Dear Friends,

I stepped in as dean of the Hebrew University law faculty a year ago. Since then, I’ve had the opportunity to become acquainted with the impressive activities of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies, made possible by the generous support of our Canadian Friends.

The Hebrew University faculty of law strives to retain its position as the flagship of legal research and education in Israel, and as a top law school worldwide. One of our main missions is to advance and strengthen ties and develop collaborations with leading international scholars and institutions. Our Canadian Friends — through the dedicated work of the Halbert Centre — help us build and maintain these vital bridges.

I am proud of the diverse and cutting-edge academic events that took place in the 2019–20 academic year. Three distinguished Canadian scholars — Prof. Andrew Wernik from Trent University, Prof. Rosemary Coombe from York University, and Prof. Karen Eltis from the University of Ottawa — participated in interdisciplinary international conferences at the law faculty. The University of Ottawa hosted a joint Israeli-Canadian research workshop on wrongful convictions. Prof. Sari Graben from Ryerson University taught a course on Indigenous law and property. Regrettably, other planned activities had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I sincerely hope that they will take place this year.

I want to thank our Canadian Friends and the Halbert Centre for their continuous and invaluable commitment and support, which greatly benefits both law faculty and students at the Hebrew University.

With all best wishes for a happy and healthy new year,

Daphna Lewinsohn-Zamir
Dean, Hebrew University faculty of law
Joint Israeli-Canadian Workshops

STRENGTHENING ACADEMIC TIES & EXCHANGING KNOWLEDGE AT THE FOREFRONT OF ACADEMIA

The Halbert Centre is committed to funding joint research workshops between partnering Israeli and Canadian researchers and scholars. The workshops, held at the Hebrew University, aim to

- strengthen academic ties between Hebrew University researchers and their colleagues at Canadian universities
- promote the exchange and development of ideas and knowledge with Israeli and Canadian content
- promote and remain at the forefront of the latest developments in academia.

2019–2020 workshops

Wrongful convictions in Canada and Israel: Barriers to exoneration — Phase II, led by Dr. Barak Ariel and Dr. Anat Horowitz, Hebrew University faculty of law, and Prof. Kathryn Campbell, department of criminology, University of Ottawa (October 2019). This workshop, held at the University of Ottawa, continued the scholarship begun in April 2018 at the Hebrew University conference “Wrongful convictions in Canada and Israel: Barriers to exoneration.”

The 2019 workshop focused on wrongful convictions from a Canadian perspective, exploring the nature and extent of wrongful convictions in Canada, as well as current responses to the problem, barriers to exoneration and compensation, and suggestions for reform. Several Canadian legal scholars and professionals, academic researchers, graduate students, and government officials and practitioners attended. The workshop was a unique opportunity for Canadian and Israeli scholars to meet, share ideas, and learn from each other’s criminal justice system responses to wrongful conviction.

Reflecting on the legacy of G. A. (Jerry) Cohen's egalitarianism after a decade, led by Prof. Shlomi Segall, Hebrew University department of political science, and Dr. Igor Shoikhedbrod, 2018–2019 Halbert Postdoctoral Fellow at the Hebrew University.

This intensive two-day workshop reflected on the legacy of G. A. (Jerry) Cohen, a Canadian political philosopher who, at the time of his death in 2009, was a fellow at All Souls College, Oxford University. Speakers and attendees from Canada, Israel and the UK enjoyed stimulating presentations and debate on topics that ranged from Cohen’s Marxism and conservatism to his egalitarianism and hypocrisy. The workshop ended with a eulogy by Cohen’s close friend and colleague, Prof. Hillel Steiner from Manchester University. (December 2019)

Resilience among children and youth in out-of-home care: Issues and challenges in child and youth care research and practice, led by Prof. Shalhevet Attar-Schwartz, Hebrew University School of Social Work, and Prof. Emeritus James Anglin, faculty of human and social development at the University of Victoria. The workshop took place over three days, with a fourth day dedicated to sightseeing in the Old City of Jerusalem.

It opened with a welcome reception at the Kiryat Yearim Residential Care Youth Village, just outside Jerusalem. There, Israeli and Canadian attendees conversed with the Village’s director on issues including resilience, normalization, education, parental contact, and leadership regarding young people in care. The reception was followed by two intense and stimulating days of discussion and learning at the Hebrew University’s Haruv Institute, on the Mount Scopus campus. (February 2020)
2020–2021 workshops

New frontiers in morality and emotion research, led by Prof. Ran Hassin and Prof. Hillel Aviezer, Hebrew University department of psychology. The workshop will bring together experimental psychologists from the University of British Columbia and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in an attempt to establish long-term scientific collaborations between the two universities’ psychology departments. HUJI participants include Prof. Hillel Aviezer, who will adopt a neuropsychological approach towards emotion and morality; Prof. Avi Benozio, who will highlight and discuss children’s abilities to balance concerns at the individual and group levels; Prof. Ran Hassin, who will explore questions of trust and reliability in facial emotional expressions; and Prof. Maya Tamir, who will discuss values and desired emotions. From UBC, Prof. Kristin Laurin will propose a framework for describing the universe of defensive responses. Prof. Azim Shariff will tackle the millennia-old question: Does religion make people act more morally? Finally, Prof. Jessica Tracy will examine how our moral thinking is shaped by our emotions.

Expanding knowledge through research-creation in contested places, led by Dr. Diego Rotman (theatre studies, Hebrew University), Prof. Dorit Naaman (film and media and cultural studies, Queen’s University), and Prof. Erica Lehrer (history and sociology-anthropology, Concordia University). Workshop participants will explore different modes of arts and material culture–based research, as well as modes of collaborative knowledge–making and -mobilizing. Jerusalem, with its many tensions and contradictions, offers unique challenges and opportunities for a research-creation workshop; participants will take an experimental and innovative approach as they engage with the city.

The cycle of maltreatment: From children to young adults to parents, led by Prof. Anat Zeira, Hebrew University School of Social Work, and Prof. Annie Bérubé, psychoeducation and psychology, University of Quebec. The workshop will bring together researchers and clinicians working at different stages in the cycle of maltreatment, with the aim of developing future collaborations.

Halbert Fellowships

Halbert Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Canadian Studies

The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies and the Halbert Exchange Programme at the University of Toronto provide an annual Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Canadian Studies at the University of Toronto.

The 2019–2020 fellowship was awarded to Netanel Gemara, from the Hebrew University’s School of Social Work, for his research proposal “Context-informed social work: Bullying within minority, close-knit, religious communities.”
The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies owes a great deal to the academics and administrators who volunteer their time to serve on our academic and advisory committees. In 2019 and 2020, we welcomed three new professors to our advisory team.

**Prof. Moshe Hirsch**

Prof. Moshe Hirsch, from the Hebrew University faculties of law and international relations, joined the Halbert Centre’s academic committee in November 2019. Prof. Hirsch specializes in international economic law and international legal theory. His interdisciplinary research employs sociological theories, game theory, political economy and political science. He previously served as vice dean at the law faculty, chair of the international relations department, and director of the International Law Forum.

**Dr. Cynthia Milton**

Dr. Cynthia Milton, of the University of Victoria’s history department, joined the Halbert Centre’s Canadian advisory committee. Dr. Milton is past president of the College of New Scholars of the Royal Society of Canada and former Canada Research Chair in the History Department at the Université de Montréal. Her interdisciplinary research studies inclusive modes of truth-telling, transitional justice, memory, and cultural interventions in the construction of historical narratives after state violence. In her academic networking, she is concerned with the science-society disconnect in our dramatically changing world and the need for the humanities, arts and social sciences in the diffusion of knowledge.

**Dr. Christl Verduyn**

Dr. Christl Verduyn is Professor Emerita, Department of English and Canadian Studies Program, at Mount Allison University, where she held the Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Chair in Canadian Studies from 2010 to 2020, and directed the Centre for Canadian Studies from 2010 to 2018. She taught in Canadian studies programs at Wilfrid Laurier University, Trent University, and Queen’s University. She is the recipient of the Governor General’s International award for Canadian Studies (2006) and a past editor of the *Journal of Canadian Studies* (2008–2012). Dr. Verduyn joined the Halbert Centre’s Canadian advisory committee in May 2020.

“Canadian Studies has long emphasized the importance and value of the perspectives, insights, contributions, and collaborations of our international colleagues,” says Dr. Verduyn. “The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies is among them. It is an honour to serve on the Centre’s Canadian advisory committee.”
The Halbert Centre offers funding to visiting professors to teach courses with significant Canadian content at the Hebrew University’s faculties of humanities, social science and law, and in the schools of social work and education.

During the 2019–20 academic year, the Halbert Centre and the Hebrew University hosted:

Prof. Ruth Panofsky, of Ryerson University’s English department, who was invited by Prof. Ruben Borg, head of the Hebrew University’s English department, to give a one-day seminar on the shifting landscape of Canadian publishing from the 20th century to the present, and a guest lecture on her current research into women’s participation in 20th-century Canadian publishing (December 2019).

Prof. Sari Graben, of the Ryerson University law faculty, who was invited to the Hebrew University by Prof. Tomer Broude, academic director of the University’s Minerva Human Rights Centre. Prof. Graben gave an intensive online course on Indigenous law and property, focusing on the Canadian experience (March 2020).

During the 2020–21 academic year, the Halbert Centre and the Hebrew University hope that we will be able to welcome four visiting Canadian professors:

Prof. Robert Schwartz, of the University of Toronto’s School of Public Health, will offer a two-credit course on policy program evaluation in the Hebrew U master’s program in public policy (April 2021). Prof. Schwartz was invited by Prof. Raanan Sulitzeanu-Kenan, head of the Hebrew University School of Public Policy.

Prof. Stéphane Mechoulan, of Dalhousie University’s School of Public Administration, was invited by Prof. Badi Hassisi, director of the School of Criminology at the Hebrew University, to teach a course on “The sources and elements of discrimination in the American criminal justice system.” Prof. Mechoulan will also deliver a talk to the faculty and meet their full-time students (May 2021).

Environmental gerontologist Dr. Habib Chaudhury, Simon Fraser University, was invited by Prof. Daniel Felsenstein, head of the Hebrew University geography department, to give a mini-course on “Qualitative research methods in urban environments.”

University of Toronto psychology professor Dr. Cendri Hutcherson was invited by Prof. Maya Tamir, head of the Hebrew University psychology department, to offer a workshop on “Computational modelling for affective and social psychologists” and to present her research and meet individually with interested faculty.
The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies supports visits by prominent Canadian scholars to the Hebrew University

During the 2019–20 academic year, the Halbert Centre supported visits by 10 Canadian professors:

At the invitation of the Hebrew University’s Dr. Lior Herman, UBC international relations scholar Prof. Kathryn Harrison visited HUJI in April 2019. In addition to meeting with students and faculty from the international relations and geography departments, Prof. Harrison gave a well-attended seminar on the comparative politics of carbon taxes in Canadian and Australia. Her talk drew an interdisciplinary audience from not only IR, but also the fields of geography, conflict research, management and resolution, and the Hebrew University School of Social Policy.

In June 2019, Prof. Gershon Hundert of McGill University’s department of Jewish studies, visited the Hebrew University’s Yiddish program and led a compelling graduate seminar discussion on the YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe. Prof. Hundert — who was invited to the Hebrew University by the Yiddish program’s Dr. Ofer Dynes — met with senior Hebrew U faculty for a formal lunch, as well as with individual doctoral students. He also gave a public lecture on his current book project, the publication of a newly discovered manuscript of Dov Ber of Bolechow’s autobiography. Ber (1723–1805) was a Jewish merchant and scholar in the Ukraine; his memoirs, written in Hebrew, are housed at the National Library of Canada in Ottawa.

Also in June 2019, York University psychologist Prof. Leslie Greenberg gave a talk at the Hebrew University on the principles of Emotion-Focused Therapy. More than 70 people — including psychology and social work faculty and students, as well as mental health professionals from the community — attended. Dr. Greenberg visited the Hebrew University at the invitation of Dr. Ben Shahar, of the School of Social Work.

University of Toronto geographer Prof. Matti Siemiatycki visited the Hebrew University in June 2019, at the invitation of geography professors Gillad Rosen and Itay Fischhendler. Prof. Siemiatycki met with students and faculty members from the geography, international relations and environmental policy and management programs, led a one-day intensive seminar for advanced students, and presented on U of T’s new School of Cities, which he heads.

Prof. Andrew Wernick, from Trent University’s department of cultural studies and sociology, was invited by Hebrew University law professor Dr. Einat Albin to give a seminar at the law faculty. Prof. Wernick also participated in the “Markets and meanings: European, North American and Israeli perspectives” conference, where he discussed Donald Trump as a brand (October 2019).

Prof. Rosemary Coombe, of York University’s departments of anthropology and social science, also spoke at the “Markets and meanings” conference, hosted by the Hebrew University faculty of law. Prof. Coombe, who is the Canada Research Chair in Law, Communication and Culture, talked about “The political volatility of double commodities.” Prof. Coombe was invited to the Hebrew University by law professor and conference co-convenor Dr. Katya Asaf.

“Is truth telling online still reasonable?” That was the question posed by University of Ottawa law professor Karen Eltis in her lecture at the Hebrew University’s 2019 “AI: Law and policy” conference, convened each year by the cyber law program at the HU Federmann Cyber Security Research Center. Prof. Eltis was part of a panel on artificial intelligence and human rights challenges. She also published a blog post on the Federmann Center’s website, on “The
gatekeepers’ return: A disquieting convergence of public and private interests in the new ‘state of emergency.’” Dr. Tamar Berenblum, from the Cyber Security Center at the Hebrew University, invited Prof. Eltis to participate.

Prof. Anna Shternshis, from the University of Toronto Centre for Jewish Studies, visited the Hebrew University theatre studies department at the invitation of its head, Dr. Diego Rotman, in December 2019. Prof. Shternshis gave a talk entitled “Purim gifts for Hitler: Soviet Yiddish folklore, music and theatre celebrating the end of World War II.” Based on archival materials from the Ukraine and Yiddish press from the 1940s, the lecture discussed how the imagery of Purim entered the Soviet public sphere in the mid-1940s, in association with the Soviet war effort, Soviet victories on the Eastern front, and the destruction of the European Jewish communities in Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, and Romania. Before the talk, Prof. Shternshis met with a select group of students from theatre studies, folklore studies, Yiddish studies, and Jewish history.

During a visit to the Hebrew University in December 2019, University of Waterloo Prof. Emeritus Paul Kay, gave two thought-provoking lectures, both of which sparked extensive discussion and debate. He delivered the first — “Desalination and the climate signal in water resources” — at the Program for Environmental Policy and Management’s colloquium. The second — “How can we tell if climate change matters in history?” — was part of a geography department staff seminar. He also participated in the workshop “Learning from past societal experiences with environmental changes: Challenges and opportunities,” which brought together faculty members from across the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences to discuss human-environment interactions from a historical-contemporary perspective. Prof. Kay was invited to the Hebrew University by Dr. Amit Tubi of the geography department.

In May 2020, Prof. Naomi Seidman gave an online talk at the Hebrew University. Prof. Seidman is the Chancellor Jackman Professor in the Arts at the University of Toronto, in the department for the study of religion and the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies. Following her talk, entitled “Freud laboratory: Psychoanalysis and/in Yiddish,” she met with graduate students from general and comparative literature, the Yiddish studies program, the department of Jewish history and contemporary Jewry, and the Hebrew literature department. She was invited to the Hebrew University by Dr. Ofer Dynes, professor of Yiddish studies and East European Jewish studies.

During the 2020–21 academic year, the Halbert Centre will fund up to seven visits by Canadian professors, including two visits that were scheduled to take place in March 2020 and were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

Prof. Timothy Andrews Sayle, director of the international relations program at Trinity College at the University of Toronto, was invited by Dr. Or (Ori) Rabinowitz, of the Hebrew University international relations department, to introduce Sayle’s new book. The last card: Inside George W. Bush’s decision to surge in Iraq will be launched at an event co-hosted by the Hebrew University’s Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations and the international relations department.

Prof. Robert Dion from Université du Québec à Montréal’s department of literary studies, was invited by Dr. Yona Hanhart-Marmor, at the Hebrew University’s department of romance studies, to participate in the international conference “French melancholy: Paradoxes and perspectives.” Prof. Dion gave a lecture entitled “Memory, forgetting and repair in Supplément à la vie by Barbara Loden and La robe blanche by Nathalie Léger.”
Halbert public lecture series

The Halbert Centre Public Lecture Series addresses Canadian topics and issues before an Israeli academic audience and the general public. The Halbert Centre hosted two public lectures during the 2019–20 academic year:

Prof. Emeritus Arthur Ross, of Ryerson University’s department of politics and public administration, gave a lecture on “Communal solidarity: Immigration, settlement and social welfare in Winnipeg’s Jewish community, 1882–1930.” Prof. Ross’s lecture was chaired by Prof. Eli Lederhendler, head of the HU department of Jewish history and contemporary Jewry (November 2019).

Canadian writer, editor and activist Dr. Nora Gold spoke about her novel The Dead Man, which was recently published in Hebrew. TheDead Man is the compelling story of a musician, Eve, and her attempts to recover from her brief relationship with Jake, a world-famous music critic whom she met in Israel (December 2019).

Faculty Israeli-Canadian Academic Exchange Program

The Halbert Centre Faculty Israeli-Canadian Exchange Program is designed to facilitate scholarly exchanges on topics with significant Canadian content between Hebrew University faculty and researchers affiliated with recognized institutions of higher education in Canada. It is open to tenured and non-tenured researchers at the Hebrew University.

In 2020–21, grants are awarded to:

Dr. Aaron Segal and Dr. Nicholas Stang from the Hebrew University and University of Toronto philosophy departments, respectively. Their proposed project is titled “Systematic metaphysics: Historical and contemporary perspectives — The development of theory of mind and empathy in children.”

Dr. Avraham Merzel from the Hebrew University’s School of Education and Dr. Richard P. Hechter from the University of Manitoba’s faculty of education. Their proposed project is titled “Comparing professional development of physics teachers through designing experiments in energy.”

For more information about the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies please visit: http://canadianstudies.huji.ac.il