberg vineyards, hosted by board member Sarah Teperberg, attracted over 80 people. The program included a lecture on the art of wine-making followed by “Brunch n’ Learn” with Dr. Einat Ramon on how to transform the holiday of Shavuot into a meaningful family experience, May 2014

» Tour of Chanukah menorahs in Nachla’ot was a special holiday treat for over 60 Israeli Friends who experienced the colorful history and cultural mores of 19th c. Jerusalem until the present in one of the capital city’s most historic and quaint neighborhoods, December 2013

» An historical overview of Mt. Scopus, led by Jerusalem expert and Schechter lecturer Dr. Yair Paz took over 50 Israeli Friends on an historical journey through the first days of the Hebrew University, the botanical gardens and other heritage sites of this famous mount that overlooks Jerusalem, October 2013

» Coming Up: Visit to Israel Museum and Adas Synagogue, followed by lecture by 2014 Liebhaber Prize winner Dr. Micah Goodman on “Moshe’s Parting Speech,” October 2014
“Spring of Tolerance” Sweeps Israel

Stressing the importance of tolerance and its connection to our Jewish heritage, promoting “Schechter” as the brand for pluralistic Jewish education in Israel and heightening awareness of the Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance—these were the goals achieved by the intensive 3-month “Spring of Tolerance Campaign” generously sponsored by Rabbi Marc Liebhaber of Boca Raton, FL. The campaign ran from Passover through Shavuot, culminating in the 17th Annual Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance, held at Schechter together with the graduation ceremony on June 10, 2014.

2.2 Million Israelis See Schechter Message of Tolerance on Internet

The campaign reached a wide demographic:

» Over 400 radio spots that ran for a 10-day period from Shavuot to the Liebhaber Prize Ceremony were aimed at an older, more established audience

» A two-week “advertising exclusive” in all “talk-back” sections of Israel’s largest online news website, Walla, reached tens of thousands of viewers with a creative message stressing the importance of civil discourse on the internet and Facebook, with 2.2 million surfers seeing the Schechter banner on tolerance!!

» A one-minute video on YouTube which comically depicted the inappropriate use of intolerant language on the internet was viewed by 72,000 people, the vast majority aged 18-45

» Large ads with a compelling message on tolerance appeared in advance of the Liebhaber Prize

Events Draw Large Crowds

The Spring of Tolerance campaign sponsored a number of events:

» TALI Bet Hinuch High School in Jerusalem hosted 2014 Liebhaber Prize winners Ehud Banai and Dr. Micah Goodman who brought with them a message of tolerance through music and Jewish sources, 200 participants, March 2014

» Neve Schechter Gala Event featured Liebhaber Prize winners Ehud Banai and Rabbi Roberto Arbib, in conversation on “Saul and David.” 250 participants, April 2014

» Women Sing Jerusalem! with Neshama Carlebach and four Schechter women faculty members sharing their vision of Jerusalem through prose, 350 participants, May 2014

» “Rabbi on the Bar” brought the essence of religious pluralism to the heart of secular Tel Aviv, with four Schechter rabbis in four Tel Aviv pubs talking contemporary Judaism to young pub-goers, 120 participants, May 2014

» 17th Annual Rabbi Marc and Dr. Henia z’l Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance awarded to Ehud Banai and Dr. Micah Goodman, 350 participants, June 10, 2014

1. Schechter and TALI faculty including Prof. David Golinkin (left), Dr. Einat Ramon and Sarah Shai, interviewed by Israel Radio veteran Micki Miro.
2. Liebhaber Prize winners Ehud Banai and Micah Goodman launch “Spring of Tolerance” campaign at TALI Bet Hinuch High School in Jerusalem.
3. “Friends of Schechter” enjoy the “Spring of Tolerance Gala Event” held at Neve Schechter.
4. Neshama Carlebach and Josh Nelson perform for over 350 participants at “Women Sing Jerusalem.”
5. Rabbi Michal Schwartz talks a “relevant Judaism” to Tel Aviv pub-goers as part of Schechter’s “Rabbi at the Bar.”
6. 2014 Liebhaber Prize for Religious Tolerance winners, Ehud Banai and Dr. Micah Goodman, at the prize ceremony.
## Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Graduate School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Agency - Keren Kayemet L’Israel</td>
<td>Faculty Salaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>39,737</td>
<td>1,441,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federations and Foundations</td>
<td>President’s Office, PR and Development*</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>M.A. Scholarships</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>915,714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Income</td>
<td>Academic Centers, Publishing and Outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>273,285</td>
<td>604,857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book sales, Rental, Miscellaneous</td>
<td>Administration and Campus Maintenance*</td>
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*Includes services to all 4 Schechter Amutot and the budget of The Schechter Institutes, Inc. in U.S.

### TALI Education Fund

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<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Agency</td>
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<td>Federations</td>
<td>Pedagogical Counseling</td>
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<td>Foundations</td>
<td>School Rabbis and Experiential Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>Teacher and Leadership Training</td>
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<td>Israeli Government</td>
<td>Early Childhood Department</td>
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<td>220,314</td>
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<td>Fees for Sales, Services</td>
<td>TALI Institute for Spiritual Education</td>
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### Schechter Rabbinical Seminary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Agency</td>
<td>Faculty Salaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>128,714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federations and Foundations</td>
<td>Scholarship Stipends</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>Special Programs and Student Activities</td>
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<td>189,429</td>
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<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>Administration</td>
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### Midreshet Yerushalayim - Israel*

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Agency</td>
<td>Programs for Russian-Speakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>51,500</td>
<td>158,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations and Federations</td>
<td>Schechter Centers in Haifa/Galilee Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>365,600</td>
<td>131,885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Israeli Government/Municipalities</td>
<td>Neve Schechter (Operations and Programs)</td>
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<td>28,714</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>Administration</td>
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<td>260,290</td>
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<td>Participation and Fees</td>
<td>Administration</td>
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*Includes Neve Schechter

### Midreshet Yerushalayim - Ukraine

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<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Federations and JAFI</td>
<td>Kiev Center - Rent, Programs</td>
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<td>Foundations</td>
<td>Chernowitz Community - Rent, Programs</td>
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<td>27,650</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>Other Communities and Student Programs</td>
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<td>175,150</td>
<td>26,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masorti Olami</td>
<td>Camp Ramah - Summer and Family Camps</td>
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<td>119,300</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total**                                      | **Total**                                     |
| 8,699,430                                    | 8,699,430                                     |
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