You are cordially invited to the international conference and workshop

The Future of Holocaust Testimonies V

Wednesday, 13 March 2019,
Western Galilee College, Akko
Shamash Auditorium, Sir Harry Solomon School of Management
Wednesday, 13 March 2019
Open to the General Public with Simultaneous Translation

09:00–09:30  Registration

09:30–10:00  Greetings
Prof. Nisim Ben David, President, Western Galilee College
Prof. Wolf Gruner, USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research
Prof. Thomas Pegelow Kaplan, Center for Judaic, Holocaust and Peace Studies, Appalachian State University
Dr. Boaz Cohen, Head, Holocaust Studies Program, Western Galilee College

10:00–11:00  Keynote Lecture The Holocaust, 75 Years After It Ended
Prof. Gerhard L. Weinberg
Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
Chair: Prof. Dan Michman, Head of the International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, Israel

11:00–12:30  Women and Men in Testimonies
Chair: Prof. Judy Baumel –Schwartz, Bar Ilan University, Israel
Belated Legitimacy for Revealing the Truth: #MeToo and Late Life Holocaust Testimonies
Prof. Yaacov Ariel, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
Interviews and Testimonies of Women in the Partisans near Bialystok: Methodological and Substantive Challenges
(Prof. Emeritus) Lenore J. Weitzman, George Mason University, USA
What Difference Does Gender Make? Reassessing the Analysis and Debates over Gender Difference in Holocaust Studies and Testimonies
Prof. Thomas Pegelow Kaplan, Appalachian State University, USA

12:30–12:45  Break

12:45–13:15  Guardian of Holocaust Memory Award: Mr. Moshe Porat

13:15–14:00  lunch break

14:00 –15:00  Dimensions in Testimony: A Discussion
Ms. Kia Hays, USC Shoah Foundation

15:00–16:30  Use and Misuse of Testimony
Chair: Dr. Verena Buser, University of Applied Sciences Potsdam, Germany
"Do not Make it Worse than it was!": Danger of Adapting the Narratives of Holocaust Survivors’ testimonies
Dr. Denisa Něstáková, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia
"How can the Document be authentic and I’m not Authentic?: Treblinka Survivors’ Testimonies and the Demjanjuk Trial
Dr. Tamir Hod, Bar Ilan University, Israel
Interviewing survivor children: from Holocaust to Genocide
Dr. Boaz Cohen, Western Galilee College
Keynote Speaker: Prof. Gerhard Weinberg, Emeritus,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

Prof. Gerhard Weinberg is a prominent historian noted for his works on military and diplomatic history of the second World War. Born in 1928, he escaped Germany in 1938 and went on to the USA. His work is path breaking in incorporating the story of the Holocaust in the History of the Second World War.

Mr Moshe Porat
Guardian of Holocaust Memory Award

Mr. Moshe Porat (né Frish) was born in 1931 in Hajdúnánás in southeastern Hungary to a Hasidic family of seven. When Hungary’s Jews were deported to Auschwitz he was taken to forced labor in Vienna and from there in the death march to Mauthausen from where he was liberated at the age of 14. He lost 50 members of his family in the camps, of them 36 in Auschwitz- Birkenau. He reached Eretz Israel at the age of 17 and was one of the group that established Kibbutz Shluhot. After decades of silence Porat chose to tell his story to the next generations. He accompanied scores of high-school trips to Poland and established strong connections with the teenagers. These show strongly in his book An unbreakable bond – letters to grandfather Moshe that contains many touching letters of teenagers sent to Porat after the joint experience in the tour of the death sites. Porat is a fitting representative of the generation of witnesses that are ensuring that the memory of the Holocaust will carry on to the next generations. Their work is a major pillar of Israeli Holocaust memory.

The New Dimensions project, USC Shoah Foundation

Dimensions in Testimony is an initiative of the USC Shoah Foundation to record and display testimony in a way that enables learners to have conversations with pre-recorded video images of Holocaust survivors. This will ensure the continuation of a dialogue between Holocaust survivors and learners far into the future. Kia Hays of the USC Shoah Foundation will lead a discussion on the methodologies and processes used in developing the interactive experience.
Monday, 11 March 2019
Workshop for Researchers – By Invitation Only

09:00 – 09:20 Opening remarks – Dr. Boaz Cohen

09:20 – 10:50 Material culture, Photographs and Testimony
Chair: Dr. Miriam Offer, Western Galilee College, Akko

"Jewish Cartloads on the Move": Unpacking Artifacts Found in Holocaust Testimony
Prof. Karen Shawn, Azrieli Graduate School of Yeshiva University, USA
Survivor Testimonies as Counter-Narratives. Contextualizing SS Photographs from Concentration Camps
Mr. Lukas Meissel, University of Haifa, Israel
Testifying Through Pictures or Words? A Reflection on the Use of Photographs in Post-War Written Testimonies
Ms. Ariane Santerre, Université de Montréal / University of Western Ontario, Canada

10:50 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 13:00 Viewpoints
Chair: Prof. Dina Porat, Chief Historian, Yad Vashem and Tel Aviv University

The "Lucifer Effect": A Promising Approach to understanding Functionaries’ Holocaust Testimonies?
Dr. Verena Buser, University of Applied Sciences Potsdam, Germany
"It Was in The Time of Harvest...". Polish Testimonies of "Aktion Reinhardt" in Nowy Targ County
Dr. Karolina Panz, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland
Testimony over Time: Memory of Verdi's Requiem in Theresienstadt.
Ms. Catherine Greer, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA
In Whom we trust? Testimonies That tell Contradictory Things about the Same Event. Case of the Janusz Korczak's Last March
Ms. Agnieszka Witkowska Krych, University of Warsaw, Poland

13:00 – 14:00 Break

14:00 – 15:20 Memory and Historiography
Chair: Dr. Yaron Pasher, Western Galilee College, Akko

"One Survivor's Testimonial Journey Through Time: Gabriel Finder Interviews Shimon Redlich"
Prof. Gabriel Finder, University of Virginia & Prof. Emeritus Shimon Redlich Ben-Gurion University
Personal Letters and Archives and The Historiography of The Holocaust
Dr Hannah Hollotshneider, University of Edinburgh. Editor of Holocaust Studies, Scotland
Prof. Shirli Gilbert, Parkes Institute, University of Southampton, UK

15:20–15:35 Break

15:50 Evening program at Ghetto Fighters House
Tour
Dinner
Testimonies and Education
Chair: Mr. Yigal Cohen, Director, Ghetto Fighters House

From Empathy to Critical Reflection: The Use of Testimonies in the Training of Educators
Dr. Lilach Naissant Bornstein, Kibbutzim College of Education, Israel
The Future of Holocaust Child Survivor Testimonies in the 21th Century: The Importance of an Evaluation Tool for Best Practices
Dr. Michal Sadan and Ms. Madene Shachar, Yad Layeled (children memorial) Ghetto Fighters House, Israel
Testimonies and Digital Storytelling: “Satellite Camps” - an App about Satellite Camps of Sachsenhausen Concentration Camps in Berlin”
Mr. Thomas Irmer, Historian, independent scholar, Berlin
"The Children's Voice"- The Use of Children's Early Testimonies
Ms. Pnina Rotem, Bar Ilan University, Israel
Tuesday, 12 March 2019
Workshop for Researchers – By Invitation Only

09:00 - 10:30  Testimonies in place and time: Transnistria
Chair: Dr. Haim Sperber, Western Galilee College, Akko
Dynamic of Remembrance across Time and Media: On Ruth Glasberg Gold's Multiple Accounts of Her Holocaust Experiences in Transnistria
Prof. Dana Mihaiulescu, University of Bucharest, Romania
Transnistria as a Total Institution - Using Testimonies for A New Methodological Approach
Dr. Ana Barbulescu, University of Bucharest, Romania
The Fascinating and Happy Year in Our Lives” A case study of Refugee Children from Romania, in the “Ilania” - Children’s Village Near the Town of Apeldoorn in the Netherlands
Dr. Sarah Rosen, Bar Ilan University, Israel

10:30 – 10:45  Break
10:45 – 12:15  Testimony and the Personal.
Chair: Prof. Wolf Gruner, University of South California, USA
Salvation through Servitude: The Life Narrations of Jewish Refugee Domestics 1938-1950
Dr Jennifer Craig-Norton, Parkes Institute, University of Southampton. UK
Israeli Cracow Ghetto Interviews in a Post-Zionist Moment: The Challenge of Cross-Cultural Testimonial Mediations
Prof. Sheila E. Jelen, University of Kentucky, USA
History, Memory and Testimony- Case study: Life Stories of Holocaust-Survivor Aircrew Members in the Israeli Air Force
Dr. Lea Ganor, Bar Ilan University, Mashmaut Center, Israel

12:15 – 13:00  Break
13:00-14:20  The Challenge of Remembering
Chair: Prof. Gabriel Finder, University of Virginia, USA
Audio Testimonies, Written Testimonies, Literature and their Usage in Post-Literature
Ms. Hana Nichtburgerova, University of Prague, Czech Republic
‘Indirect Testimony’ in Claude Lanzmann’s Outtakes
Prof. Sue Vice, University of Sheffield, UK
Researching Historical Fiction using Digital Storytelling
Prof. Rosemary Horowitz, Appalachian State University, USA

14:20– 15:40  Children's Testimonies
Chair: Dr. Boaz Cohen, Western Galilee College, Akko
Testimonies of Jewish child Forced Labourers. Methodological Challenges, Limitations and Boundaries
Prof. Johannes-Dieter Steiner, University of Wolverhampton, UK
"We were Five Children Without Parents" The Testimony of Ilse Kahane Frieda Wollheim, Engele Billauer, Elizabeth Steinlauf and Traude Saul
Prof. Benjamin Lapp, Montclair State University, USA
Remembering and Re-remembering the Family: Interviews with Child Survivors of the Holocaust
Dr. Sharon Kangisser, Yad Vashem, Israel

15:40 — 15:50  Break
15:50 – 17:30  Memory Wars
Chair: Prof. Thomas Pegelow Kaplan, Appalachian State University, USA
Accessing Changing, Protected and Silenced Narratives of Holocaust Survivors in Chile and Mexico
Dr. Yael Siman, Universidad Anáhuac, Mexico
History of the Holocaust as a Political Tool – Contemporary Disputes Surrounding its History in Poland and the Role of the Survivor's Testimonies to Preserve the Memory of the Holocaust
Dr.Agnieszka Zając-zkowska-Drożdż, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland
Jewish Escape Routes from the Occupied Poland in 1943. Polish and Jewish testimonies
Ms.Dagmara Swatek-Niewierska, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

19:30  Evening program at Western Galilee College
Formal Reception for participants and guests