Ordinary People Commit
Prof. Waller will speak on
of Holocaust and Genocide
holocaust@appstate.edu.
Center at 828.262.2311 or
information, contact the
various e-mailings. For more
the Center website and
ZOOM registrations links
programs below online.
To prevent community
Becoming Evil: How
Forthcoming Center
Lecture
Events
by
Prof. Jim
Holocaust in Eastern Europe
research projects from the
will discuss his important
renowned Holocaust scholar
trained and U.S.-based world-
The Israeli-born, British-
History (Brown University).
The event also marks and
and pathbreaking studies.
The Israeli-born, British-
Center for Research on
Holocaust in the Galician
Seminary. The lecture will focus on the
workshop gathered this year
on "New Approaches in German-Jewish Studies,"
lecture of the Thirteenth
Workshop of the Southeast
German Studies Consortium, German
and/or German-Jewish
History and Culture
Co-organized by the
SEGs Steering and Org
Committees with the Center
for Judaic, Holocaust, and
Peace Studies.
April 9. The Center marks
Yom HaShoah Holocaust
Memorial Day, with a
commemoration that includes a
reading of the names of the
European Jews murdered by
the Germans and their allies
during the Holocaust and a
public lecture by Prof.
Noah Shoroker (Monash
University, Australia) on
the topic of "Gender, Sex
and Violence: Race
Dichotomy in Nazi Germany.
This talk by the eminent German
scholar also serves as keynote
prominent voices in these fields, including Prof. Dan Michman,
the head of the International
Institute for Holocaust Research
at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, and
Prof. emeritus, Christopher R.
Browning of Tufts, WA. The
survivor testimony collection
encompasses interviews
conducted by affiliated faculty
members as well as recordings of
Center-organized presentations,
varying from Effi
Mark-Machnowska, who –
right-months pregnant – survived the
Ravensbrück genocide hiding in the
house of a Roma genocide victim, to
Anita Ender Wallin, one of
the last survivors of the Women’s
Oratorium at Auschwitz, and
Amy Lerman, who managed
to escape Nazi Vienna with her
family.
none of his most influential
and pathbreaking studies.
The event also marks and
commemorates the 75th anniversary of the liberation
of the Auschwitz camps (co-organized with Queen
University’s Greenspoon Center for Peace and Social
Justice and UNC’s Center for Holocaust, Genocide &
Human Rights Studies).
February 8, 11:00 am
EST. Lecture by Prof.
Chris Patti. Holocaust
survivor Anny Lerman during her pre-Pandemic interview with
the Center Director Prof. Pegelow Kaplan during a ZOOM program. Prof.
Pegelow Kaplan can be reached at thomaspegelowkaplan@appstate.edu
To prevent community spread and keep everyone safe, we will hold all the
programs below online. ZOOM registration links will be made available via
the Center website and various e-mailings. For more
information, contact the
Center at 828.262.2311 or
holocaust@appstate.edu.
January 26, 7:00 pm
EST. Lecture by Prof.
Jim Waller, the Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide
Studies at Keene State College (New Hampshire). Prof.
Waller will speak on
"Becoming Evil: How
Ordinary People Commit
Genocide and Mass
Murder,” also the title of
one of his most influential
and pathbreaking studies.
*)

A Word From the Center Director: Running the Center Amidst a Pandemic,
Confronting the Rise of Far-Right Extremism
Nobody at the Center could have
predicted the backlash as
needed attempts to reduce
the spread of a virus that, by
now, has killed some 400,000
Americans. Yet, while we were
postponing core Center events
such as an international March
conference with the Zeirahn
for Antisemitismforschung at
Berlin’s Technical University,
and the inaugural Senior Center
Events, the various committees
naturally began to adjust the
Center’s work. Everyone quickly
saw new opportunities, formats
and audiences that would
directly advance the Center’s
mission and commitment to
provide high-quality programs
and support for educators,
researchers, students, and
the general public. In fact, beginning
with our first program with
Holocaust educator Dr. Miriam
Killer Kranow, the response has
often been overwhelming. The
online programming connected
us to other Jewish communities,
attired in masks from across
the U.S. and beyond, provided
opportunities to touch
base with summer symposium
graduates in Europe, and
allowed Center supporters to log in
from wherever they were.

Online Center Database Gives Public Access to Survivor and Scholarly Voices
The Center-organized presentations,
varying from Effi
Mark-Machnowska, who –
right-months pregnant – survived the
Ravensbrück genocide hiding in the
house of a Roma genocide victim, to
Anita Ender Wallin, one of
the last survivors of the Women’s
Oratorium at Auschwitz, and
Amy Lerman, who managed
to escape Nazi Vienna with her
family.
The collection is freely
accessible and intended for
current and future students and
faculty, teachers, researchers, the
broader public and supporters in
the state, country, and abroad.
The ongoing pandemic that has already claimed the lives
of so many survivors only
demonstrates the urgency to
preserve their testimonies and
make them available in an
easily-accessible manner that
does not endanger anyone’s
health. To view the collection, go to:
https://holocaust.appstate.edu/library/centers-lectures-
testimonies

We hope that the readers of this newsletter will take
advantage of our upcoming online programming. A huge
thank-you to all of our generous
supporters who keep us going
even amid a pandemic!

Rethinking the Summer Symposium in Times of a Pandemic

In October, Prof. Joseph Bathanti (IDS/JJP) gave a talk on Antisemitism in the United States during the Cold War, while Prof. Dana Powell (History) delivered a presentation on Jewish Resistance during World War II, as part of the Center’s annual March on Memory event. These talks were held online, allowing for a wider audience.

Research by the Center Affiliated Faculty

In November, Prof. Rosemary Horowitz (English/JHP) participated in two panels at the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) conference, presenting her research on Holocaust testimonies in the Polish Holocaust community. Prof. Horowitz’s research focuses on the role of women in the Holocaust and their experiences during and after the war.

In December, Prof. Dana Powell (History) published a chapter in a new book on Jewish Resistance during World War II, highlighting the contributions of women in the resistance movement.

Center Fall Programming Goes Global during the “Zoom Age”

After a promising test phase with three online events in April, the Center moved its entire Fall 2020 program of events online, resulting in a Zoom platform that was well-received by participants. The online platform enabled us to connect with a wider audience, including scholars from around the world, and to engage with diverse perspectives on the topic of the Holocaust.

Attending the symposium online provided a unique opportunity for participants to engage with the material in a new and interactive way. Participants from across the globe were able to join the discussions and contribute to the ongoing dialogue on the topic.

Center Commemorates “Kristallnacht” Amidst Increasing Antisemitism and Attacks on Synagogues

In November, the Center held a commemoration of the 82nd anniversary of Kristallnacht, with a virtual panel discussion featuring experts from around the world. The panelists discussed the impact of Kristallnacht on the lives of Jews and the broader community, and the ongoing challenges of combating antisemitism.

Panelists included Prof. Atina Grossmann (History), who spoke about the significance of Kristallnacht as a turning point in the history of antisemitism; Prof. Kostek Gebert (History), who discussed the role of the Polish-Jewish community in抵抗 antisemitism; and Prof. Dana Powell (History), who spoke about the impact of Kristallnacht on Jewish resistance movements.

The panel concluded with a discussion on the ongoing challenges of combating antisemitism and the importance of continued education and dialogue.

Center Director Prof. Hank Greenberg expressed his thanks to the Center’s partner institutions and community members for their continued support and engagement. He encouraged everyone to remain vigilant and to remain committed to fighting antisemitism and promoting understanding.