US FELLOWS

PROGRAMS:

- Senior Scholar 20
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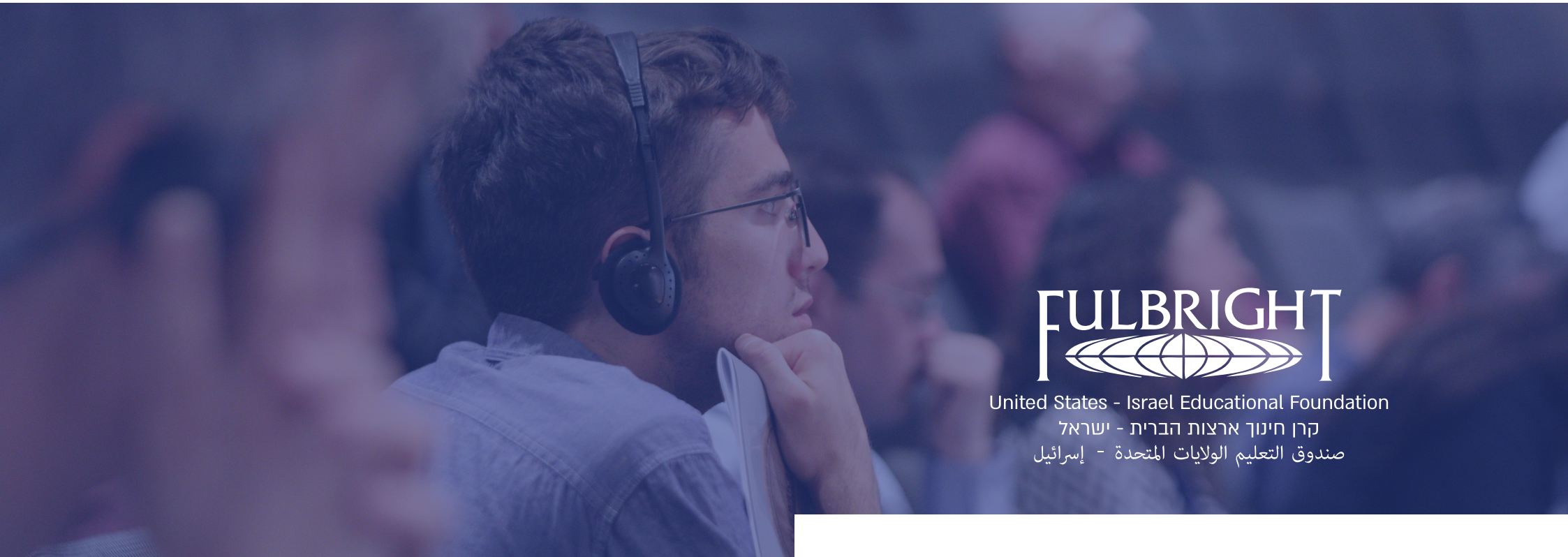

Adriana Brodsky

Humanities

Senior Scholar Fellow St. Mary's College of Maryland » Tel Aviv University

Adriana Brodsky is an Associate Professor of History at St. Mary's College of Maryland. She was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue her project "Navigating Multiple Diasporas: Argentine Sephardi Youth at Home and in Israel, 1948-1976" at Tel Aviv University. The project follows young Sephardim who lived in the Jewish and Sephardi diasporas, creating strong ties to Argentina and learning political lessons that they applied to their Zionist work. When they migrated to Israel, they struggled to adapt to the circumstances, continued to feel like Argentines, and became identified as Latin Americans. The study reveals a reality that speaks to the modern condition, and underscores the role of youth in reconfigurations of ethnic, diasporic, and national identities.

Adriana's recent publications include:

Sephardi, Jewish, Argentine: Community and National Identity, 1880-1960. Indiana University Press, 2016; "Belonging to Many Homes: Argentine Sephardi Youth in Buenos Aires and in Israel, 1956-1976." In *Transnational Histories of Youth in the Twentieth Century,* edited by Richard Jobs and David Pomfret, 213-235. Palgrave Macmillan, 2015; "Argentine Sephardi Youth: Between Aliyah and Activism, 1960-1970." *Journal of Jewish Identities* 8, no. 2 (2015): 113-135.

Michael Broyde

Law

Senior Scholar Fellow Emory University » The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Michael J. Broyde is a Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law and the Projects Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory. He was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue his project "Religious Arbitration in Diverse Western Democracies: Preserving Rights and Adding Values in a Pluralistic Democracy" at Hebrew University. His research will focus on regulating religious community in a way that encourages its modernization and discourages its radicalization. It will address one of the most serious challenges confronting every western democracy: preventing the rise of radical religion.

Michael's recent publications include:

Sharia Tribunals, Rabbinical Courts, and Christian Panels: Religious Arbitration in America and the West. Oxford, 2017. He has published more than ten books and more than 150 articles on matters of law and religion, Jewish law, the impeachment process and other areas of comparative law.

Jennifer Irish

STEM

Senior Scholar Fellow Virginia Tech » University of Haifa

Jennifer Irish is a Professor of Coastal Engineering at Virginia Tech. She was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue her project "Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment in the Context of Sustaining Israel's Archaeological Sites and Coastal Infrastructure" at the University of Haifa. She strives to minimize the potential for a coastal hazard to become a disaster by advancing physical understanding of coastal inundation as well as advancing methods for quantifying the likelihood of coastal inundation. This project aims to quantitatively understand the danger tsunamis pose to Israel's coast, namely by probabilistically quantifying the likelihood and magnitude of tsunami inundation using contemporary statistical approaches and ancient evidence of tsunamis.

Jennifer's recent publications include:

Resio, D.T., Asher, T., Irish, J.L., The effects of natural structure on estimated tropical cyclone surge extremes, *Natural Hazards,* 88(3), 1609–1637, 2017;

Yang, Y., Irish, J.L., Weiss, R., Impact of patchy vegetation on tsunami dynamics, *Journal of Waterway, Port, Coastal, and Ocean Engineering,* 143(4), 04017005, 2017;

Smallegan, S.M., Irish, J.L., van Dongeren, A.R., den Bieman, J.P., Morphological response of a sandy barrier island with a buried seawall during Hurricane Sandy, *Coastal Engineering,* 110, 102110, 2016.

Laura Kessler

Social Sciences

Senior Scholar Fellow The University of Utah » University of Haifa

Laura Kessler was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue her research project entitled "Family Equality in Plural Legal Systems: Achieving Equality Rights in Marriage and Divorce in Israel and the United States" at Haifa University. She will investigate strategies of lay advocates and civil rights lawyers working to achieve equal family rights, with an eye toward developing legal responses to conflicts between secular and religious norms relating to the family in divided societies. Kessler is a Professor of Law at the University of Utah. Her scholarly interests are the legal regulation of family, intimacy, and work. She teaches courses on family law, feminist jurisprudence, employment discrimination, and reproductive issues.

Laura's recent publications include:

Kessler, L. "Employment Discrimination and the Domino Effect." *Florida State Law Review* 44, no. 4 (2018).

Kessler, L. "'A Sordid Case': Stump v. Sparkman, Judicial Immunity, and the Other Side of Reproductive Rights, *Maryland Law Review* 74, no. 4 (2015): 833-920.

Kessler, L. "New Frontiers in Family Law." *Transcending the Boundaries of Law: Generations of Feminism and Legal Theory*. Ed. Martha Albertson Fineman. New York: Routledge (2011): 226-242.

Paul Light

Social Sciences

Senior Scholar Fellow New York University » Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Paul C. Light is the Paulette Goddard Professor of Public Service at New York University's Robert F. Wagner School. He was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue his project "The Revolution in How to Innovate" at Ben Gurion University Israel. Light will continue his effort to develop a classification scheme for assessing recent efforts to accelerate social change. His argument is that there is not too little advice on how to ignite social entrepreneurship and innovation, but too much. His project is designed to bring greater clarity to the choice of interventions for enhancing social change.

Light's recent publications include:

The Government-Industrial Complex (Oxford, 2018).

Driving Social Change (Wiley, 2011),

The Search for Social Entrepreneurship (Brookings, 2008)

A Government Ill-Executed: The Decline of the Federal Service and How to Reverse It (Harvard University Press, 2008)

Gregory Mahler

Social Sciences

Senior Scholar Fellow Earlham College » The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Gregory S. Mahler is Academic Dean Emeritus and Research Professor of Political Science at Earlham College, in Richmond, Indiana. He has been involved in the study of Israeli politics since his Ph.D. dissertation work, which produced his first book *The Knesset: Parliament in the Israeli Political System.* Mahler recently completed twenty years serving as Academic Dean at Earlham College (Richmond, Indiana) and Kalamazoo College (Kalamazoo, Michigan). While serving as Chief Academic Officer at these institutions he continued to teach courses on Israeli politics. Mahler has served as President of the Israeli Studies Association, and has lectured widely on the topic of Israeli politics. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue his project titled: "The Knesset and Palestine: The Role of Israel's National Legislature in the Development of Policies of Occupation and Governance."

Mahler's recent publications include:

Politics and Government in Israel: The Maturation of a Modern State (3rd Edition, Rowman and Littlefield, 2016)

The Arab-Israeli Conflict: An Introduction and Documentary Reader (2nd edition, Routledge, 2018).

Getachew Metaferia

Social Sciences

Senior Scholar Fellow Morgan State University » Tel Aviv University

Getachew Metaferia is Professor of Political Science at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. He was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to teach African History and Contemporary Politics of Africa at Tel Aviv University and conduct research in the Bete Israel community. His research aims to explore the experience of the Ethiopian Jews in Israel, their current situation, and the vision they have for their country, Israel, and the country they left behind, Ethiopia.

Getachew's recent publications include:

"Remembering the Victory of the Battle of Adwa: A Pan-African and Post-Independence African Perspective" in Olaywola Abegunrin, *Africa: The State of the Continent Fifty Years after the Liberation*." New York: Nova Publishers, 2014.

Ethiopia and the United States: History, Diplomacy, and Analysis, New York: Algora Publishing, 2009.

Israel Wachs

STEM

Senior Scholar Fellow Lehigh University » Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Israel E. Wachs is the G. Whitney Snyder Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Lehigh University of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA. He was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to pursue the projects "Upgrading of Natural Gas to Value-Added Products" and "Catalyst for the Selective Catalytic Reduction of High Concentrations of NO for a Sustainable Carbon-free Nitrogen-based Synthetic Fuel." Catalysts are materials that accelerate and control chemical reactions. His research aims to establish molecular level structure-performance relationship of catalysts that will guide the rational design of advanced catalysts. At the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Israel will try to better understand these catalytic processes.

Israel's recent publications include:

"Nature of Active Sites and Surface Intermediates for SCR of NO with NH3 by Supported V2O5-WO3/TiO2 Catalysts," M. Zhu, J.-K. Lai, U. Tumuluri, Z. Wu, I.E. Wachs, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 139 (2017) 15624–15627;

"Identification and Regeneration of Molybdenum Oxide Nanostructures on Zeolites for Catalytic Conversion of Natural Gas to Liquids," J. Gao, J.-M. Jehng, Y. Tang, I.E. Wachs and S.G. Podkolzin, Science 348 (2015) 686-690.

Kenneth Kolander

Social Sciences

Post-doctoral Fellow West Virginia University » University of Haifa

Kenneth Kolander was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project, The Military-Industrial Peace Process: Congress, the Executive, and the U.S.-Israel Special Relationship, 1967-1979, at the University of Haifa. This research will explore the influence of the United States on the Arab-Israeli peace process, seen through the often-neglected perspective of Congress, with a focus on the paradox of weapons sales connected to peace negotiations. His PhD research was conducted at West Virginia University under the supervision of Prof. James Siekmeier.

Kenneth's Recent publications include:

"Phantom Peace: Henry 'Scoop' Jackson, J. William Fulbright, and Military Sales to Israel," *Diplomatic History,* Volume 41, Issue 3, June 2017, p. 567-593.

Jacob Newberry

Social Sciences

Post-doctoral Fellow Florida State University » Bar-Ilan University

Fulbright – Israel Institute Fellow

Jacob Newberry was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project, titled "Queer Refugees in Israel," at Bar Ilan University. During this project he will interview LGBT people who have fled their home countries to seek safety and acceptance in Tel Aviv. Using the works of Joan Didion as a model, he will write a series of connected essays detailing the experiences of these individuals in the context of the larger migration crisis. The essays produced will not be works of pure journalism but will be a mix of the reported and the personal. His project will further explore the phenomenon of internal Israeli queer migration, from small towns to Tel Aviv, by interviewing and writing about the performers who have long been the guardians of queer culture: drag queens.

Jacob's recent publications include:

"The Godmother of Jerusalem Drag," Tablet Magazine (2016); "A Sky That Carries," Poetry Daily (2013); "What You Will Do," Ploughshares (2012); "Drag Queen in the Holy City," *Out Magazine* (2012); and "Summer," Granta (2012).

Nicholas Pavlopoulos

STEM

Post-doctoral Fellow The University of Arizona » Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Nick Pavlopoulos was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project, titled "Design of a Solar Fuel Generating Catalyst with Long Term Stability," at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology. During this project he will investigate the mechanisms by which the energy from sunlight can be stored in chemical bonds through the use of novel nanoscale catalysts, and will develop new methods to enhance the stability and utility of these materials. His PhD research was performed in Professor Jeffrey Pyun's research group and focused on the design and synthesis of heterostructured nanocrystals, developing new well-defined model systems for nanoscale catalysis and charge transfer.

Nick's recent publications include:

Pavlopoulos, N. G., Jeffrey T. Dubose, Yawei Liu, Xing Huang, Nicola Pinna, Marc-Georg Willinger, Tianquan Lian, Kookheon Char, Jeffrey Pyun. "Type I vs. Quasi-Type II Modulation in CdSe@CdS Tetrapods: Ramifications for Noble Metal Tipping." *Crystal Engineering Communications,* 2017, 19, 6443-6453.

Kevin Rothman

Humanities

Post-doctoral Fellow Boston College » Bar-Ilan University

Kevin (Hayyim) Rothman was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project titled "No Kings but the Lord: Varieties of Jewish Religious Anarchism" at Bar Ilan University. This research will investigate, first, biblical and rabbinic sources for an anarchist interpretation of Judaism, and then the various was in which these were applied by rabbis and other members of the traditional community during the late 19th and early twentieth centuries. His PhD research focused on contemporary readings of Spinoza in neo-marxist political theory. He endeavored to show that radical interpretation of Spinoza would be better served by appeal to the anarchist tradition.

Kevin's recent publications include:

"Concerning the Paradox of Nietzsche's Transvaluation of the Figure of the Wandering Jew." In *(mis)Reading Nietzsche.* Edited by M.S. Clemente and B.J. Cocchiara. Eugene: Wipf & Stock. (forthcoming).

Salkind, J.M. "War and the Jewish Question." Translated by Hayyim Rothman. In *Geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies.* (forthcoming)

Mokdoni, A. "Memoirs." Translated by Hayyim Rothman. In *Geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies.* (forthcoming).

Erika Tritle

Humanitiess

Post-doctoral Fellow University of Chicago » Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Erika Tritle was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue her research project, titled "Interpreting Flesh: How Christian Theology Embraced Race in the Fifteenth Century," at Ben Gurion University of the Negev. This research will investigate the way debates over the nature of Jewish lineage, spurred by the presence of large numbers of baptized Jews and their descendants following anti-Jewish violence and mass conversions, contended with traditional doctrines about the nature of the Church and informed the political development of late medieval Spain.! The study will contribute to academic debates regarding the history of the idea of race and its relationship to antisemitism.

Erika's recent publications include:

"A Jewish Solution to the Problem of Excessive Christian Virility in the War against Spanish Islam," in Crusading Masculinities, Natasha Hodgson, Katherine J. Lewis, and Matthew Mesley eds. *Crusades – Subsidia.* London: Routledge (2018).

Miranda Bass

Social Sciences

Masters Degree Fellow United States Military Academy - West Point » Tel Aviv University

Miranda Bass is a senior at the United States Military Academy – West Point. She was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue a Master of Arts in Security and Diplomacy Studies at Tel Aviv University. She is a double major in International Relations and Chinese at West Point. Miranda is writing a senior thesis on the Russian anti-Jewish pogroms, which she has been selected to present at multiple conferences. In addition to studying in the United Kingdom and Israel, Miranda attended National Taiwan University for a semester and has served as language support in the annual Army-Army Dialogue Mechanism between the United States and China, representing West Point and the US Army in Chinese. Beyond academics, Miranda serves as the Cadet-in-Charge of the Glee Club and Jewish Hillel. She looks forward to deepening her knowledge of Israel and the Israeli people to serve the US Army and her country. Miranda will commission as a Military Intelligence officer in May of 2018.

Valeria Brukhis

Social Sciences

Masters Degree Fellow University of St. Thomas » Tel Aviv University

Valerie Brukhis received her BA in International Studies and Political Science at the University of St. Thomas. She spent a semester with the School for International Training in Geneva, Switzerland in the program "International Studies and Multilateral Diplomacy." During her undergraduate career, she published and presented several peer-reviewed articles, conducted international field work, interned at UNICEF Ukraine as well as a think tank in DC. The Fulbright Fellowship will enable her to receive her MA in Security and Diplomacy at Tel Aviv University. Building on her functional international experience, Valerie will pursue a thesis titled, "The Power of Inclusivity: Israeli Recruitment as a Good Lesson to U.S. Intelligence." The goal of her research and overall time in Israel is to promote exchange both on societal as well as governmental levels.

Garcia Daimiris

Social Sciences

Masters Degree Fellow University of Florida » Tel Aviv University

Daimiris Garcia received her BA in Political Science with a minor in French at the University of Florida. She undertook an exchange year abroad in L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po Paris) where she focused on Middle Eastern politics and counterinsurgency strategy. Since then Daimiris has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue a Master's degree in Conflict Resolution and Mediation (Public Policy) from Tel Aviv University. She will be studying the interdisciplinary nature of conflict and the role of policy in international resolutions. She hopes to specialize in the areas of conflict resolution related to international law and security.

Isabel Bleimeister

STEM

Post Graduate Fellow Carnegie Mellon University » Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Isabel Bleimeister received her BS in Neuroscience with a minor in Biomedical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. While there, she conducted a wide array of visual cognition research culminating in a thesis in which she used spectroscopy to discern the involvement of subcortical brain structures in perceiving numerosity stimuli. Isabel was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to continue doing visual cognition work with Dr. Ilan Dinstein at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She will be using novel behavioral and imaging methods to elucidate the mechanisms underlying face perception in her project, "The developmental projection of the face neural network."

Maya Deshmukh

STEM

Post Graduate Fellow University of Michigan » Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Maya Deshmukh received her BA in Art and Design and BS in Cellular and Molecular Biology from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor. She is currently completing her Honors thesis studying protein interactions which inhibit the formation of functional amyloid in Escherichia coli in the lab of Dr. Matthew Chapman in the Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology. During the Fulbright Fellowship, Maya will be working in the lab of Dr. Meytal Landau at the Israel Institute of Technology studying the mechanisms by which microbial functional amyloids interact to incur structural variations or polymorphisms. Maya's project is titled "Visualizing the Structures of Cross-Seeded Amyloids."

Alisa Feldman

Social Sciences

Post Graduate Fellow University of Pennsylvania » Tel Aviv University

Alisa Feldman received her BA in Health and Societies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2018. Alisa has a strong interest in the intersection of medical, social, and political dimensions of infertility. For her honors thesis, Alisa conducted ethnographic research on IVF and infertility in Israel during the summer of 2017. She will be expanding upon this work through her sociological Fulbright research project, "'Coupling' With Infertility: Understanding Couples' Infertility Experiences in Israel." Alisa's aim, through her Fulbright and future career, is to assist in recalibrating Western-Eastern divides in the sociological scholarship on infertility. Alongside her research in Israel, she plans to volunteer for Tag Meir, a grassroots organization focused on combating racism in Israel.

Benjamin Gladstone

Social Sciences

Post Graduate Fellow Brown University » Open University and the Ben Zvi Institute

Benjamin Gladstone received his BA in Judaic Studies and Middle East Studies from Brown University in 2018. In 2019, he will begin his PhD studies at New York University in Hebrew and Judaic Studies. During his time in Israel with the Fulbright Program, Benjamin will be conducting research on the history of Yemeni Jewish political and social organizing in Mandate Palestine and Early Israel with Dr. Bat-Zion Eraqi Klorman of the Open University and the Ben Zvi Institute. His project, "Yemeni Jewish Zionist, Anti-Racist, and Refugee Advocacy as a Driver of Israeli History," will explore issues of agency and migration and will highlight the roles of Yemeni Jewish actors in promoting and facilitating Operation On Eagles' Wings.

Jack Gomberg

STEM

Post Graduate Fellow Pomona College » Tel Hai College

Jack Gomberg received his BA in Neuroscience at Pomona College in Claremont California. For his undergraduate thesis, Jack explored the effects of stress on hippocampal learning and memory in rats. During the course of his Fulbright research, Jack will be studying stress in a clinical setting. His project explores the biopsychological effects of medical clowning therapy on patient outcomes through both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Specifically, he will pursue biological markers of stress reduction correlating with medical clowning exposure. He also hopes to learn more about the unique field of medical clowning therapy, and build a bridge between Israeli and American patient care innovations.

Blake Barrett

English Teaching Assistant Fellow » Tel Hai College

Blake Barrett received his BA in Journalism with a minor in International Areas Studies from the University of Oklahoma. Barrett was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Fellowship at Tel-Hai College. He has spent his time since graduation earning his Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Cambridge and working at Oklahoma City's downtown library. While at the library, Barrett worked with the community to create the Metropolitan Library Literary Magazine, which consisted of short stories, poetry, and non-fiction essays submitted by local authors. Barrett will help teach English at Tel Hai College and engage the local community through American literature and the English language.

Jessica Davidova

English Teaching Assistant Fellow » Kibbutzim College of Education

Jessica Davidov received her BA in Political Science and Near Eastern studies from Wayne State University. As an undergraduate student, Jessica revitalized an Israel education group in Detroit as well as spent much of her time educating students on Israel's strong community, vibrant culture, and world influence. Before departing for the fellowship, Jessica is continuing her research on the Kurdish people and their struggle for statehood while simultaneously comparing that with the Jewish people's achievement of statehood under Dr.Nadejda Marinova of Wayne State University. Jessica was awarded an English Teaching Assistantship in Tel Aviv. Jessica aspires to spend her time in Israel by working with the youth at Yemin Orde. There, she will be utilizing a multilingual background and knowledge of photography to mentor students in the art of photography-- as a way to bridge the language barriers and help them integrate into their new society.

Juan Pinto

English Teaching Assistant Fellow » Oranim Academic College

Juan Pinto received his MA in Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures from the University of Texas at Austin and his BA in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, with minors in Linguistics and Modern Hebrew, from Brigham Young University. He has held various teaching and tutoring positions of both English and Hebrew. Before departing for Israel, Juan is continuing his research into the use of data science principles for the creation of language learning materials. After completing his time as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, Juan will pursue a PhD in Second Language Acquisition. While in Israel, he will be working with English learners at Oranim Academic College in Kiryat Tiv'on. His goals as an educator are to increase students' confidence in their own abilities, motivate them to take charge of their own learning, and help them use technological tools effectively to learn English. He hopes to engage students with rich learning experiences while honing his own skills as an educator and cultural ambassador.

Daniella Wenger

English Teaching Assistant Fellow » Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design

Daniella Wenger received her BS in Business Administration with a minor in Public Policy and Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Technology from University of California, Berkeley. Before the Fellowship she served as an Undergraduate Fellow for the Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies and led Free Ventures, UC Berkeley's premier student run start up accelerator which helped 40 teams raise $30M+ of venture capital in the past 5 years. During her Fulbright Fellowship, Daniella will be teaching English and shaping the English curriculum at Bezalel University. She will also be learning Arabic and conducting research in the field of International Relations, International Business, or National Security and Counterterrorism.