

Freedom Struggle Program With Si Kahn and Charlie Cobb

White American-Jewish activists made key contributions to the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. As members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), progressive Jewish organizers in the Atlanta office, for example, helped launch the successful 1964 “Genocide in Mississippi”-campaign that decisively contributed to the failure of a proposed sterilization law targeting working-class African-American women. In the late 1960s, increasing African-American support for Palestinian struggles against Israel and the pronounced anti-Zionism voiced by critical freedom struggle leaders from Stokely Carmichael to Huey Newton ended many of these Jewish-African-American collaborations. Racism and anti-

Semitism in American society and on U.S. university campuses that these collaborations and activists addressed, however, have not vanished. If anything, they are on the rise today.

The Center’s program on SNCC and the freedom struggles then and now brings together 1960s activists and current ASU student leaders. Continuing with the program, which began with the visit of Dottie Zellner (SNCC) in early 2015, a coalition of campus groups and Centers will bring Charles E. Cobb, Jr., one of SNCC’s former field secretaries in Mississippi during Freedom Summer in 1964, and Si Kahn, the white Jewish progressive singer-songwriter and SNCC veteran from the struggles in Arkansas, to the ASU campus. Cobb will give an evening talk on his important study "This Nonviolent Stuff'll Get You Killed" in the Blue Ridge Ballroom at the Plemmons Student Union (PSU) at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 25. A panel discussion with Cobb, Kahn, current ASU Hillel President Jaycob Kitain, and BSA president Tessa Jackson will follow at PSU’s Greenbriar Theater at 10:30am on Tuesday, April 26. The panelists will discuss the past and present challenges and struggles. Si Kahn will also be featured at an event at the Jones’ House on the evening of April 26 to help raise funds for the Centers for Appalachian Studies and for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies.



Charles E. Cobb, Jr., one of SNCC's former field secretaries in 1960s Mississippi

Annual Rosen Summer Symposium on “Remembering the Holocaust” to Take Place at ASU in July

Preparations for the 15th Annual Martin and Doris Rosen Summer Symposium on “Remembering the Holocaust: An Educator’s Symposium” have been under way since the fall. The symposium faculty will include many accomplished and internationally-renowned Holocaust scholars and educators—some of whom, including Professor Michael Berenbaum, will be more than familiar to the ASU and western NC communities; some will be coming to campus for the first time. In an effort to globalize the symposium, the

Center is now cooperating with our colleagues at Yad Vashem, especially its International School for Holocaust Studies. Shani Lourie, the head of the Schools’ Pedagogy Section, will come to Boone this summer to work with the teachers in attendance. In addition, the Israeli-born Holocaust educator, film producer and minority rights activist, Dr. Racelle Weiman, the former director of Global Education and Professional Training of Temple University’s Dialogue Institute, will focus on the rescue of Jews by Indonesian Muslims.

Center-organized Research Trip to Washington DC

Over spring break a group of ten students traveled to the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies and the archives of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington D.C. in order to conduct archival research. Assisted by USHMM archivists, ASU professor Amy Hudnall, and the Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies (CJHPS) director Dr. Thomas Pegelow Kaplan, the students in History 3530 carried out primary source research ranging from issues of Jewish resistance against the Nazi state to the role of Muslim Albanians and their efforts to rescue European Jews during the Holocaust.

As part of the research visit, the Appalachian students gave short research presentations at the USHMM and received feedback from Dr. Patricia Heberer Rice, the acting head of the Division of the Senior Historian at the Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. Dr. Heberer Rice, one of the leading scholars on the Nazi Euthanasia murders, also gave a talk on her latest research.



HIS 3530 students presenting their projects at the USHMM

Beginning this year, each of the symposia will revolve around a specific theme. The 2016 theme is “Women and Gender in the Holocaust.” We are fortunate to have Rabbi Judith Schindler, the senior rabbi at Temple Beth El in Charlotte, who has been working extensively on women in Judaism, on the symposium faculty. Finally, Dr. Susan Cernyak-Spatz, a survivor of Auschwitz-Birkenau who came to campus last fall (and drew an audience so large that it could not be accommodated

Dr. Pegelow Kaplan organized the Holocaust class around the trip, which was made possible by a generous donation by Nancy and Chuck Rosenblatt and the Rosenblatt Foundation. With this donation Dr. Pegelow Kaplan was able to ensure that all the students enrolled in the course were able to attend cost free.

Margaret Phillips, a junior majoring in International and Comparative Politics with a minor in Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, summarized her participation by stressing that "it is rare to get such a wonderful opportunity to gain real world experience that is applicable regardless of your major and be able to do so free of charge. Though it was hard work, my spring break proved informative, moving, and accessible to students of all backgrounds. Throughout my time at the archives, it never ceased to amaze me how many resources - both primary and secondary were available to us."

In Spring 2017, the Center will offer a class that evolves around archival research at and a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial in Poland.

in one of ASU’s large lecture halls), will return to speak to the teachers. Lastly, we are working to increase the number of teachers from abroad. This year, we are excited to welcome larger contingents of teachers from Hungary, Latvia, and Greece.

The symposium will take place in Plemmons Student Union from July 23 until July 28. As in previous years, all events are free and almost all are open to the public. A detailed schedule is posted on the Center’s website.

Remembering the Holocaust – The Days of Remembrance at ASU and Charlotte’s Shalom Park

For this year’s Yom HaShoah commemorations, ASU’s Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies is working with a multitude of partners throughout North Carolina to organize a number of events to which the public, our members, and the ASU community are invited. The commemorations will begin with a play by a second-generation Holocaust survivor and an educational program on Germans of Jewish ancestry in the Holocaust on the ASU campus and at Shalom Park in Charlotte. The ASU events will take place at the Blue Ridge Ballroom (PSU 201 AB) from 7:30 until 9:00 pm on Saturday, April 30; the ones in Charlotte at the Sam Lerner Center at Shalom Park, home of most of the city’s Jewish communities, from 4:00 until 5:30 pm on Sunday, May 1. Both events are free and open to the public. No tickets are required.

These programs will evolve around the Mitzvah Project, a one-person play performed by Roger Grunwald, a New York City-based acclaimed actor and child of survivor who co-wrote the piece with Broadway veteran and director Annie McGreevey. The play tells the tragic story of Christoph Rosenberg, a German half-Jew who became a decorated officer in Hitler’s army. Grunwald has

performed the play to high acclaim in synagogues and on university campuses throughout the United States and will be heading to the U.K. this year. The 30-minute play is followed by a panel discussion with the artist, Dr. John Cox (UNCC), and Center director Dr. Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (ASU) on the persecution and struggles of Germans of Jewish ancestry in Nazi Germany.

On May 5, Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day), the Center, Temple of the High Country and ASU Hillel will organize a public reading of the names of European Jews murdered by the Germans during the Holocaust in front of Belk Library on the ASU campus. This reading is scheduled to start at 10:00 am and will last until 6:00 pm, when it concludes with a ceremony that encompasses the lighting of candles, saying of the mourner’s Kaddish and singing of the Hatikvah. All members of the ASU and Boone communities along with Center members and supporters at large are encouraged to sign up for one of the ten-minute reading slots ahead of time and participate. The sign-up sheet is available on the Center’s website. We hope that many ASU and community members will participate, linger and contemplate for as long as they like, and return to the 6:00 pm ceremony led by Temple President Skip Rackmill and ASU Hillel President Jaycob Kitain. Provost Darrell Kruger will represent the ASU administration at the event.

The Center is thankful to its many partners, ranging from ASU Hillel, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Theatre and Dance, the Office of International Education and Development, and the Temple of High Country to the Butterfly Project, the Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies at UNC Charlotte, Charlotte’s Hadassah chapter, Davidson College, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, the Levine JCC, the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, the NC Council on the Holocaust, Queens University, Temple Beth El, and Temple Israel.



Provost Darrell Kruger will represent the ASU administration at the Yom HaShoah commemoration



AFFILIATED FACULTY RESEARCH

Chris Patti (Communication/CJHPS) is working on a book manuscript based on fully articulating the lessons he learned from listening to Polish-born Holocaust survivor Sal Wainberg and his wife Sandy. He is also in the process of completing a co-authored article with retired psychologist and French-born Holocaust survivor Manuel Goldberg—on the paradox of compassion and rage in our conversations—and an article on the ethics of ethnographic affinity, using his interviews with Polish-born Holocaust survivor Sonia Wasserberger as a case study.

Last fall, Dr. Patti also gave a paper entitled “Practicing mindful listening: Interpersonal lessons for conducting Holocaust survivor oral histories” at the Annual Convention of the Oral History Association in Tampa, FL, and another paper on the topic of “Compassion at the kitchen sink: Negotiating tensions of dialogic ethnography in theory and praxis” at the National Communication Association Convention in Las Vegas.

Rosemary Horowitz (English/CJHPS) has finished an essay entitled “Holocaust Memorial Books” that is now under review for the Oxford University Press Bibliographies Series. She also presented a paper, "Teaching Jewish Children’s Literature" at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference in Minneapolis in November 2015. In March 2016, she attended the Future of Holocaust Testimonies IV Conference at Western Galilee College, in Akko, Israel, and presented the paper "Yizker Books From Text to Hypertext to Text Again." Finally, Dr. Horowitz started work on a volume entitled, "Asking Eternal Questions: Using Jewish Children’s Literature in the Elementary School Classroom." The edited book will

be a collaboration with Ohio State University professors David Bloome and Laurie Katz, and Evie Freeman as well as the University of Texas at San Antonio's Roxanne Henkin.

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (JHPS/History) has completed a chapter entitled “Information Policies and Linguistic Violence” for Wiley’s Companion to Nazi Germany edited by Shelley Baranowski, Armin Nolzen, and Claus-Christian W. Szejnmann. He was also awarded a fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation and will spend the German summer semester as a research fellow at the Center for Research on Anti-Semitism at the Technical University Berlin. Founded by German-Jewish émigré historian Herbert A. Strauss in 1982, this Center remains Germany’s only academic institution that is almost exclusively devoted to the study of anti-Semitism. Furthermore, Dr. Pegelow Kaplan co-organized a panel for the 47th Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies in Boston in December 2015, where he also presented a paper entitled “Reconsidering the Spatial Terms of Jewish Historiography: Trans-European and Global Jewish Petitioning During the Shoah.” In addition, he gave several public talks on a variety of topics at ASU, among others at the Philosophy Club and the History Department’s Research Colloquium. For his larger book projects, Dr. Pegelow Kaplan conducted archival research and interviews in Chicago, New York City, and Yad Vashem. He was also invited to give talks at the Center for Contemporary History in Potsdam, the Humboldt University in Berlin, and the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture at Leipzig University, Germany in June and July 2016.