

BE'ER SHEVA WORLD ZIONIST VILLAGE ADULT EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE NOTEBOOK



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BE'ER SHEVA GLOBAL ZIONIST VILLAGE

Imagine a conversation about Israel, about the future of Jewish leadership, about the next 25-50 years, wherein high school students, college students, post-graduates, teachers, young leaders, and older adults are all part of one loud crescendo of voices. Imagine the discourse. Imagine the brilliance. Imagine the outcome. Imagine the future. With the vision of creating this eco-system—the only one of its kind in the world—for global Jewry of all ages to convene at once or at different times on a single campus with programming, shared spaces, accommodations, and harnessing the power of positive Israel/Jewish conversation, Jewish National Fund-USA is building this world-class campus in Be'er Sheva that will revolutionize Zionist and Jewish educational engagement for the decades ahead.

WHY BE'ER SHEVA?

With 90% of Israel's population concentrated in the Tel Aviv-Haifa-Jerusalem corridor, an expensive, overcrowded, center underscores the vital need for population growth and regional economic development in Israel's northern and southern regions. That is what forms the backbone of Jewish National Fund's Go North and Blueprint Negev strategies and the goal of realizing the full potential of the Galilee and Negev as rich centers of agriculture, tourism, quality of life opportunities, and technology development.

At the center of the Jewish National Fund's Blueprint Negev campaign is the revitalization of the city of Be'er Sheva, the center of the Negev. Once considered just a place for a quick stop on the way to the resort port city of Eilat, Be'er Sheva, "the Gateway to the South" is now the fastest growing city in the country. JNF's Be'er Sheva River Park, with playgrounds, bike paths, promenades, two historical sites, a 13,000-seat amphitheater, a sporteque, and now a 23-acre lake, have spurred the construction of new apartment buildings, single family homes, Israel's largest indoor mall, high-tech and cyber companies, a burgeoning night life, and a new vibrancy and interest in the future of the region is being fueled through the growth of cyber-tech and start-up companies, evident in every corner of the city. Additionally, JNF's Lauder Employment Center places thousands with new jobs each year at companies like HP, PayPal, Dell, Intel, and CISCO Israel.



The Be'er Sheva municipality, with whom we've had an ongoing relationship through our *Blueprint Negev* campaign, offered Jewish National Fund 15 acres of land for the new campus right on our Riverwalk. Located in the heart of the Park in the fastest growing city in Israel, it is just minutes away from a multitude of attractions to include: the amphitheater, sporteque, the Be'er Sheva Lake, Israel's biggest mall, a swim club, restaurants, a high tech and bio tech park, Ben Gurion University and more.

Additionally, Be'er Sheva offers us a unique opportunity to recruit quality teachers from top universities like Ben Gurion University, and access to the new cyber security headquarters for Israel with major American and Israeli corporations located there. Moreover, the new train system links Be'er Sheva with Tel Aviv and our ongoing urban development has made entertainment and recreation second to none in the area.

And then there's this fact: According to a report issued by Start-Up Nation Central with the Israel Innovation Authority, Israel is struggling to recruit enough workers to its technology sector. To find workers, Israeli companies are opening development centers overseas, but in the long term more initiatives are needed to increase the pool of workers from within. One obstacle for their employment in high-tech has been that they live far from the country's center which is where the jobs have traditionally been. The government is planning to address that by providing incentives in building an innovation system outside of the center and encouraging tech companies to open branches outside as well—read: Be'er Sheva.

In short, it is a flourishing, multi-cultural metropolis of opportunity.

ADULT EDUCATION

WE BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL JEWRY

Join the greatest conversation to build bridges across generations, denominations, and politics as we embark on the first global Zionist education center. This state-of-the-art center will inspire Jewish leaders of all ages and backgrounds from across the globe. Educational content developed by world renowned Jewish experts will allow learners of all levels to explore the richness and beauty of the Jewish world. A top-quality conference center with ample space for organizations and individuals will draw teachers, adult learners and scholars from Oklahoma to Dimona. Comfortable and modern overnight accommodations for short and longer term stays will allow visitors to connect with a rich mosaic of Jewish people from all walks of life who are unified in their belief in a vibrant future for global Jewry.



WHY ADULT EDUCATION?

Jews the world over are looking to connect with their roots. What better place than in Israel, on a campus that is alive with the sounds of the future? Our Zionist Education Center will offer comfortable, modern accommodations, programs for short-and long-term stays, ample facilities for all classes and webinars, and quality teachers and rabbis.

THE ISRAEL STUDIES TEACHERS INSTITUTE

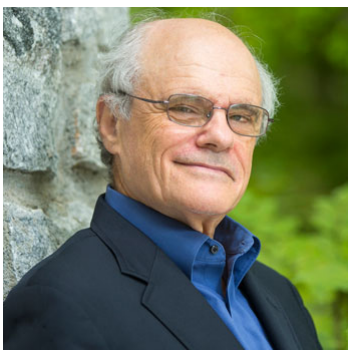
The Alexander Muss High School in Israel can help overcome this obstacle. One of the things we have discovered throughout AMHSI's 45 years of service in this area is that the number of entry points of engagement in the field of Jewish and Israel studies must have broad appeal. The Israel Studies Teachers Institute does just that—it grows the number of entry points for students to develop a relationship with Israel by cultivating the broadest possible range of educators and rabbis.

The Israel Studies Teachers Institute (ITI) will invest in educators from Jewish community schools focusing on pre-B'nai Mitzvah age (Jewish Elementary-Middle Schools and Hebrew-Sunday Schools) and Jewish Community High Schools across the United States, thus impacting the way we teach and the way our students learn in a very big way. The program will provide space and time for ITI participants as they grapple with tough questions relating to history and society, complexities in modern Israel, and support their acquisition of skills to help facilitate important dialogue and curricular development for Israel studies classes in other communities.

The ITI workshops will take place over the summer and winter (20 educators per cohort) followed by monthly webinar sessions and video conference meetings to continue supporting teacher training and professional development.

This will prove to be a major contribution to the Jewish world.

ADULT EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS



Dr. Kenneth Stein

President and Founder, Center for Israel Education, Inc.

Professor Kenneth Stein, Emory University and President, Center for Israel Education has taught at Emory University since 1977. Founding Director, Emory Institute for the Study of Modern Israel (1998); Stein holds a joint appointment within the History and Political Science Departments, and was a Visiting Professor of Political Science at Brown University (Spring 2006). Primary responsibilities focus on undergraduate teaching. He developed International Studies at Emory in the late 1970s. In 2008, he founded and remains president of the Center for Israel Education, focusing on Israel learning beyond the university.



Dr. Shmuel Rosenman

Co-Founder and Chairman, International March of the Living.

Dr. Shmuel Rosenman teaches Health Policy and Health Economy at Shaarei Mishpat College in Israel. Prior to that, he lectured at Bar Ilan University in the field of Health Management. Dr. Rosenman also served as the Chairman of the Small and Medium Enterprises Authority in Israel for six years. He held the position of General Director of "Kupat Holim Leumit," a major Health Fund in Israel. He served as the Director of Secondary Education of Tel Aviv-Jaffa and project renewal in the city. Dr. Rosenman is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and received his PhD in Administration from there. He was born in Israel.



Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman

Hartman Institute President

Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman is president of the Shalom Hartman Institute and holds the Richard and Sylvia Kaufman Family Chair. He is author of the highly regarded 2016 book, *Putting God Second: How to Save Religion from Itself*. Donniel is the founder of some of the most extensive education, training and enrichment programs for scholars, educators, rabbis, and religious and lay leaders in Israel and North America. He is a prominent essayist, blogger and lecturer on issues of Israeli politics, policy, Judaism, and the Jewish community. He is the author of *The Boundaries of Judaism*, co-author of *Spheres of Jewish Identity*, and co-editor of *Judaism and the Challenges of Modern Life*.



PHOTO CREDIT: RAPHAEL DELOUYA

Dalit Stauber

Former Director General, Ministry of Education,
Ono Academic College Senior Executive Speaker/Lecturer,
Mandel School for Educational Leadership
– Visiting Faculty Member

Ms. Dalit Stauber, the Former Israeli Ministry of Education Director General, is a strategic consultant in accompaniment, development, initiation, and project management for organizations, local authorities, non-profit organizations, government ministries, academia, and private businesses. She is a senior lecturer and director of the MBA Organizational Counseling practicum in Ono Academic College, as well as senior lecturer at Mandel Leadership Institute. Dalit is a member of the international advisory board of the Trump organization, was a member of the Advisory Forum of the IDF Chief Education Officer and the Chairman on the Committee for the Advancement of Women in Civil Science in the Prime Minister's Office.



Dr. Zohar Raviv

International VP of Educational Strategy, Taglit-Birthright Israel

Dr. Zohar Raviv is a recognized Jewish thought-leader and educator who currently serves as the International Vice President of Educational Strategy for Taglit-Birthright Israel. Raviv's professional experience spans Israel, North America, South America, Europe, South Africa, and Australia. He holds a B.A in Land of Israel Studies from Bar-Ilan University, a Joint M.A in Judaic Studies and Jewish Education from Brandeis University, as well as M.A in Near Eastern Studies and a PhD in Jewish Thought — both from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). Raviv was the recipient of the 2015 Bernard Reisman Award for Professional Excellence from the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program at Brandeis University.



Rabbi Dr. Howard Deitcher

Director of the Florence Melton Institute

Rabbi Dr. Howard Deitcher is a faculty member of The Hebrew University's Melton Centre for Jewish Education and a former Director. He is a past director of the Mandel Jerusalem Fellows Program for Jewish Educational Leaders worldwide. Deitcher is the current Director of the Florence Melton Institute at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem that offers programs in Jewish learning for adults worldwide. He also serves as the Senior Director of Legacy Heritage Teacher Institutes and is currently directing educational projects in five countries worldwide. He has published numerous articles, co-edited four books, and produced six teaching guides that are being used in schools in Israel and around the Jewish world.



Tal Shaked Cretella, Esq.

United CEO – Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tal Shaked is the Executive Director of UnitEd, the initiative for strengthening Jewish day schools around the world, by the Ministry of Diaspora and CET. Tal was a Prosecutor at the District Attorney's Office in Tel Aviv. A random Havrutah around a Talmud page changed her professional path and diverted her career to Jewish education. Tal was the founder and the head of the First Secular Yeshiva of Bina and then Deputy director of Bina. She was an education Shlichah (Emissary) in JNF USA, spending 2 years in Chicago and 3 years in California. Tal now lives in Moshav Kfar Ben Nun in Israel, with her husband and 3 children.



Dr. Simcha Leibovich

Leadership Ph.D.

Dr. Simcha Leibovich is a consultant for the Leadership Development Center of Universidad Hebraica in Mexico and a consultant for the Chabad Leadership Development Program. He is the founder of ELIT - Experiential Leadership Training; founder and director of the World Leadership Center – Mt. Herzl; founder and director of the Outdoor Center for Leadership at Neot Kedumim (The Biblical Landscape Reserve) and founder and director of Dean of Experiential Education at Orot - Academic College for Education. He is the head of Shlichim of the World Zionist Organization in North America and an advisor to leadership development programs in the Israeli Defense Forces and Israeli Security Forces.



Dr. Sandra Lilienthal, MAJS, Ed.D.

Independent Jewish Curriculum Developer

Originally from Brazil, Dr. Sandra Lilienthal is the author of several curricula for Jewish adult learners, including a new series for the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning/Hebrew University. Sandra teaches weekly classes for independent groups of adult learners in the South Florida area and to Melton groups. Sandra is a sought-after speaker at Jewish education conferences, synagogues, and other Jewish organizations. She was the founding Chairperson of Limmud Boca and currently sits on the Board of Limmud North America. Sandra is a 2015 winner of the Covenant Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.



Dr. David Breakstone

Former Jewish Agency Deputy Chairman

Dr. David Breakstone recently completed his term as deputy chair of The Jewish Agency Executive, during which he was also a member of the executives of the World Zionist Organization, Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael (JNF), and Keren Hayesod. He previously served as vice chairman of the World Zionist Organization and was the conceptual architect and founding director of its Herzl Museum and Educational Center. Additional positions he has held include Director of Hebrew University's Pedagogic Center for Jewish Education, Associate Dean and Director of Education at The Schechter Institute for Jewish Studies, supervisor of the TAL Education Fund, and Director of Ramah Programs in Israel.



Dr. Rani Jaeger

Research Fellow, Director of Tanach Initiative and Co-Director of the Ritual Department

Rani is a research fellow, faculty member, and head of the newly formed Tanakh (Bible) Teaching Initiative and New Ritual department at the Shalom Hartman Institute. He was one of the founders of the Institute's Be'eri Program for Pluralistic Jewish-Israeli Identity Education. He was a participant in the first cohort of the Beit Midrash for Israeli Rabbis and received rabbinical ordination from the Shalom Hartman Institute and HaMidrasha at Oranim in September 2016. Rani is one of the founders and Rabbi of Beit Tefilah Israeli, a secular synagogue in the heart of Tel Aviv.



Avi Warshavsky

CEO, MindCET: Ed Tech Innovation Center

Mr. Avi Warshavsky is the founder and CEO of MindCET: Ed Tech Innovation Center, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Educational Technology in Israel. He took part in founding and developing innovative initiatives in the field of digital books, and is the creator of new technology-driven educational environments. Among other roles, he founded Mikranet and Kotar platforms. Avi has worked in instruction, development, and management in educational technology for leading organizations in Israel and served as director of CET's Humanities and Social Studies Department.



Zohar Vloski

Israel Emissary, KKL-JNF

Zohar Vloski, IDF Lieutenant Colonel (in reserve), is an Education-focused Israel Emissary for KKL-JNF in Florida & the USA, and was the KKL-JNF Executive Director Education Division. Zohar served in the IDF for 25 years, including as a commander of education units, a key driver of the military's educational systems, and a leader in connecting the Birthright Israel program to Israeli soldiers. As an educational entrepreneur over the course of three decades, he has implemented training programs in Jewish and Zionist identity, Holocaust memorialization, and Jewish leadership and culture. He has a LL.M (Master of Laws) and is a certified tour guide for Israel's Ministry of Tourism in Israel and for Yad Vashem to Poland.



Chuck Fax

JNF-USA President's Society

Chuck Fax is a Jewish National Fund-USA (JNF-USA) President's Society and Century Council member who currently serves as Vice President of Israel Action and is the primary speaker for JNF-USA's Positively Israel campaign, speaking on college campuses throughout the country about how Israel makes the world a better place. Fax has also previously served as JNF-USA's Regional President for Baltimore, President of the Mid-Atlantic Zone, National Campaign Vice President, and Campaign Cabinet Chair.



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