

## Postdoctoral Fellowships

**Adrea Gonzalez-Karlsson**

University of California &gt;&gt; Tel Aviv University

Adrea Gonzalez-Karlsson received a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to fund her research project, "Male moth mate preference in relation to female quality and cost of flight," at the Volcani Center for Agricultural Research and Tel Aviv University in Israel. This project will investigate male preference for female characteristics and condition dependency of female pheromone production. Adrea received her PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles where she studied visual and chemical communication in a tribe of Neotropical butterflies, Ithomiini. She got her BA from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Michael Carlson**

University of Washington &gt;&gt; Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Carlson was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to continue his research on marine viruses. His research focuses on how viruses affect microscopic photosynthetic plankton in the ocean in order to understand their impact on global chemical cycles, food-web dynamics, and microbial evolution. He will continue his research on marine viruses, but with a different phytoplankton host, marine cyanobacteria, which are the most abundant photosynthetic organisms on the planet. His project is entitled "The best predators in the ocean: Quantifying the impact of virally encoded host and auxiliary genes on the infection dynamics and ecology of marine cyanophage". In his Ph.D. research, he isolated a novel virus infecting a toxic marine diatom, *Pseudo-nitzschia*, and used genomic techniques to understand the lifestyles of diatom-infecting viruses both in the lab and in the environment. Michael Carlson received his B.A. in biology and history from Pomona College in Claremont, California and his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in oceanography from the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington.

**Ronald Udasin**

Rutgers University &gt;&gt; Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Ronald Udasin was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project, titled "Regulation of the Xenobiotic Transporters by the Ubiquitin-Proteasome System: Implications for the Efficiency of Chemotherapeutic Agents," at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology. During this project, he will investigate the mechanisms by which efflux transporters – proteins that catalyze the ATP-dependent export of cytotoxic agents such as cancer chemotherapeutics – are degraded with an eye towards interventions in order to increase the intracellular concentration and thus efficacy of anticancer compounds. Ronald received his BS in chemical engineering from Cornell University and his PhD in toxicology from Rutgers University. His PhD research was performed in Professor Jeffrey Laskin's Group and focused on the effects of inhibition of the efflux transporter multidrug resistance-associated protein 1 (MRP1) on the toxicity of the chemical warfare agents sulfur mustard (mustard gas) and nitrogen mustard. Upon completion of his PhD, Ronald accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in Professor Aaron Ciechanover's laboratory.

**Velibor Adzic**

Florida Atlantic University &gt;&gt; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Velibor Adzic was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences, affiliated with The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His project focuses on the cognitive modeling of human behavior. The aim of the project is development of mathematical models that can describe cognitive processes underpinning interestingness and boredom. We also seek possible extensions and applications to the field of computational psychiatry. His PhD mainly centered on the perceptual methods for video compression optimization and the cognitive aspects of a video quality assessment.

## Senior Scholars



### **Siona Benjamin**

Independent Scholar >> Bezalel Academy of Art & Design

Siona Benjamin is a painter originally from Bombay, now living in the U.S. Her work reflects her background of being brought up Jewish in a predominantly Hindu and Muslim India. In her paintings she combines the imagery of her past with the role she plays in America today, making a mosaic inspired by both Indian miniature paintings and Sephardic icons. Siona obtained her first MFA in painting and a second MFA in Theater set design. She has exhibited in the US, Europe and Asia.

Siona was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 2010-11 for her art project titled: Faces: Weaving Indian Jewish Narratives. Research for this project was conducted in India. Her first exhibit was in 2013 at the Prince of Wales Museum in Mumbai, India and many exhibits were featured thereafter. Her second Fulbright fellowship was awarded in 2016-17 to go to Israel. Siona's work has been featured in: The New York Times, The Chicago Tribune, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Jewish Week in NYC and NJ, The Boston Globe, Art in America, Art New England, Art and Antiques, The Jerusalem Post, The Israel Times, Marg magazine and other publications.



### **Gaetan Brulotte**

University of Louisiana at Lafayette >> Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Gaetan's research is titled "Collaborating with HUIJ to Develop Their French Program, Especially French-Canadian Studies", focusing on the 20th and 21st century French and Francophone Studies (especially French-Canadian). He has a B.A. French Lit. & Education, Laval U., Quebec, Can. (1962, 1966, 1969); M.A. French Studies, Laval U. (1972); Ph.D., French Lit., EHESS & U. of Paris-VII, France. (1978). Director: Roland Barthes. Gaetan is affiliated with - 2016: University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Board of Regents Humanities Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair & Professor of Francophone Studies. 2015: University of South Florida, Tampa, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus, French and Francophone Studies.



### **Davida Charney**

University of Texas at Austin >> Tel Aviv University

Davida received a Fulbright award to research her project titled "Judaic Debates on the Nature of the Psalms: The Reception History of First-Person Psalms", that contributes to the history of Judaism by showing the key role of the psalms in the development of rival liturgies. She will analyze arguments about the nature of the psalms that religious leaders circulated in commentaries from late antiquity through the pre-modern era. She will focus on comparing annotations on first-person psalms that raise problems for emerging Judaic theologies and were ultimately omitted from Rabbinic liturgy. The Judaic debates have implications for how the liturgy shapes the relationship between worshipers and the divine and for whether there is a distinctively Jewish approach to the argument.



### **Matthias Lehmann**

University of California, Irvine >> Tel Aviv University

As a guest at Tel Aviv University's S. Daniel Abraham Center for International and Regional Studies, Professor Matthias Lehmann will be working on a project entitled "Maurice de Hirsch and the Politics of Jewish Philanthropy." The focus of his research is a biography of the nineteenth century Jewish banker, railroad entrepreneur and philanthropist Maurice de Hirsch. The biography will offer a fresh perspective on the ways in which Jews dealt with the demands of the modern nation state, and how they navigated a world transformed by the rise of modern capitalism. Educated at the University of Freiburg, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Free University of Berlin, and the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas in Madrid, Lehmann earned his Ph.D. in 2002. He is a professor of history and Teller Family Chair in Jewish history at the University of California, Irvine.



**Erin Martz**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs >> Tel Aviv University

Erin's project title is "A Comparison of Three Psychoeducational Group Interventions for Israelis with Tinnitus". The purpose of this Fulbright research study is twofold: 1) to examine whether a 3-session group psycho-educational intervention is more effective in increasing adaptive coping strategies among Israelis with bothersome tinnitus than a wait-list control; and 2) to determine which of the three psycho-educational interventions (Coping Effectiveness Training-Tinnitus, cognitive-behavioral therapy, or Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) provided is more effective in facilitating adaptive coping strategies among Israelis with bothersome tinnitus.



**Gilliane Monnier**

University of Minnesota >> Weizmann Institute of Science

Gilliane's project title is "Reconstructing Neanderthal and Early Modern Human Behavior Through Stone Tool Residue Analysis". As such, she will be developing new methods of residue analysis and applying them to artifacts from key Paleolithic sites in Israel, while at the Weizmann Institute.

Gilliane is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Minnesota. She is a Paleolithic archaeologist whose research focuses on reconstructing the behavior of hominins, particularly Neanderthals, through analysis of their stone tools. Her current research focuses on developing a better understanding of stone tool use through identification of the microresidues that are sometimes preserved on the edges of these tools, using analytical chemistry.



**Laurie Rubel**

Brooklyn College, CUNY >> Tel Aviv University

Laurie's project title at Tel Aviv University is Sociocultural Perspectives on Teaching and Learning Mathematics.

Her Ph.D. is from Columbia University (Teachers College) in Mathematics Education, and she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Laurie is an Associate Professor at the City University of New York (Brooklyn College), where she has been on the faculty since 2003.

Laurie is currently working on connecting theories about place and space to mathematics education. She has recently directed a project in which she utilized neo-geographical mapping tools for students to explore themes of spatial justice relevant to their city, from a mathematical perspective.



**Hanna Salman**

University of Pittsburgh >> Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Hanna's project title at the Technion will be "Towards a Universal Picture of Phenotypic Variability in Microorganisms through Single-Cell Protein Dynamics". His current research is focused on living cells that differ from each other even when their genome is identical. These differences termed "non-genetic phenotypic variation", appear to result from the complex dynamics underlying protein production in the cell. His research aims to understand how these dynamics lead to the observed variability among genetically identical cells.



## **Maeera Shreiber**

University of Utah >> University of Haifa

Professor Maeera Shreiber is a Fulbright senior scholar at the University of Haifa in the fields of literature and poetry. At the University of Utah, she is the director of the Religious Studies Program and an associate professor of English literature and Jewish studies. In Haifa, she is working on two projects: “Holy Envy: Modernism and the Poetics of the Judeo-Christian Borderline,” which examines how the porous relationship between these two world religions informs modernist aesthetics, and a coauthored, annotated anthology of contemporary Israeli poetry in English translation, designed to provide non-Hebrew speakers access to the rich array of liturgically inflected verse that makes up an important feature of contemporary Israeli literature.