The Center for Israel Studies at the Ben-Gurion Research Institute, BGU (CIS@BGRI) and the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies (Concordia University)

Joint Research Workshop

Convergence or Divergence?—Israel Studies "Here" and "There"
December, 10–12, 2017

Sunday, December 10, 2017

8:30-9:00 – Welcoming reception, BGRI Cafeteria

9:00-10:30 – Session 1

Greeting remarks

Csaba Nikolenyi, Director, Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, Concordia University, Montreal
Paula Kabalo, Director, Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism, BGU, Israel

Intra-Ethnicity and Politics

Avi Bareli
Ethnic Interests and National Ideology during Israel’s First Decade: Addressing the Rational Oriental Vote

Meir Amor
Residential Segregation: Manufacturing Ashkenazi Supremacy and Israeli Citizenship

11:00-12:00 – Session 2

Identity Politics: Jews and Arabs

Arieh Saposnik
Zionism, Indigenism, Palestinism: The Hasolel Circle Discourse and the Praxis of Jewish Indigeneity in Zionist Palestine

Kobi Peled
Islamic Revival in Israel: The Clash within Islam—An Architectural View

12:00-13:30 – Lunch break at the BGRI Cafeteria
13:30-14:30 – Session 3

Philosophers and Thinkers—Extending the Canon

Andrea Gondos
Isaiah Tishby: A Zionist Scholar and a Messianic Poet

Aryeh Tepper
"The Binding of Isaac in a Sublime Melody": The Relationship of Music and Text in the Thought of Rabbi David Cohen

Gideon Katz
Israeli Philosophers on the Arab-Jewish Conflict

15:00-16:30 – Session 4

Writing About Israel—a Few Thousand Miles Away

Bina Toledo Freiwald
Representations of Israel/Palestine in Contemporary Canadian-Jewish Writing

Ira Robinson
A Mandate Life: Shmuel Asher Kaufman, 1927-1947

Dvir Tzur
Alternative Jewish Places and the Problem of Messianism in Michael Chabon’s The Yiddish Policemen’s Union and Rubi Namdar’s The Ruined House

16:30-18:00 – Afternoon cliff walk and campus tour

19:00-22:00 – Depart for dinner from the Sede Boqer Field School, The dinner is in Yeroham (Nagar family) plus conversation with BGU students living in town and Indian Music event

Shuttles to Be’er-Sheva and to Sede Boqer Campus will be provided.
Monday, December 11, 2017

8:30—Depart from Sede Boqer Field School and BGRI.
Wadi Attir (talk on the 2gether partnership)
The Negev Bedouin - Dr. Havatzelet Yahel
Guided tour of the Wadi Attir project
Talk with Sigal Moran, Head of Bnei Shimon Regional Council
Depart for Ben-Gurion University of the Negev—Marcus Family Campus in Be’er-Sheva
Lunch and tour of the University
Tour of the Old City of Be’er-Sheva
Interfaith- meeting at Bina
Dinner in Be’er-Sheva
20:30—Depart for Sede Boqer Campus
Tuesday December 12, 2017

9:00-10:30 – Session 5

Communities of Origin—Between Aloofness and Integration

Paula Kabalo
Civic Engagement and Voicing Out—Immigrant Associations as a Medium of Civic Leverage and Identity Preservation

Aviad Moreno
Beyond Israel: ethnic networks in the post-1948 immigration of Moroccan Jews to Latin America

Esther Meir-Glitzenstein
Integration of Immigrants from Arab Countries: Ethnic and Class Factors under Changing Circumstances

11:30-12:30 – Session 6

Border-Crossing Israeli Identities

Ben Herzog
Transnational Acts of Citizenship, or Why Non-Israelis Choose to Serve in the Israel Defense Forces

Tal-Or K. Ben-Choreen
Sabras in America and Photography Pedagogies

Ofer Shiff
The Impact of the Holocaust (and the 1930s wave of Antisemitism) on the Yishuv and Its Zionist Agenda. To What Extent Did It Encourage an Agenda Separate from That of the Jewish Diaspora?

12:30-14:00 – Lunch Break at Field School Dining Room

14:00-15:30 – Session 7

Governance and Public Policy—Is Israel That Unique?

Csaba Nikolenyi
Keeping Parties Together? The Evolution of Israel's Anti-Defection Legislation

Ofir Abu
Black Lives Matter in Israel? Race, Conflict and Policing

Sigal Barkai
Neurotic fantasy: The Third Temple as a metaphor in contemporary Israeli artworks
15:30-16:30 – Concluding Session—Roundtable Discussion

Bridging the Israel Studies Communities of Scholars—Building Interfaces for Future Collaboration

16:30-16:45
The ceremonial lighting of the first Hanukkah candle

(Shuttles to Be’er-Sheba will be provided)