“How Jewish is the Jewish State? Religion and Society in Israel”  
Tuesday, October 28, 2014  
American University, Washington, DC  
Travel Subsidies for Faculty Available (application attached)

Scholars are invited to attend “How Jewish is the Jewish State? Religion and Society in Israel,” a day-long academic conference on October 28, 2014 at American University in Washington, DC. The conference is sponsored by American University’s Center for Israel Studies and Jewish Studies Program. A limited number of travel subsidies are available for junior faculty and advanced graduate students. Applications for travel subsidies are due September 15, 2014. Notification will be made by October 1, 2014.

Conference Chairs:
Michael Brenner, Seymour and Lillian Abensohn Chair in Israel Studies, American University and Chair of Jewish History and Culture, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich
Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women’s and Gender Studies, American University

Conference Proposal:
This conference examines the separation of state and religion in Israel, looks into the treatment and the internal structure of non-Jews in the Jewish state, and asks about Jewish religious pluralism and Orthodox dominance. Leading experts from Israel, Europe, and the United States will speak on these questions, drawing upon their own scholarship, teaching, and variant experiences at several different institutions.

Location: The conference will take place at American University in the School of International Service Abramson Family Founder’s Room. The address of the university is 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. We have a block of hotel rooms reserved at the Palomar Hotel Washington for $219 per night + tax. To reserve a room, please call 202-448-1872 and ask for the “Center for Israel Studies Room Block” group. Questions: Laura Cutler 202-885-3780.

How Jewish is the Jewish State? Religion and Society in Israel  
American University, October 28, 2014

Preliminary Program:

8:00-9:00 AM  
Registration, Networking, and Coffee/Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:30 AM  
Separation between State and Religion

Yedidia Stern (Bar Ilan University/Israel Democracy Institute): New Frontiers in the Struggle Between Religion and State
Eli Salzberger (Haifa University): Religion and State: Law in the Books versus Law in Action
Kimmy Caplan (Bar Ilan University): Orthodox Monopolies: A Trojan Horse?

Chair: Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women’s and Gender Studies, American University (AU)

10:30 AM  
Coffee Break
11:00-1:00 PM  
*Non-Jews in the Jewish State*

**Ahmad Natour** (Hebrew University, Jerusalem): Islam and Muslims in the State of the Jews  
**Amal el-Sana Al'hjooj** (McGill University, Montreal): Between Sharia Law, Israeli Law and Traditions: The Case of Bedouin Women in Israel  
**Ya’akov Ariel** (University of North Carolina): Evangelical Christians in Israel  
**Nurit Novis Deutsch** (Hebrew University, Jerusalem): Attitudes among Religious Jews in Israel Towards Non-Jews

Moderator: Calvin Goldscheider, Scholar in Residence (AU)

1:00-2:30 PM  
*Lunch*

2:30-4:30 PM  
*Jewish Pluralism*

**Michael A. Meyer** (Hebrew Union College Cincinnati): Progressive Judaism, Israeli Style  
**Fania Oz-Salzberger** (Haifa University): Secular Israel: Where from and where to?  
**Sara Hirschhorn** (Oxford University): Religion among American Settlers  
**Gershon Greenberg** (AU): Haredi Attitudes Towards Israeli Statehood

Chair: Michael Brenner, Seymour and Lillian Abensohn Chair in Israel Studies, American University and Chair of Jewish History and Culture, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich

4:30-5:30 PM  
*Reception*

7:30 PM  
*Keynote: “Israel at the Crossroads of Democracy, Nationalism and Religion”*  
**Moshe Halbertal** (Hebrew University, Jerusalem)

This conference is generously supported by the Knapp Family Foundation.

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"How Jewish is the Jewish State? Religion and Society in Israel”  
Travel Subsidy Application

Thanks to the generosity of the Knapp Family Foundation, American University has funds to subsidize the participation of faculty and advanced graduate students in the conference “How Jewish is the Jewish State? Religion and Society in Israel.” The maximum award will be $500 per person. Applicants for the travel subsidy should submit via email the following:

1) A brief letter addressing how this conference contributes to their professional agenda.

2) An itemized budget for travel (including air and ground transportation, and hotel).

3) Other sources (potential and received) of funding for attending this conference.

4) Amount of subsidy requested.

Please submit all applications for travel subsidy by email to israelstudies@american.edu. Questions may be directed to Laura Cutler, Center for Israel Studies, 202-885-3780.