Forthcoming Spring 2022 Center Events

In early August before the start of the fall term, Dr. Rosemary Horowitz, one of the foremost experts on Yisker Bikher, spoke and publishing widely on the topic, Dr. Horowitz joined her co-director, a position she held until 2013. Over the years, Dr. Horowitz made immeasurable contributions to the Center's academic and cultural life and was named the interim Leon Levine Distinguished Professor of Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies in 2012—the first scholar to hold the newly-established position. She served on every Center board and committee until shortly before her passing.

A devoted teacher, Dr. Horowitz was held in the highest esteem by her students at Appalachian. In acknowledgment of her love and patronage of the arts, two former students recently named an innovative new art vending machine at Boone’s popular Espresso News coffee shop “Rosemary.” All the while, Dr. Horowitz’s numerous contributions and activities were never limited to the Appalachian campus. To name but a few, she worked with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., and was a long-time supporter of the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research in New York City. For several years, Dr. Horowitz also served on the NC Council on Holocaust in Raleigh, NC. She was one of the pillars of the Jewish Community in Boone, playing a key role on the board and in the Sisterhood of the local Temple of the High Country and working with the Havurah for many years.

All along, she remained a devoted researcher and scholar. In addition to her work at the Center, she published and edited numerous books and articles on the Holocaust and Yiddish and Jewish culture. She also served as the co-director of the Fourteenth Annual Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies lecture of the Fourteenth Annual Conference on Jewish Studies and Education at Appalachian’s Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies. In 2006, she became the Center’s co-director, a position she held until 2013. Over the years, Dr. Horowitz made immeasurable contributions to the Center and the remarkable return to life of the survivors.

April 28, The Center marks Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) with a public commemoration that includes a reading of the names of European Jews murdered by the Germans and their allies during the Holocaust.

March-April. The noted traveling exhibit “Shoah: How Was it Humanly Possible?” from Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, in Jerusalem will be on display on the first floor of Belk Library and Information Commons. The exhibition examines major historical aspects of the Holocaust, beginning with Jewish life in pre-Holocaust Europe and ending with the liberation of Nazi concentration and extermination camps across the continent and the remarkable return to life of the survivors.

Pandemic conditions permitting, the Center will offer a combination of virtual and in-person programs. ZOOM registration links will be made available via the Center’s website. The Spring 2022 Highlights include:

March 24-25, Fourteenth Annual Workshop of the Southeast German Studies (SEGS) Consortium with 50 scholars from across the Southeastern U.S. and Tel Aviv, Israel. The workshops panel this year focus on “The Haskalah and European Enlightenment Revisited”; “Teaching German and German-Jewish Studies in the Twenty-First Century” and “Democracy: Past, Present, Future.” Co-organized by the SEGS Steering and Org Committees with the Center for Judaic, Holocaust and Peace Studies.

March 24, 4:30 pm EST, Reich College of Education, Room 124. Lecture by Prof. Shmuliel Feiner (Bar Ilan University, Israel). Feiner, the incumbent of the Samuel Braun Chair for the History of the Jews in Prussia, will discuss the topic of “The Haskalah Project of Secularization: Challenging The Religious Turn.” The talk by the prominent Israeli scholar also serves as keynote lecture of the Fourteenth Workshop of the Southeast German Studies (SEGS) Consortium.

March-April. The noted traveling exhibit “Shoah: How Was it Humanly Possible?” from Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, in Jerusalem will be on display on the first floor of Belk Library and Information Commons. The exhibition examines major historical aspects of the Holocaust, beginning with Jewish life in pre-Holocaust Europe and ending with the liberation of Nazi concentration and extermination camps across the continent and the remarkable return to life of the survivors.

April 28, The Center marks Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) with a public commemoration that includes a reading of the names of European Jews murdered by the Germans and their allies during the Holocaust.

March-April. The noted traveling exhibit “Shoah: How Was it Humanly Possible?” from Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, in Jerusalem will be on display on the first floor of Belk Library and Information Commons. The exhibition examines major historical aspects of the Holocaust, beginning with Jewish life in pre-Holocaust Europe and ending with the liberation of Nazi concentration and extermination camps across the continent and the remarkable return to life of the survivors.

In early August before the start of the fall term, the Appalachian community and the Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies lost its former director Dr. Rosemary Horowitz z”l after a short, severe illness. A member of Appalachian State’s faculty for more than a quarter century, Dr. Horowitz was a highly-committed Holocaust educator and English professor—greatly admired by her students and colleagues alike—an accomplished scholar, patriot of the arts, and a fierce opponent of antisemitism and any form of hostility against Israel. Dr. Horowitz dedicated her first major work, her 1995 study of Yisker Bikher, “to the six million”—a dedication that powerfully captured one of the central commitments of her life and career.

Dr. Horowitz was born to Holocaust survivors and spent the first decades of her life mainly in the Northeastern United States. She earned a BA in English and Education from Brooklyn College in the 1970s and subsequently worked as a writer, editor, trainer and board member for several organizations. She returned to school and was bestowed a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in 1995. Her remarkable thesis, which she wrote under the direction of renowned Teaching and Learning Professor David Bloom, examined the “Literacy and Cultural Transmission in the Reading, Writing, and Rewriting of Yisker Bikher.”

In the course of her career, she became the Center’s co-director, a position she held until 2013. Over the years, Dr. Horowitz made immeasurable contributions to the faculty of the English Department at Appalachian State University in 1995. From the beginning, she engaged in and promoted Holocaust studies and education at her chosen academic home. Since its inception in 2002, Dr. Horowitz had played a leading role at Appalachian’s Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies. In 2006, and helped build the Center. Her critically important work reached from grant writing—securing, among others, the support of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany—to co-leading and expanding the acclaimed annual Martin and Doris Rosen-Summer Symposium on Remembering the Holocaust to introducing and committing
Dr. Rosemary Horowitz z’l: In Memoriam

Dissertation, Dr. Horowitz's deceased dear friend, colleague and mentor and her remarkable work. Thank you!

To make a donation in support of the Center's work, please contact the CAS Director of Development Carey Fissel at (828) 262-7622 or fisselcm@appstate.edu. This annual lecture is yet another way to secure the lasting impact of our deceased dear friend, colleague and mentor and her remarkable work. Thank you!

To do so, please send a check to the Appalachian State Foundation: Appalachian State Box 32014; Boone, NC 28608 (Please add Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, Rosemary Horowitz Lecture) or contact CAS Director of Development Careey Fissel at (828) 262-7622 or fisselcm@appstate.edu. This annual lecture is yet another way to secure the lasting impact of our deceased dear friend, colleague and mentor and her remarkable work. Thank you!

Research by the Center Affiliated Faculty and Students in Fall 2021

Dr. Amy Hudnall

- History / Global Studies/JHP
- Collaborated with Lilyan Wright, a cultural specialist at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and student in the JHP minor at Appalachian, to organize a group research excursion with two of her students, Maddie Carraccino and Mae Early Wilmer, to Cherokee, NC. Both of these students are currently working on their thesis. Maddie particularly resonates the genetics of the Cherokee. They met museum curators, archivists, and cultural specialists to learn more about storytelling, Cherokee history and the life of the Cherokee after genocide. The group also visited the area's sacred sites. They, finally, were taken on a special tour of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and spent a day in its archives, exploring 19th-century primary source materials on the Trail of Tears.

Prof. Thomas Pegelow

- History
- Published “Reinterpreting Jewish Petitioning Practices During the Shoah: Contestation, Transnational Space, Survival” in the HTML-based Journal of Holocaust Research 35 (2021) and “Remaking Eichmann: Memories of Mass Murder and the Transatlantic Student Movement of the 1970s” in Rebecca Wittmack, ed’s The Trial of Adolf Eichmann (Toronto, 2021). He was invited to and published “How I Became a Holocaust Studies Scholar: Reflections on Growing up and Being Educated in Cold War Cold-War West Germany” in the Newsletter of the NC Council on the Holocaust (September 2021). This fall, Pegelow Kaplain also presented papers at the regional Lessons and Legacies conference at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and at the Yad Vashem Beniamin International Conference in Jerusalem. Finally, he participated in the “Archives of Global Transit: Reconsidering Jewish Refugees from Nazi Europe” Workshop of the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC, and chaired the NC German Studies Roundtable on “Fascism and Anti-Fascism in Global Perspective” at UNC-Chapel Hill.

At the same time, the Center Programming Committee received the virtual programming during the fall semester that the Center had launched at the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020. This term’s guests, ranging from a return of Prof. Noah Shenker (Australia) to Prof. emerita Carolyn Ellis (Florida), worked on important papers from compassion research with Holocaust survivors to the struggles of Polish Jewish Refugees. As Prof. Rosemary Horowitz z’l was immersed and published in The Center therefore, dedicated the programs to our late previous Center director. The program with our guests also supported curricular activities in the minor in Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies as well as Communication. The students of Prof. Chris Patti, a Center affiliate, benefited immensely from our guest’s studies, ranging with the broad range of participants to our late previous Center director. The program with our guests also supported curricular activities in the minor in Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies as well as Communication. The students of Prof. Chris Patti, a Center affiliate, benefited immensely from our guest’s studies, ranging with the broad range of participants to our late previous Center director. The program with our guests also supported curricular activities in the minor in Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies as well as Communication. The students of Prof. Chris Patti, a Center affiliate, benefited immensely from our guest's studies, ranging...