



# Halbert Centre

FOR CANADIAN STUDIES  
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

*Building Bridges*



**Fall 2012**

## Recipe for a Long and Happy Life

HALBERT CENTRE CELEBRATES LAYTON CENTENNIAL

“First there was Irving Layton, and then there were all the other poets.”

So said Leonard Cohen at Layton’s funeral in 2006. It’s a sentiment widely shared not only by his fellow Canadians, but by Layton fans around the world, many of whom gathered on March 14 to celebrate what would have been the poet’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

One such celebration took place at the Hebrew University, where the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies hosted an evening of poetry, film, and presentations. More than 50 people gathered at the Maierdsdorf Faculty Club for a reception that began with a screening of Cohen reading and discussing Layton’s poetry. The

event’s host, Israeli poet Israel Bar-Kochav, gave an insightful lecture about Layton’s work and legacy, centred on the poem “Recipe for a long and healthy life.”

Layton’s direct and plainspoken writing style was almost revolutionary for its time, said Bar-Kochav. “For him, it’s naked poetry. He experienced life forthright and to the extreme, and it comes across in his work.”

Guests met Israeli poets and translators Maccabit Malkin and Yoav Vardi, who gave a short talk about their translation of Layton’s poems from English to Hebrew, *Never Far from Tears* (Carmel Publishing, Jerusalem). Israeli actor Alex Ansky gave a moving reading of some of the translations, accompanied by a simultaneous English-language reading. “I must pause for a moment,” said Ansky midway through the reading, “and tell you how immensely I am enjoying myself.”



*Never far from tears:* Poets and translators Yoav Vardi & Maccabit Malkin with their recently translated Hebrew edition of Irving Layton’s poems, at a Halbert Centre celebration of Layton’s centenary

A screening of Max Layton speaking briefly about his father and reading Layton’s “The Swimmer,” concluded the event, which was organized in cooperation with the Israeli Association for Canadian Studies (IACS) under the sponsorship of the Embassy of Canada to Israel.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO Prof. Janice Gross Stein

The Halbert Centre extends our heartiest congratulations to Prof. Janice Gross Stein on her receipt of an honorary doctorate from the Hebrew University. Prof. Stein is the director of the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto and associate chair and Belzberg Professor of Conflict Management and Negotiation

within the university's political science department. The award recognizes Prof. Stein's 40-year relationship with Hebrew University faculty and students and her commitment to forging strong and long-lasting academic ties and collaboration between the Hebrew University and U of T.



*Forging strong ties: University of Toronto Prof. Janice Gross Stein (l) is congratulated by Hebrew University Rector Sarah Stroumsa on the receipt of Prof. Stein's honorary Hebrew U doctorate, June 2012.*

## Joint Israeli-Canadian Workshops FOUR NEW WORKSHOPS IN 2012-13



*Participants at the first joint Israeli-Canadian workshop of 2012, "Governing water in the face of uncertainty," May 2012. Prof. Nachman Ben-Yehuda, director of the Halbert Centre, is fifth from the right.*

In 2011, The Halbert Centre initiated a series of joint research workshops with Israeli and Canadian researchers. The workshops, held at the Hebrew University, are aimed at

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

Six workshops were held in the program's first year. The Hebrew University's Prof. Eran Feitelson and the University of Waterloo's Prof. Paul Kay led the first workshop of 2012-13: "Governing Water in the Face of Uncertainty." The three remaining workshops in this year's series are:

1. "Governing Ethnic Diversity," led by Profs. Assaf David (Hebrew University) and Oded Haklai (Queen's University), December 2012.
2. "Equality of Opportunity in Theory and Practice," led by Profs. Shlomi Segall (Hebrew University), Adina Preda (Université de Montréal) and Iwao Hirose (McGill University), December 6-7, 2012.
3. "Sorting out the Ideational in Institutional Processes," led by Profs. Tamar Zilber (Hebrew University) and Roy Suddaby (University of Alberta), May 2013.

# Multiculturalism and its discontents

DR. JOSEPH FACAL AS JAMES R. BULLOCK CHAIR

Journalist, author, and politician Dr. Joseph Facal has long been interested, he says, “in the relationship between social cohesion, national identity and individual rights, which of course include freedom of religion.” Both Canadian multiculturalism (in particular issues around French-speaking Québec) and Israeli society raise interesting questions in these regards, he notes.

These were some of the issues that Dr. Facal explored during his tenure as the 2011–12 Bullock Visiting Chair in Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University. Dr. Facal, associate professor in HEC Montreal’s department of management, visited Jerusalem in April 2012.

The Bullock Chair, established in 1995 in honour of Mr. James R. Bullock, is awarded to a revolving series of prominent Canadian authors, scientists, scholars, and policymakers in order to enhance the field of Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University and in Israel. Recipients teach seminars and deliver public lectures to the academic and professional communities and are selected on the basis of excellence in their respective fields as well as their ability to strengthen Canada-Israel relationships.

Dr. Facal describes his time at the Hebrew University and in Israel as “a most illuminating journey,” facilitated in large part by the “fascinating discussions” he had with Hebrew University professors,



*Prof. Joseph Facal addresses the topic of “Multiculturalism and National Identities: A Predictable Failure?” at a public lecture at the Maierdorf Faculty Club*

including Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi, Alexander Jakobson, Momi Dahan, Rehav Rubin, and Nachman Ben-Yehuda. “All had limitless time for me and were most generous,” he says.

Prof. Facal also met with various other public intellectuals in Jerusalem, including Daniel Gordis, head of the Shalem Center; Yossi Klein Halevi, a Fellow at the Hartman Institute Center and correspondent for the *New Republic*; and Prof. Gil Troy, from McGill University, now a visiting scholar affiliated with the Bipartisan Policy Center in Washington, DC.

“All together, they gave me a rather bewildering tour of the landscape on the issues I was concerned with, in a spirit of complete academic freedom and intellectual honesty,” he says. “I was astounded by the openness, generosity, and

professionalism of all the people I met and who made it all possible.”

On April 23, Dr. Facal gave a public lecture, titled “Multiculturalism and National Identities: A Predictable Failure?” In his talk, he defended two “admittedly rather provocative” ideas: first, we need to see multiculturalism as an ideology serving a political project with a radical and authoritarian nature. Second, we should not encourage a policy of multiculturalism if our goals are the successful integration of immigrants, social cohesion, and the national identity of societies that host newcomers.

This is true particularly “when there is a huge cultural distance between the dominant values of the host society and the values of immigrants.”

“The vitality of a nation isn’t preserved by protecting an original purity that never existed in any case, but by its capacity to rally its citizens around shared values,” says Dr. Facal.

“But for these values to be strong, they must be anchored in the host culture and society. It is completely utopian to think that abstract legal principles are enough to cement an authentic national community.”

“My lecture was greeted with open minds and probing questions,” says Dr. Facal, who is exploring these issues further in the twice-weekly political column he writes in the *Journal de Montréal*.

## PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES



1. Isa Milman signs copies of her book *Prairie Kaddish* for attendees of her public lecture. 2. Ambassador Paul Hunt 3. Prof. Meric S. Gertler 4. Israel Bar-Kochav talks about the life and legacy of poet Irving Layton. 5. Yossi Katz 6. Graham Fraser 7. Pierre Anctil

The Halbert lecture series addresses Canadian topics and issues before an Israeli academic audience and the general public. In 2012, the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies, in partnership with the IACS, held a rich and wide-ranging selection of lectures. This year's speakers included:

**Ms. Isa Milman, MSc**, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lethbridge, gave an illustrated talk, "Jewish Pioneers on the Canadian Prairies," on the making of her recently published book *Prairie Kaddish*. The event was chaired by Prof. Richard Cohen, The Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Hebrew University (Nov. 15, 2011).

IACS president Danny Ben-Natan chaired "A Conversation with **Canadian Ambassador Paul Hunt**" (Nov. 29, 2011).

Urban theorist and policy practitioner **Prof. Meric S. Gertler**,

dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the University of Toronto, delivered the third annual Arie Shachar Memorial Lecture, cosponsored by the Institute for Urban and Regional Studies and the Halbert Centre. Prof. Gertler spoke on "Universities and Cities: Local and National Prosperity" (Dec. 12, 2011).

**Poet Dr. Israel Bar-Kochav** hosted an evening in honour of poet Irving Layton as part of the Layton Bicentennial Celebrations (March 14, 2012). (See cover story.)

**Prof. Joseph Facal**, the 2012 Bullock Chair in Canadian Studies, and a professor at HEC Montreal's management department, gave a talk titled, "Multiculturalism and National Identities: A Predictable Failure?" The event was chaired by University of Ottawa history Prof. Pierre Anctil, who was visiting professor at the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies (April 23, 2012). (See story, page 3.)

**Prof. Yossi Katz**, of Bar-Ilan University's geography department, spoke about "The Hutterite Colonies of Western Canada and Present-Day Changes." Hebrew University geography Prof. Shlomo Hasson chaired the event (May 8, 2012).

**Graham Fraser**, Canada's Commissioner of Official Languages, gave a talk about "Diversity and Language in Canada." IACS president Danny Ben-Natan chaired the event (May 16, 2012).

**Visiting Professor Pierre Anctil**, from the University of Ottawa's history department, gave a talk on "Henri Bourassa and the Invention of French-Canadian Nationalism, 1910–1918," chaired by Hebrew U history Prof. Moshe Sluhovsky (June 5, 2012).

# Visiting Professors

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 2011–2012 academic year, the Halbert Centre hosted **Prof. Pierre Ancitil**, of the University of Ottawa's history department, who gave a history

course on “Salient Aspects of Contemporary Canadian History” during the spring semester.

The Halbert Centre and the Hebrew University's department of sociology will be hosting **Benson Honig**, of the McMaster University DeGroote School of Business, during the spring of 2013. Prof. Honig will be teaching the course “Entrepreneurship from a Diverse University Base” in the sociology department.



## HALBERT FELLOWSHIPS

### Peter Lougheed Fellowship

The 2011–12 Peter Lougheed Fellowship in Canadian Studies was awarded to **Ranit Grossaug**, from the department of communications and journalism, for her research proposal: “What influences the influencers? Producing children's television in a changing media environment: Israeli channel ‘Hop!’ as a case study.”

The Lougheed Fellowship 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.

### Arie Shachar Post-Doctoral Fellowship

The Arie Shachar Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University is co-sponsored by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies, and the IACS. 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. Last year's fellowship was awarded to **Ella Daniel**, in the

psychology department, for her work on “Socialization and Immigration: Parenting in Times of Change.” The fellowship was not awarded this year.

### Faculty Israeli-Canadian 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. Offered once each semester, it is open to tenured and non-tenured researchers at the Hebrew University.

The November 2011 recipients were **Prof. Wayne Horowitz**, from the Archaeology Institute, and **Prof. Gideon Rahat** from the department of political science. Prof. Horowitz spent two weeks at The Aurora Research Institute in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada, to conduct research on “Constellations and Astral Lore: Far North and Near East.” Prof. Rahat received a grant for his research on “The Pathologies of Party Primaries and their Possible Solutions: A Comparative Study of Israel and Canada.”

In the spring semester of 2012, political science **Prof. Lilach Nir** received the grant based on her proposal: “Attention to Negative News: Universal versus Culturally Sensitive Accounts.”

### Support for visiting Canadian scholars at Hebrew U

In the last year, the Halbert Centre supported visits by two prominent Canadian scholars to the Hebrew University.

- In December 2011, **Prof. Meric Gertler**, dean of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Arts and Science and a member of its department of geography and planning, was invited to speak about “Universities and Cities: Local and National Prosperity,” as part of the Institute for Urban and Regional Study's Third Annual Arie Shachar Memorial Lecture.
- **Prof. Faye Mishna**, dean of the University of Toronto's Factor Inwentash Faculty, and a member of its psychiatry department, arrived in January 2012 to give a talk on “Addressing the Trauma of Bullying Experiences,” at the Hebrew University School for Social Work's international conference, “Trauma through the Life Cycle.”

# Special Canadian Studies Programs and Initiatives

## ATIDIM STUDENTS VISIT TORONTO

A group of students from the Hebrew University's ambitious Atidim program visited the city of Toronto in the summer of 2011.

Atidim is a Hebrew University program aimed at training young, ideological Israelis who are interested in changing Israeli society by serving in the public sector. Students, many of whom come from Israel's geographic periphery, participate in a tailored academic and professional program — including a “mini-semester” abroad — designed to educate and train them on Israeli and international public-sector dilemmas and approaches.

The goal of this competitive program is to create a critical mass of highly qualified — and much-needed — professionals who will assume significant roles in the Israeli state.

Atidim chose Toronto as its first Canadian field trip, says program director Sarit Milman, because of its complex experiences as a consolidated metropolitan government. The city became the classroom as students met with a range of academics, members of municipal parliament, real estate developers, and Jewish community leaders in a variety of local settings, including a Blue Jays game at the

Rogers Centre, the recently revitalized Distillery District, and Queen's Park.

“Israel is currently dealing with challenges to the provision and production of affordable housing for all of its citizens,” says Milman. “What our cadets learned from Toronto-based developers and from local politicians will help prepare them to meet our country's pressing domestic issues.”

*The Toronto Atidim trip was supported in part by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Dr. Ralph and Roz Halbert.*



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1. The Atidim cadets participated in a Jane's Walk tour around the city

2. Atidim with Toronto City Councillor James Pasternak



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3. The Atidim Cadets pictured at Toronto City Hall



## SUMMER PROGRAM IN HUMAN RIGHTS

The Minerva Center for Human Rights at the Hebrew University's Faculty of Law and McGill University's Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism have joined forces on a collaborative Summer Program in Human Rights for law students at both schools.

The intensive, three-week program alternates annually between Montreal and Jerusalem. Teaching faculty come from McGill and Hebrew U, and students from the two institutions receive credit from their home universities.

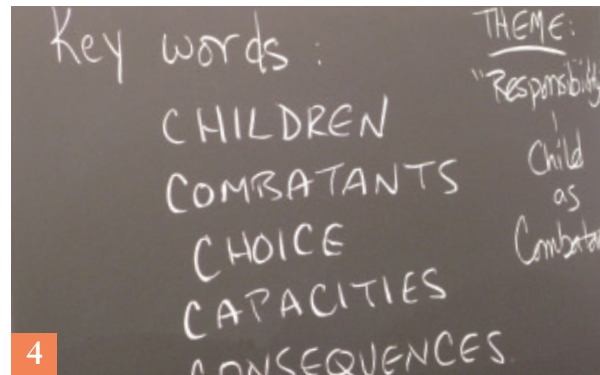
The inaugural summer program was held in 2011 at Hebrew University. The 2012 program was held in Montreal, under the theme of "Human rights and armed conflict." Profs. Tomer Broude (Hebrew University) and René Provost (McGill) were the academic directors of both programs, funded by the Halbert Centre, CFHU, the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, McGill, the Quebec Ministry of International Affairs, and Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada.

The 2012 course included materials on — among other topics — children and armed conflict, human rights and peacekeeping,

and terror and counterterror. During 75 hours of lectures, seminars, and field trips, students toured the city and environs and met with community activists and leaders, including tribal elder and aboriginal rights activist and historian Kenneth Deer at the Mohawk reservation in Kahnawake.

Program participants described their experience as unique, enriching, interactive and illuminating. "The most stimulating part of the program was the different point of view, or basic ground assumptions, entailed in the difference between the Canadian and Israeli cultures," says Hebrew U student Yuval Shalem.

"Students are challenged both by the difficult nature of the subject matter, and by the diversity of views held by the Canadian and Israeli participants," agrees McGill student Ronnie Ollo. "Our understanding of complex issues of international law and human rights was greatly enhanced by the program's international discourse. I am certain that the conversations and shared learning experiences that took place this summer will continue for many years to come."



1. Hebrew University law students take a tour of Montréal as part of the joint McGill-Hebrew U 2012 International Summer Program in Human Rights. 2. Participants in the 2011 International Summer Program in Human Rights. 3. 2012 program student Racheli Halbertal Verete (HU) receiving instruction from a Kahnawake master carver at the dreamcatcher workshop. 4. During a class at the 2012 workshop on children and armed conflict.

# 14<sup>th</sup> Jerusalem Conference in Canadian Studies

Preparations are now well underway for the 14<sup>th</sup> Jerusalem Conference in Canadian Studies: **Canada and Israel in a Changing World: New Trends and Directions.**

The three-day conference intends to explore, from a multi-disciplinary perspective, the way in which Canada and Israel cope with new domestic, regional, and international political, social, and economic challenges posed by recent changes in world affairs.

Leading scholars who have already confirmed their participation include Prof. Keith Banting, Prof. Richard Cavell, Dr. Brian Lewis, Prof. Louis Jacques Filion, and Prof. Diana Brydon, who will be leading sessions in the fields of political science and international relations, media and communications, business and entrepreneurship, and literature and the arts, respectively. University of Toronto Prof. Janice Stein will deliver the keynote address.

The conference is scheduled for May 20–23, 2013, at the Maierdsdorf Faculty Club on the Mount Scopus campus, in conjunction with the IACS. For more information and the Call for Papers, please visit: <http://canadianstudies.huji.ac.il> and click on “Conferences.”

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

<http://canadianstudies.huji.ac.il>



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