



FALL 2009

Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies

at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem



International scholars at Halbert Centre



John Fraser

Bullock Visiting Chair

This year's Bullock Visiting Chair in Canadian Studies was Professor **John Fraser**, Master of Massey College, Toronto, who gave a lecture titled "Political correctness on campus: When in doubt, attack Israel" (May 2009).

The Bullock Chair was established in 1995 in honour of Mr. James R. Bullock. The position is a revolving one and invites prominent Canadian authors, scientists, scholars, and policy makers to Jerusalem in order to enhance the field of Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and in Israel. Bullock Chairs are selected on the basis of excellence in their fields and their ability to strengthen and deepen the relationship between Canada and Israel.

Visiting professors

The Halbert Centre offers funding to visiting professors to teach courses with significant Canadian content in the faculties of humanities, social science, and law, and in the school of social work and the school of education at the Hebrew University.

During the academic year 2008–2009, the Halbert Centre hosted Prof. Ariela Freedman, from Concordia University's Liberal Arts College. Prof.

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Israeli Canadianists participate in overseas programs



Members of the Pacific Asia Network for Canadian Studies at the Network's 2009 meeting. Israeli representative Danny Ben-Natan is standing, second from the left.

Danny Ben-Natan, president of the Israel Association for Canadian Studies, represented the IACS at the fourth meeting of the presidents of the Pacific Asia Network for Canadian Studies (PANCS), held September 11–12, 2009, in Osaka, Japan. The Japanese Association for

participated in a symposium on “Indigenous Peoples and Museums.” He spoke from his vantage point as president of the World Federation of Friends of Museums, on the central role of museums in safeguarding and teaching about the cultures of indigenous peoples.

Canadian Studies hosted the event, which took place at Osaka’s National Museum of Ethnology. The IACS is a founding member of PANCS.

With professors Cornelius Remie and Nobuhiro Kishigami, Ben-Natan

Edo Eshet of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem represented Israel at the Network’s postgraduate research seminar. His presentation, “Canada labour law: Employee rights under corporate reorganizations: Comparative research Canada-Israel,” was recognized as the best paper delivered at the seminar.

PANCS’s next meeting and postgraduate research seminar will take place in Jerusalem, June 25–28, 2010, in conjunction with the 13th Biennial Jerusalem Conference in Canadian Studies. The conference, with the theme “Environmental Challenges in Canada, Israel, and Beyond,” will be held from June 28 to July 1, 2010. It will be co-sponsored by the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies and the IACS, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

International scholars at Halbert Centre

Visiting professors *continued from page 1*

Friedman gave a course on “Twentieth-century Canadian literature” in the department of English.

In 2009–2010, the Centre will host professors Naomi Mandel and Frederic Megret. Prof. Mandel, of the University of Rhode Island, will give a course on “The Canadian

Extreme” in the department of comparative literature. Prof. Megret, from McGill University’s faculty of law, will give a course on “The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the transformation of Canadian criminal law” in the faculty of law.

Halbert Centre welcomes new director



Prof. Nachman Ben-Yehuda

The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies is delighted to welcome Prof. Nachman Ben-Yehuda as its new director.

Prof. Ben-Yehuda has been with the Hebrew University's department of sociology and anthropology throughout his career and was the elected Dean of the faculty of social sciences at the Hebrew University for six years. He has been a visiting professor in the departments of sociology at the University of Toronto, the London School of Economics and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

"I am very excited to take over the direction of the Halbert Centre," says Prof. Ben-Yehuda, who has nothing but "awe and respect" for his predecessors. His immediate goals for the Centre include clarifying and updating its mission and bylaws, establishing a new academic committee, and reinvigorating the budget. With these elements in place, and with the valuable input of the Centre's advisory committee, he says, "we will be able to chart a course for the Halbert Centre for Canadian studies."

Public lecture series

In 2009, the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies, in partnership with the Israel Association for Canadian Studies, held four public lectures as well as the Bullock lecture. Halbert lecturers address Canadian topics and issues before an Israeli academic audience and the general public. This year's speakers included:

- **Prof. Ariela Freedman**, Liberal Arts College, Concordia University, Montreal: "Is Canadian literature postnational?" (Jan. 2009)

- **Prof. Michael Lambek**, department of anthropology, University of Toronto: "How to make up one's mind: Reason, passion, and ethics in spirit possession" (Apr. 2009)

- **Prof. Seymour Mayne**, director, Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program, University of Ottawa: "Irving Layton: Trailblazer in Canadian poetry" (June 2009)

- **Prof. Michael Goldberg**, dean emeritus, The Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, Vancouver: "Global urban connectivity and the contagion of real estate and financial crises: Some insights with reference to Canadian cities" (Arie Shachar Memorial Lecture, June 2009)

In addition to these activities, the Halbert Centre supported Prof. Murray Fulton's lecture on "Rural Co-operation in Canada" as part of the Israel-based Center for Agricultural Economic Research's international conference, "Rural Cooperation in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Past, Pathways to the Future" (June 2009). Prof. Fulton is part of the department of agricultural economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

Halbert program updates

Halbert post-doc fellowship



Tobie Strauss

The Halbert Post-Doctoral Fellowship allows recent Israeli PhDs working on post-doctoral projects in any field to participate in an exchange program with the University of Toronto. The recipients of the 2008–2009 fellowship are:

- **Tobie Strauss**, department of Hebrew language, the Hebrew University: “The distribution of the division point by the biblical accents in strings of five words or more”
- **Edward Waysband**, department of Slavic languages and literatures, the Hebrew University: “Orphic text in Russian post-symbolist poetry”

The Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies has also awarded a 2009–2010 Research Exchange Grant to **Prof. Robert Brym** of the University of Toronto and **Dr. Nir Gazit** of the Hebrew University for their joint project on “Transnational civil military cooperation: NGOs and military activity in Afghanistan.”

New Halbert Centre grants

In 2009, the Halbert Centre established two new grants for Hebrew University faculty and graduate students.

- **The Halbert Centre Research Exchange Program (HC-REP)** 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.
- **The Halbert Centre Grant Program for Graduate Student Participation in Canadian Studies Conferences** is intended for Hebrew University graduate student who have been invited to present a paper with substantial Canadian content at a Canadian Studies conference abroad.

Both grants will be awarded in the coming months.

Halbert fellowships

2009 Lougheed Fellowship Recipients

The Peter Lougheed Fellowship in Canadian Studies supports MA and PhD students at the Hebrew University working on a dissertation or thesis that has significant Canadian content. Recipients receive funding to collect data in Canada, meet Canadian experts in their field, and/or take advanced courses at Canadian universities. The 2009 recipients are:

Sharon Arieli

School of Business Administration: "Culture and cognitive problem-solving: Studying Canadian cultural groups"

David Hadar

Department of English literature: "Ghosts of authorship: A study of Margaret Atwood and Philip Roth"

This year, the Halbert Centre awarded an additional research fellowship, to **Sabine Huynh**, a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Ottawa's department of linguistics, for her project on "Vietnamese-English-French code switching."


Arie Shachar Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Canadian Studies



Nava Löwenheim

This fellowship, in memory of the Halbert Centre's founding director, is co-sponsored by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies, and the Israel Association for Canadian Studies. It enables recent Hebrew University PhDs working on post-doctoral projects with significant Canadian content to carry out their research at any university in Canada.

The recipient of the 2009–2010 Arie Shachar Post-Doctoral Fellowship is **Nava Löwenheim**, department of international relations. Her project is entitled, "Identities in conflict: Apology and ontological (in) security in protracted conflicts."



Forthcoming book examines Bouchard- Taylor report

*Religion, Culture and the State:
Reflections on the Bouchard-
Taylor Report*

Edited by Profs. Howard
Adelman and Pierre Anctil.

All of the essays in this volume were initially presented as papers at the 12th Jerusalem Conference in Canadian Studies, held in June 2008 at the Hebrew University as a joint project between the Halbert Centre and the Israel Association for Canadian Studies. The conference took place during the month following the publication of Gérard Bouchard and Charles Taylor's report, "Building the future: A time for reconciliation"; eight of the conference papers dealt with issues raised in the report.

Farewells

The Halbert Centre will be saying goodbye this fall to its director of two and a half years, Prof. Shuli Barzilai. Prof. Barzilai took up the reins as director after the untimely passing of Prof. Arie Shachar in 2006. Since her arrival, she has introduced significant innovations into the Centre and its operations, including the institution of the Arie Shachar Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Canadian Studies and two new grant programs at the Hebrew University. During her time at the Centre, Prof. Barzilai was involved in the overseeing of major projects as well as in the day-to-day details, and her close relationships with Halbert Centre staff will be sorely missed.

Two Academic Committee members will also be leaving the Halbert Centre this year. Prof. Mordechai Kremnitzer, faculty of law, is retiring from the Hebrew University. Prof. Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi, department of sociology and anthropology, will be on sabbatical at Yale University.

Government of Canada Awards

The Government of Canada awarded **Prof. Chen Bram**, of the Hebrew University's Truman Institute, the 2008–2009 Faculty Research Program grant for his project "Cultural exchange and creativity: Between Canada and the Middle East — Murat Yağın's Teaching."



For more information about the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies please visit:
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