

# LESSONS AND LEGACIES V

## LAW, EVIDENCE AND CONTEXT

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HOLOCAUST

NOVEMBER 6, 7, 8, 9, 1998

HOSTED BY FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

AT THE BARRY AND FLORENCE FRIEDBERG

LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

SAUL FRIEDLÄNDER

GITTA SERENY



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# Program

## Lessons and Legacies V

### Boca Raton

### November 6-9, 1998

Saturday, November 7,  
8:00-10:00 a.m.

#### Panel A:

##### Jewish Life Before the Holocaust

**Moderator:**

**Susannah Heschel**, Dartmouth College

**David Engel**, New York University:

"Polish-Jewish Relations Before the Rise of Hitler:  
Evidence from the Morgenthau Commission, 1919."

**Sam Kassow**, Trinity College:

"Warsaw and Vilna:

Two Jewish Communities in the Interwar Period."

**Commentator: Robert Gellately**, Clark University

#### Panel B:

##### The SS as Holocaust Perpetrators

**Moderators:**

**Ron Smelser**, University of Utah,

**Jonathan Petropoulos**, Loyola College in  
Maryland

**Peter Black**, United States Holocaust Memorial  
Museum:

"Officials of the Reich Central Office for Security."

**Henry Friedlander**, City University of New York at  
Brooklyn:

"Camp Administrators and Guards."

**Michael Allen**, Georgia Technological Institute:

"Technocrats of Extermination: Perpetrators and  
Ideology in the Engineering of Genocide"

**Commentator:**

**George Browder**, State University of New York at  
Fredonia

**Workshops**  
10:15-11:45 a.m.

**Lunch**

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Saturday, November 7, 12:45-2:45 p.m.

#### Panel C:

##### Jewish Life During the Holocaust

**Moderator:**

**Michael Marrus**, University of Toronto

**Dalia Ofer**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem:

"Between Solidarity and Dismemberment:  
the Jewish Family in East European Ghettos."

**Renee Poznanski**, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

"Jews and Non-Jews in France During World War II:  
A Daily Life Interpretation."

**Dani Blatman**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem,

"Toward Liberation: Jews in the Last Years of the  
Second World War."

**Commentator:**

**Alan Steinweis**, University of Nebraska Lincoln

#### Panel D:

##### Testimony As History: Establishing Authority in Holocaust Studies

**Moderator and Commentator:**

**Jeffrey Peck**, Georgetown University

**Robert Melson**, Purdue University:

"False Papers: History, Memory, and Imaginative  
Recreation in the Writing of a Memoir."

**Irene Kacandes**, Dartmouth College:

"Literature As Evidence? A Role for Narrative  
Witnessing to the Holocaust."

**Therke Straede**, University of Odenie, *Fallensleben*

"Inside the 'Aussenlager': Interpreting Survivors'  
Testimony of Jewish Slave Labor in German Industry."

Saturday, November 7, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

#### Panel E:

##### Memory of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe

**Moderator:**

**Geoffrey Giles**, University of Florida

**Vojtech Blodig**, Terezin Ghetto Museum

"Theresienstadt and the Memory of the Holocaust  
in Czechoslovakia since 1945"

**Michael Steinlauf**, Gratz College:

"Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust."

**Andrew Ezergailis**, Ithaca College:

"Latvia and the Memory of the Holocaust."

**Commentator: Francis Nicosia**, St. Michael's College

## Panel F:

### Final Solutions in the Twentieth Century: Ethnic Conflict, Forced Relocation, and Murder— Reflections and Case Studies.

#### Moderator and Commentator:

**Doris Bergen**, Notre Dame University

**Omer Bartov**, Rutgers University:

"Utopia and Violence: Visions of Perfection and Practices of Purification."

**Ben Kiernan**, Yale University:

"The Case of Cambodia."

**Isabell Hull**, Cornell University

"Military Culture and the Production of 'Final Solutions' in the Colonies: The Example of Wilhelmian Germany."

**Saturday, November 7**

**Reception**  
6:30-7:15 p.m.

**Dinner**  
7:30-8:45 p.m.

**Welcome:**  
**Theodore Z. Weiss**

**Introducing Guest Speaker:**  
**Provost. Richard L. Osborn**

**Address:**  
**Saul Friedländer**

**Sunday, November 8**  
**Workshops**  
8:00-9:30 a.m.

**Roundtable**  
**"Holocaust and the Law"**  
9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

#### Moderator:

**Jeffrey Diefendorf**, University of New Hampshire

**Michael Marrus**, University of Toronto

**Hanna Yablonka**, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

**Robert Paxton**, Columbia University

**Peter Romijn**, State Institute of War Documentation,  
The Netherlands

**Geoffrey Giles**, University of Florida

**12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch**  
**1:15-3:15 p.m.**

## Panel G:

### Economic Aspects of the Holocaust

#### Moderator:

**Kees Gispert**, University of Mississippi

**Hans Safrian**, United States Holocaust Memorial

Museum: "Competition over Plunder: The Impact of the 'Vienna Model' on the Acceleration of Aryanization in Nazi Germany, 1938/39"

**Peter Hayes**, Northwestern University:

"Degussa and the Persecution of the Jews"

**Sybil Milton**, "The Case of Switzerland"

Comments from the floor

## Panel H:

### Imagining the Perpetrators: Sex and Sadism in Postwar Narratives.

#### Moderator:

**Dagmar Herzog**, Michigan State University

**Frank Stern**, Ben Gurion University of the Negev,

"Beyond Survival: Taboos in our Minds and on the Screen."

**Insa Eschebach**, Free University of Berlin,

"Interpreting Female Perpetrators: Ravensbrück Guards in the Courts of East Germany."

**Alvin Rosenfeld**, Indiana University:

"Who Killed the Jews? Reflections on a Riddle."

**Commentator:** **Omer Bartov**, Rutgers University

**Workshops**  
3:30-5:00 p.m.

**Dinner**  
7:30-8:30 p.m.

**Introducing Guest Speaker:**  
**Christopher Browning**

**Address:**  
**Gitta Sereny**  
**"Questioning the Perpetrators"**

**Monday, November 9, 8:15-10:15 a.m.**

## Panel I:

### War and the Holocaust: Soldiers, Exiles, and Historians

#### Moderator and Commentator:

**Gerhard Weinberg**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Hannes Heer**, Institut für Sozialforschung:  
"How Amoralism Became Normality: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust."

**David Bankier**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem:  
"German Anti-Nazi Exiles: Reaction to the Holocaust."

**Donald G. Schilling**, Denison University:  
"Re-Presenting the Holocaust in the General Histories of World War II."



Theodore Z. Weiss  
President  
Holocaust Educational Foundation

Christopher Browning  
Chair  
Planning Committee

Alan Berger  
F.A.U. Coordinator

Don Schilling  
Larry Thompson  
Workshop Coordinators

## Panel J:

### The Holocaust and Literature

#### Moderator:

**Alan Berger**, Florida Atlantic University

**Alan L. Berger**, "The Second Generation:  
Jewish Identity and 'Working Through' the Shoah:  
Helen Epstein's *From Children of the Holocaust to Where She Came From*."

**Rachel F. Brenner**, University of Wisconsin at Madison:

"The Second Generation and the Problematics of Tikkun: A Reading of Alan Berger's *Children of Job*."

**Sarah R. Horowitz**, University of Delaware:

"Filming Generations: Children of Survivors Document Their Parents."

**Ranan Omer-Sheman**, Notre Dame:

"David Grossman's Mediation of Disparate Jewish Worlds in: *See Under Love*."  
Comments from the floor

**Monday, November 9**  
**10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

## Panel K:

### Post-Holocaust Issues

#### Moderator and Commentator:

**Steven T. Katz**, Boston University

**Lynn Rapaport**, Pomona College:

"Holocaust Memory and Relations Between Jews and Germans in Present-Day Germany."

**Joseph Bendersky**, Virginia Commonwealth University:

"Neither America nor Palestine: New Evidence on the U.S. Army and Jewish DPs."

**Daniel Weiss**, Johns Hopkins University,

"A Historical Injustice: The Case of Masha Bruskina."

Art Credit: Professor Lori Knipp

## Participants

Debbie Abowitz	Irene Kacandes
Michael Allen	Sam Kassow
Jay Baird	Milton S. Katz
David Bankier	Steven Katz
Omer Bartov	Ben Kiernan
Michael G. Baylor	Paul A. Levine
Joseph Bendersky	Michael Marrus
Doris Bergen	David A. Meier
Alan Berger	Robert Melson
Peter Black	Sybil Milton
Daniel Blatman	Francis Nicosia
Rachael Brenner	Dalia Ofer
Vojtech Blodig	Ranan Omer-Sheman
George Browder	Zsuzsanna Ozsvath
Scott Denham	Robert Paxton
Jeffrey Diefendorf	Jeffrey Peck
Kathleen Dugan	Jonathan Petropoulos
Sam Edelman	Renee Poznanski
David Engel	Lynn Rapaport
Insa Eschebach	Rondall R. Rice
Andrew Ezergailis	Peter Romijn
Stephen Feinstein	Alvin Rosenfeld
Saul Friedländer	Hans Safrian
Henry Friedländer	Don Schilling
Robert Gellately	Gitta Sereny
Geoffrey J. Giles	Ron Smelser
Kees Gispens	Leo Spitzer
Harvey Gotliboff	Michael Steinlauf
Peter Hayes	Alan Steinweis
Steven Haynes	Frank Stern
Hannes Heer	Therkel Straede
Elizabeth Heineman	Larry Thompson
Dagmar Herzog	Gerhard Weinberg
Susannah Heschel	James Waller
Marianne Hirsch	Daniel Weiss
Sarah Horowitz	Larry Wilcox
Isabell Hull	Hanna Yablonka