







FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

<p>David Bernstein</p> 	<p>Dr. David Bernstein holds a BA and MA in History and a PhD in Religious Education from New York University. He also attended Yeshivat HaMivtar. David has been the Dean of Pardes since 1998. Previously, he was the Director of Midreshet Lindenbaum, popularly known as Brovender's, for 12 years. He was a Jerusalem Fellow at the Mandel School for Jewish Education in Jerusalem from 1996-1998. Before making aliyah in 1984, David was the Director of Informal Education at the Ramaz Upper School in New York City, where he created and taught a 2-year curriculum integrating world and Jewish history.</p>
<p>Mike Feuer</p> 	<p>Rabbi Mike Feuer is the Educational Director of Sulam Yaakov Bet Midrash and co-author of the work of biblical fiction – <i>The Lamp of Darkness</i>. He received a BA in Environmental Geology from the Colorado College and an MA in Sustainable International Development from Brandeis University. Since making aliyah in 2002, Rav Mike has learned Torah in a number of Jerusalem area institutions, including Yeshivat HaMivtar, the Mir Yeshiva and Sulam Yaakov. He taught in numerous post-high school programs before finding his home at Sulam Yaakov.</p>
<p>Meesh Hammer-Kossoy</p> 	<p>Dr. Rabbi Meesh Hammer Kossoy teaches Talmud and the Social Justice Track at Pardes. Originally from Washington, D.C., Meesh has a B.A. in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University, and a M.A. and Ph.D. from New York University. Her dissertation explored the courageous manner in which the rabbis of the Talmud created a new criminal punishment system. In 2015, Meesh completed her studies at Beit Midrash Har'el and received ordination from Rabbi Herzl Hefter and Rabbi Daniel Sperber.</p>

<p>Michael Hattin</p> 	<p>Rabbi Michael Hattin is a master Teacher of Tanakh at Pardes and the Director of the Beit Midrash for the Pardes Center for Jewish Educators. He studied for semicha at Yeshivat Har Etzion and holds a professional degree in architecture from the University of Toronto. He has served as Scholar-in-Residence in many communities in North America and Europe. Michael has published <i>PASSAGES: Text and Transformation in the Parasha</i> and, most recently, <i>Joshua: The Challenge of the Promised Land</i>. He lives in Alon Shevut with his wife Rivka and their five children.</p>
<p>Zvi Hirschfield</p> 	<p>Rabbi Zvi Hirschfield holds a BA in History from Columbia University and did graduate work at Harvard University in Medieval and Modern Jewish Thought. He studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion in Israel and has rabbinic ordination from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel. He was the Director of Judaica at the JCC of Cleveland and an instructor at the Cleveland College of Jewish Studies for many years. He also has served as a curriculum writer and has been involved in staff training for the Nesiya Institute. Zvi is a Senior Faculty Member at Pardes, teaching Talmud and Modern Jewish Thought.</p>
<p>Alex Israel</p> 	<p>Rabbi Alex Israel has a BSc from the London School of Economics, a PGCE from London's Institute of Education and is working on a MA in Talmud at Bar-Ilan University. He studied and taught at Yeshivat Har Etzion Advanced Talmudic College and received rabbinic ordination from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel. Alex has taught at Midreshet Harova, Midreshet Lindenbaum and Yeshivat Eretz Hatzvi. He is active in the Tzohar Movement, podcasts at http://kmtt.libsyn.com/ and sends weekly Parsha emails to hundreds of readers globally. Alex is the Director of Community Education and the Summer Program at Pardes, in addition to teaching a number of classes in Tanakh.</p>

Rachel Korazim



Rachel is an adjunct faculty member at Pardes. She is a freelance Jewish education consultant specializing in curriculum development for Israel and Holocaust education. Until 2008 she had been the Academic Director of Distance Learning programs at the JAFO Department of Education. Born in Israel, she had served in the IDF as an officer in the central training base for women and was later, a member of the IDF delegation to Niger (West Africa). She is a graduate of Haifa University with a PhD in Jewish education. As one of the founders and directors of a special program for soldiers from a disadvantaged background, she was responsible for creating the educational framework and training teachers for the implementation of the program. Since her first Shlichut to Canada where she was the head of a JAFI delegation from (1985-1988) she has been involved with Jewish education worldwide; creating and implementing in-service training programs for educators, writing educational materials, counseling and teaching.

Elliott Malamet



Dr. Elliott Malamet is the co-founder of Torah in Motion, an organization that explores the interface between religion and modernity and creates conferences and symposia that bring together the best speakers in the Jewish world to dialogue on cutting edge topics. Prior to making aliyah in 2013, Dr. Malamet lectured in Jewish Philosophy in Canadian universities for 20 years, and was at the same time, the Department Head of Jewish Thought at The Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, where he taught thousands of students over 20 years. He received his doctorate in English Literature from the University of Toronto, where he taught from 1987-1993. Dr. Malamet now lives in Jerusalem with his family. Along with teaching at Pardes, he lectures in literature at the Rothberg International School of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem as well as in Jewish Philosophy at Yeshivat Machanaim.

Leon Morris



Leon is the President of Pardes, coming from the Shalom Hartman Institute where he was Vice President for North American programs in Israel and is on the faculty of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion. Leon made aliyah with his family in 2014, after serving as the rabbi of Temple Adas Israel in Sag Harbor, NY. He was the founding director of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El (now the Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center) in Manhattan. Ordained from Hebrew Union College in 1997 where he was a Wexner Graduate Fellow, he has worked extensively with the Jewish community of India, beginning in 1990 when he served as a Jewish Service Corps volunteer for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He was also a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow. Leon has taught at Orthodox, Conservative and Reform institutions and is a regular contributor to the Jewish, US and Israeli press. He is an editor of the new Reform High Holy Day machzor, *Mishkan HaNefesh*, and his essay 'Longing to Hear Again' was published in Jewish Theology in Our Time.

Meir Schweiger



Rabbi Meir Schweiger received his BA in Mathematics from City College of New York and his MEd in Teaching Bible from the Herzog College in Gush Etzion. His advanced Jewish Studies were done in Yeshiva University, Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, and Yeshivat Har Etzion. His rabbinic ordination is from Rav Zalman Nechemiah Goldberg, a judge on the Jerusalem Rabbinical Court. Meir is one of the most influential teachers at Pardes, teaching full-time for the past 41 years. He has taught Chumash, Mishnah, Talmud, Halakhah, Siddur and Ethics. In addition to teaching, Meir has been responsible for the "affective" side of Pardes, coordinating and supervising *tefillot* (prayer), *tiyulim* (hikes), *Shabbatonim*, and pre-holiday *yemei iyun* (full-day study programs). For 10 years, Meir was Director of the Fellows' Program, for returning second year students, and he has been the Educational Director of the Executive Learning Seminar, for the past 14 years.

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Jackie Frankel Yaakov



Jackie is the Director of Development of Pardes, Israel. Originally from the Chicago suburbs, Jackie made aliyah in 2009, and studied in Pardes's Year Program in 2011-12. Since then she has been passionately committed to Pardes and its mission. Jackie holds a BFA with honors in Theater from New York University and an Executive MPA from Columbia University. Before making aliyah, Jackie worked for a variety of non-profits in NYC, including the Public Theater – New York Shakespeare Festival and the Office of the President at Columbia University. In Israel, she has worked with non-profits from Haifa to Jerusalem, most recently serving as the USA Donor Affairs Liaison in the International Relations Division at Yad Vashem. Jackie and her husband Sagiv live in Jerusalem with their two children.

Shira Sacks



Shira is the Assistant Director of Development of Pardes, Israel, and an alumna of the Pardes Year Program, Spirituality Retreat, and Executive Learning Seminar. Previously, Shira worked at Hazon as Associate Director of Outreach and at General Mills in corporate sales. She received her BA with honors from Washington University in St. Louis and a Certificate in Jewish Philanthropy at Yeshiva University. Shira made aliyah in November 2018 from the Upper West Side Moishe House, where she lead a monthly beit midrash and worked for Pardes, North America.

GUEST LECTURER BIOGRAPHIES

Micah Goodman



Dr. Micah Goodman has a doctorate in Jewish Thought from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the director of Beit Midrash Yisraeli – Ein Prat, the leading pluralistic Beit Midrash for Israeli young adults. With several thousand alumni and some 300 new students each year, Ein Prat strengthens the pluralistic Jewish character of Israel, by nurturing connections between Israelis of different backgrounds and building a bridge between Israeli young adults and their Diaspora peers. Micah is the author of three Israeli bestsellers on canonical Jewish texts and most recently a new bestseller on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, *Catch 67*. He lectures regularly overseas and at Israel's leading universities, think tanks, and cultural venues to audiences that include Israel's political and national leaders. Micah is a leading voice on Judaism, Zionism, the Bible, and the challenges and opportunities facing Israel and contemporary world Jewry.

Yossi Klein Halevi



Yossi Klein Halevi has a BA in Jewish studies from Brooklyn College and an MS in journalism from Northwestern University. He is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Together with Imam Abdullah Antepli of Duke University, he co-directs the Institute's Muslim Leadership Initiative. Yossi has been active in Middle East reconciliation work for many years, and serves as chairman of Open House, an Arab Israeli-Jewish Israeli center in the town of Ramle. In May 2018, he published *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, a heartfelt plea for peace and new dialogue based on common ground in faith. The book is a *New York Times* non-fiction bestseller and tops several Amazon bestselling lists. He is also the author of *Like Dreamers: The Story of the Israeli Paratroopers Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation*, published in 2013. Other books by Yossi include *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for God with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land*, published in 2001, and his first book, *Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist*, which tells the story of his teenage attraction to, and subsequent disillusionment with, Jewish militancy. Yossi was a senior fellow at the Shalem Center in Jerusalem from 2003-2009, and he writes for the op-ed pages of leading American newspapers.

Marlene Mazel



Marlene Mazel is Director of the Counter-Terrorism Litigation Division in the Israeli Ministry of Justice. She directs the legal representation of Israel on litigation in foreign national courts, specifically in regard to counterterrorism, national security, and international humanitarian law. A graduate of NYU School of Law, she was formerly an assistant corporation counsel in the General Litigation Department of New York City.