In June of this year, four students from the Pines School of Graduate Studies, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, travelled to Israel for seven weeks. Eric Barrios, Sharon Love, Chelsea Simon, and I were led by Dr. Jason Kalman and his wife, Dr. Dana Herman, who also travelled with their son, Charlie. For doctoral students in Hebrew Bible (Eric, Sharon, and myself) and in Jewish Studies in the Greco-Roman Period (Chelsea), this was an exciting opportunity to gain first-hand experience essential to our training as scholars. Also, it’s Israel. (Who wouldn’t be excited by that?) We stayed in the vibrant neighborhood of Emek Rephaim, southwest of Jerusalem’s Old City. The first three and a half weeks were spent touring Jerusalem, southern sites, and areas along the coast, such as Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Akko, and Achziv.

Faculty from the Jerusalem campus contributed their considerable expertise to our tours and study. Dr. David Ilan, Director of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology, led tours of many archaeological sites, not only informing us of the relevant history, but also training our eyes to see more than rocks and dirt. He taught us to see clues as to the purpose of buildings and as to how ancient cities were organized. While we toured Beit She’arim and Sepphoris, Dr. David Levine, Associate Professor of Talmud and Halacha, introduced us to the complex questions surrounding Jewish life in the era of classical Judaism. Dr. David “Dave” Mendelsson, Director of the Year-in-Israel Program for the rabbinical students, guided us through the story of the modern state communicated through the monuments of Mt. Herzl. The “three Davids,” as we affectionately called them, deeply enriched our understanding of Israel’s history from ancient to modern times.

As you might imagine, this was no ordinary trip. Our exploration of Israel ranged far beyond the popular tourist destinations to important sites that are barely known, and some barely accessible. Through the contacts of our Jerusalem faculty, we benefited from the insights of specialists who live in the country. Where we encountered active archaeological digs, we were more than once treated to a tour by the lead archaeologist because of the strong professional relationships maintained by HUC-JIR faculty.

Our learning didn’t end with the day’s tour, however. Instead of being sequestered in a hotel in a touristy area, we returned to an apartment in a neighborhood where ordinary Israelis lived. From taking public transportation to navigating security issues, enjoying the restaurants, buying groceries in the markets—to being awakened at 2:00 a.m. by construction crews outside our window—we got a taste of day-to-day life in Israel.

For the final four weeks of the trip we travelled to the far north to participate in the archaeological dig at Tel Dan. The Tel Dan excavation was sponsored by the HUC-JIR Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology in partnership with Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, Cornerstone University, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Drs. David Ilan and Yifat Thareani, both from

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Dear Students, Faculty, Alumni, and Friends of the Pines School of Graduate Studies,

You will notice that both the College-Institute and the PSGS have a new logo, as part of our rebranding work, and that Kol Hadash consequently sports a new color and graphics scheme as well.

The New School Year
As I write these lines, we are settling into the new academic year—our seventieth in the Pines School of Graduate Studies. We are welcoming seven new students this year, five in the Ph.D. program and two in the M.A. program. Among our new Ph.D. students, three are continuing their academic work at HUC-JIR: one is completing his rabbinical ordination program this year, the second received her rabbinical ordination from our Los Angeles campus two years ago, and the third received his M.A. from the PSGS last spring. The remaining two doctoral students are new to HUC-JIR: one comes from teaching in Guam, the other from completing an M.A. in Religion at Gordon-Conwell Seminary. One of our new M.A. students just finished an M.A. in library science at the University of Illinois, and the other an M.Div. at the Harding School of Theology. Two of our five new Ph.D. students are women. In terms of field distribution, one is in Bible and Ancient Near East, two in biblical interpretation, one in rabbinic literature, and one in modern and medieval Jewish thought. All received a full orientation to the Graduate School and its academic resources the week before classes began, as well as a social introduction to the larger HUC-JIR and Cincinnati communities. We also awarded our first Pines Fellowship to an incoming Ph.D. student this year.

For those of you interested in statistics, there are currently 55 students enrolled in the Pines School of Graduate Studies: 46 in the Ph.D. program, 6 in the M.A. program, and 3 D.H.L. students. Of the Ph.D. students, 16 are in course work, 5 are in candidacy preparing for their comprehensive examinations, and the remaining 25 are working on their dissertations.

Graduation 2016
At graduation exercises this past May, we awarded one Ph.D., to Michael A. Cernucan, and two M.A. degrees, to Caleb A. Gilmore and R. Jesse Pruett. Caleb has just entered our Ph.D. program and Jesse has entered the Ph.D. program at the University of Wisconsin. We wish them both much success in their further studies. We also awarded five M.Phil. degrees to students who have completed their matriculation and candidacy requirements and are now beginning their dissertation work: Matthew A. Boersma, Tamar Duvdevani, Kyungji Kevin Ha, Andrew Higginbotham, and Guy L. Ridge IV. We were delighted to award the Graduate Medallion this year to Dr. Mark J. Mangano, Professor of Old Testament at Lincoln Christian University, in recognition of his twenty-five years of distinguished academic work. (One of Mark’s sons, Joseph Mangano, is currently a student in our M.A. program and will receive his degree from us this coming May.)

A stirring graduation address was given by Father Michael J. Graham, S.J., Ph.D., President of Xavier University in Cincinnati, who was awarded the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. The address can be accessed at: http://huc.edu/news/2016/05/23/father-michael-graham-sj-phd-presents-2016-huc-jircincinnati-graduation-address.

The Summer-in-Israel Trip
Every other summer, we offer our students the opportunity to participate in an archaeological dig in Israel, preceded by four weeks of study and field trips with members of our faculty based at our Jerusalem campus. Four of our students participated in this program this past summer. Their experiences are shared with you in our lead article.

Prior to their departure, the students took an intensive conversational Hebrew course here. Dr. Jason Kalman went with our students and facilitated their Jerusalem study together with our Jerusalem colleagues, Drs. David Mendellson, David Levine, and David Ilan (“the three Davids”). Dr. Ilan led their archaeology fieldwork at Tel Dan.

While in Jerusalem, our students also had the opportunity to meet at length with President Aaron Panken and Provost Michael Marmur.

The Summer-in-Israel Program, which was begun a decade ago by our colleague Dr. Nili Fox, has been tremendously successful and has had (and is having) a major impact on our students. In the future, you will learn how you can contribute to its ongoing funding.
Cultivating Teaching and Professional Training Opportunities

At graduation ceremonies in May, we were excited to announce the inauguration of the PSGS Ruslander/Friedland Fellowship program with the University of Dayton, through which one of our students each year will teach two courses in Judaic Studies to undergraduates at the University of Dayton and will be fully mentored in the work by a member of its faculty. Andrew Higginbotham, who is just beginning dissertation work, is the first recipient of that fellowship and has already begun his teaching responsibilities at the University of Dayton. The annual mentored teaching position at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO), which was featured in the last issue of Kol Hadash, is held this year by Guy Ridge. (Guy, too, is working on his dissertation this year.)

We have also been working with the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion on ways to enhance our mentoring of graduate student teaching. In that context, Dr. Nili Fox, who has just assumed the chair of the Graduate Executive Committee, and I will be attending the Graduate Program Directors and Deans Conference that the Wabash Center is convening in Indianapolis at the end of October. Dr. Jeffrey L. Cooley (’06), Professor of Biblical Studies at Boston College, will be alumnus-in-residence in March. Jeff will offer two workshops on teaching and professional training, as well as giving an academic talk. New this year is that our alumna Dr. Angela R. Erisman (’08) will also offer two programs during the school year on professional training, one, in the fall, on project management and the other, in the spring, on revising written work.

Alumni Association Appreciation

I want to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to Dr. John I. Kampen, who completed his term of office as president of the PSGS Alumni Association in June. John has done impressive and important work in this position, and was of great assistance to me during my first year as program director. He represented the PSGS alumni very ably at the Alumni Summit, a major planning meeting of all of HUC-JIR’s alumni associations held in New York this past April. He will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as past president this year.

I also want to acknowledge the fine work that Dr. Nancy L. Erickson has begun to do as new president. I look forward to our work together this year.

I have already begun corresponding, telephoning, and meeting in person with prospective applicants for the PSGS. In cooperation with the National Office of Recruitment and Admissions, we are currently doing a major print mailing advertising our M.A. program. This program is a potential source of considerable growth for us. Please do not overlook it in conversations with your own students. The program provides broad training in all areas of Judaic Studies, and especially offers training in reading primary sources in their original languages—an area that is not sufficiently emphasized in many master-level programs.

We will also be sending out an email flyer to departments of religion, Judaic studies, and seminaries, advertising our new Pines Fellowship and our Ph.D. program areas. Please remember that all of you are in the front line of our recruitment activities. So many of the potential applicants with whom I speak have come to our programs through you—your mentoring in and outside of the classroom and your publications. Thank you!

Annual Tribute Dinner and Support for PSGS

Our annual tribute dinner in Cincinnati will be held on Sunday, October 30, with the Board of Governors in attendance. A good portion of the monies raised at this event support graduate student stipends—but we continue to need your ongoing support. Please consider a gift—of whatever amount—to the PSGS in support of graduate student fellowships.

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Graduate Student Association Update
by Sharon R. Love, President, Graduate School Association

As the 2016-2017 president of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) at HUC-JIR, I am excited to report on the activities in which graduate students have recently been engaged. Over the summer, Lev Rooks-Rapport, a student in the M.A. program, participated in an interactive course in American Jewish History, traveling to several historical sites in Cincinnati and Charleston, South Carolina. Meanwhile, four Ph.D. students, Eric Barrios, Steven Donnally, Chelsea Simon, and I, participated in a study tour and archaeological dig in Israel.

In August, the Pines School of Graduate Studies welcomed five new Ph.D. students (Noah Ferro, Caleb Gilmore, Hara Jun, Michael Owen, and Gavi Ruit) and two M.A. students (Ryan Replogle and Paul Wheelhouse). Each new student was paired with a returning student to help navigate the first-year transition.

As part of HUC-JIR’s orientation week activities for new students, the GSA, in coordination with the Rabbinical Student Association (RSA), hosted a campus-wide picnic on the front lawn of the Cincinnati campus. This well-attended event gave students, faculty, and staff a chance to connect informally before classes started at the end of August.

Looking forward, the GSA will continue to support graduate students in their various professional endeavors throughout the year. The GSA is planning training sessions to prepare Ph.D. students to study effectively for comprehensive exams and to present at academic conferences. Events such as these will continue to provide graduate students with opportunities to grow and collaborate.

Governor’s Report
by James E. Bowley, Ph.D., Governor, HUC-JIR

Greetings to all HUC-JIR alumni, whom I look forward to seeing in San Antonio for the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature (AAR/SBL) meeting and at our PSGS alumni luncheon. I write to report about the HUC-JIR Board of Governors meeting held in New York in June.

As you all know, one of the most significant milestones of a professor relate to tenure. I’m happy to pass along the news that Dr. Jason Kalman (Cincinnati) was promoted to the rank of Full Professor of Classical Hebrew Literature and Interpretation; Dr. Joshua Garroway (Los Angeles) was promoted to the tenured rank of Associate Professor of Early Christianity and Second Commonwealth; and Dr. Jan Katzew (Cincinnati) was promoted to a blended track position, Adjunct Associate Professor of Jewish Education.

Also in the good news department is the renewal of faculty searches. The HUC-JIR administration and Board of Governors are aware that we need new faculty members, due to retirements and gaps in our teaching coverage. As a first measure, there is a search underway on each campus in the United States for a faculty member. In Cincinnati, this person will significantly contribute to the learning of those in the Pines School of Graduate Studies. Stay tuned for more on these searches. Perhaps we can even learn more in November at our alumni luncheon at the AAR/SBL.

Finally, please continue or renew your support for PSGS in whatever ways you can. At the end of this year, there was an accounting of the results of moving from an annual alumni dues collection to a system of voluntary contributions for all the schools and programs. Suffice it to say, the results for the PSGS were far less than stellar. So, I won’t preach (there’s a reason we became academics!), but please support your graduate school to assure its future.

Thank you. I look forward to seeing you in San An!

James E. Bowley (’92) is Professor of Religious Studies and chair of the department at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS.
Presentations, Publications, Promotions

Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting
James E. Bowley
“What’s an Authoritative Text? What’s a Scripture?”

Michael Graves
“The Mountain Raised Up over Israel: An Exegetical and Theological Motif in the Talmud and Qur’an”

Kyle R. Greenwood
Presiding over the Genesis Section
Theme: “Genesis as a Book: Diachronic and Synchronic Perspectives”

Cody Eklov

Andrew W. Higginbotham
“What other great nation...?: The Excellence of Israel in the Deuteronomistic Context”

John I. Kampen
“Sectarians and the Nations: Reform and Cosmic Renewal in Matthew and the Dead Sea Scrolls”

John C. Reeves
“Parascriptural Lore Pertaining to the Prophet Idrīṣ in the Tale Anthology of al-Kisā’ī”

“Dualist Currents in Tenth-Century Baghdaš: Reassessing the Afterlife of Manichaeism and Cognate Forms of Gnosis in the Muslim East”

Justin M. Rogers
“Philo or Paul? The Hagar Allegory in Alexandrian Patristic Theology”

David Turner
“Israel’s Last Prophet: Matthew 23:29-36 and the Intertextual Basis of Matthew’s Rejected Prophet Christology”

“His Glorious Throne: The Future of Israel and the Gentiles according to Matthew”

Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference
Andrew W. Higginbotham
“Then I shall [restore] by the hand of the sons of Aar[on...] seventy years’ (4Q390 1.2): Statistical Cave Criticism of the Dead Sea Scrolls at 70 Years”

Society for Jewish Ethics Conference
Rabbi Gavi S. Ruit
“Rabbinic Commentaries on Genesis 34 and the Construction of Rape Myths”

Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting
Brian P. Gault
“Avenging Husband and Redeeming Lover? Opposing Portraits of God in Hosea”

C. Hassell Bullock
“Historical Double-Tracking in the Psalms, Book 5, as a Homiletical Method”

62nd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale
Jeffrey L. Cooley
“A Scribalized Past: VR 44’s Onomastic Reflections on the History of the Land”

International Conference: “Finding, Inheriting, Borrowing?: Construction and Transfer of Knowledge about Man and Nature in Antiquity and the Middle Ages.” Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany
Jeffrey L. Cooley
“Epistemology in the Biblical Tradition: Judean Knowledge-Building, Scribal Craftsmanship, and Scribal Culture”

Publications
Jeffrey L. Cooley

Brian P. Gault

David Musgrave


Kenneth C. Way

Promotions
Brian P. Gault
Promoted to Associate Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Studies in the Seminary & School of Ministry at Columbia International University.

J. Michael Thigpen
Accepted a position as Associate Professor of Old Testament and Semitics at the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University; continues to serve as executive director of the Evangelical Theological Society.
PSGS Student in Israel
continued from page 1

HUC-JIR Jerusalem, co-directed the dig. Also joining us at Tel Dan from HUC-JIR was Andy Berger, Chairman of the Board of Governors, and his wife, Linda, as well as Joe Pryzant, a member of the Central Region Board of Overseers, and his daughter, Naomi. What makes Tel Dan such a special place to excavate is that it is one of the most important archaeological sites in Israel, not least because it is frequently mentioned in the Bible (e.g., 1 Kgs 12:28-30). This year’s excavation sought among other things to refine our understanding of the sequence of construction, dating, and environment of Tel Dan in the biblical period and to see how the famed cultic site related to the structures around it.

The four of us had never participated in a dig before, and though we were acclimated to the heat, it still required quite an adjustment. Up at 4:45 a.m. and at the van by 5:15, we were on site and working by 5:30. Digging was over by 12:30 in the afternoon, but the day was far from done. At 4:00 p.m., we washed the pottery dug up the day before to remove any dirt that obscured important features. Pottery “reading,” i.e., pottery analysis, was at 5:00. The daily lecture lasted from 6:00-7:00. To fuel all of that work, we were on a hobbit’s schedule: a snack before we left in the morning (“first breakfast”), breakfast at 8:30 (“second breakfast”), an 11:00 fruit break (“elevensies”), lunch at 1:00, and dinner at 7:00. The hard work, however, was rewarding, and we met in the process many new friends from around the United States, Israel, and France.

The Summer-in-Israel program proved to be a fantastic opportunity that allowed the four of us to learn about the archaeology, history, geography, and contemporary culture of Israel in ways that are impossible to duplicate anywhere else. Beyond even this, we got a sense throughout our experience of the special connection that Jews around the world and at our home campus in Cincinnati feel to this extraordinary land. We are grateful to the faculty, staff, and others in the HUC-JIR community who contributed so much of their time and effort to make this possible.

Your Support is Needed

Alumni support is vital for funding student fellowships. Our spendable annual endowment income does not fully cover the aggregate cost of tuition (which is rising) that the PSGS pays to the College-Institute each year. Additionally, student stipends are funded entirely out of annual fundraising and contributions. Our goal is to accept more qualified students to the PSGS, but without generous alumni support the number of students that we can fund remains limited.

As you know, we no longer ask you for annual dues. Please consider a gift specifically designated to the PSGS Scholarship Fund. Help us to invest in our current and future students, just as we have invested in each one of you. Every dollar that you contribute goes directly to student financial support. You can donate by mail or online at https://donate.huc.edu/cngrad. Please consider becoming a sustaining donor. You may now make a monthly contribution with your credit card.

For questions contact Shelly Goldfarb, Graduate School Administrative Assistant at 513.487.3230 or sgoldfarb@huc.edu. We need your support!
PSGS Update
In a few short days, I will head to Israel for a ten-day excursion. This particular trip has me leading a group from my home church, a sort of pilgrimage for them, a treat for me. I had the privilege of living in Jerusalem, touring the land, and digging at Tel es-Safi while I was a graduate student at HUC-JIR. In Israel, I spent many days with Dr. David Ilan, Director of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology, and his colleagues. I benefitted from the beautiful HUC-JIR Jerusalem campus and its library and resources.

As I’ve prepared to lead this next group to Israel, I can’t help but recall the exceptional training I received during my coursework at HUC-JIR, one that rigorously pushed me toward excellence, while greatly enriching my understanding and love for Judaism, ancient and modern.

As alumni, you know just how valuable your time at HUC-JIR was. The Pines School of Graduate Studies provides a truly remarkable environment for its students, one not duplicated elsewhere. These rich traditions make it a joy for me to serve as the president of the Alumni Association and to encourage you to continue your strong ties to the College-Institute, however that may play out.

I want to welcome two new faces to the Alumni Association Executive Committee this year, Dr. David Turner (’09) and Dr. Christine Palmer (’15). Both David and Christine are passionate about the experiences they had while studying at HUC-JIR and are vested in the continued growth and vitality of the PSGS. Both will serve as vice presidents of the Association. We are happy to have their expertise and insight.

Allow me also to thank Dr. John I. Kampen for his years serving as vice president and president of the Alumni Association. John, we are grateful for your fine leadership and the expectations that you have set.

Mentoring Program
The mentoring program between PSGS students and alumni is now fully taking shape as more of you have offered your time to invest in students in the graduate program. I too have had the privilege of connecting to a student and readily see the benefit of our mentor/mentee relationship.

HUC-JIR alumni find themselves in diverse full-time positions in the academy and elsewhere. Please consider your experience and expertise as an asset to graduate students. You have the ability to offer encouragement and assistance to those who follow us, in whatever capacity that might be. Your location would not be a deterrent.

Expectations for mentors include a commitment to consultation and contact with a graduate student. If you are interested in doing this or would like further information, please contact Shelly Goldfarb, PSGS Administrative Assistant, at 513.487.3230 or sgoldfarb@huc.edu.

Fall Academic Conferences
We have reserved a room for us to gather during the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) annual meeting in San Antonio on Wednesday evening, November 16, starting at 9:15 p.m., just following the presidential address. The location is Bowie C in the Grand Hyatt. Cookies and coffee will be served. Please come! The opportunity to gather at ETS is important, and it provides a great chance to establish connections (some many years removed) for those unable to attend our alumni luncheon, held every year at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature.

Great things are happening at the PSGS! See you all in November!

Dr. Nancy L. Erickson (’11) is Senior Editor of Biblical Languages, Textbooks and Reference Works at Zondervan Academic.

News from the Director continued from page 3

SBL Alumni Luncheon
Finally, we look forward to attending your presentations at the Society of Biblical Literature and to greeting you and catching up at our annual alumni luncheon in San Antonio.

This year’s luncheon will take place on Sunday, November 20, at 11:30 a.m. in the La Vista Room EF at the Palacio del Rio Hotel. See you there!
Annual Luncheon

The Pines School of Graduate Studies alumni luncheon at the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) annual meeting will be held on Sunday, November 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Hilton Palacio del Rio, 200 South Alamo Street, San Antonio, Texas, in La Vista Room EF. We welcome students, faculty, and alumni and look forward to sharing a meal with colleagues and friends.

HUC-JIR students and faculty are invited as our guests. Alumni who have supported the PSGS Scholarship Fund with a contribution in 2016 are also invited in appreciation as guests of the College-Institute. For others, the cost is $55 per person.

For more details and to reserve your place, contact Shelly Goldfarb, PSGS Administrative Assistant, at 513.487.3230 or sgoldfarb@huc.edu. To make a donation, go to https://donate.huc.edu/cngrad.

In addition to our luncheon at the SBL, our Alumni Association has reserved a room to gather on Wednesday evening, November 16, starting at 9:15 p.m., during the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) annual meeting, also in San Antonio. The location is Bowie C in the Grand Hyatt. This additional opportunity to gather provides a great chance to establish connections (some many years removed) for those unable to attend our alumni luncheon. For more information, contact Dr. Nancy L. Erickson at erickson.nancy@gmail.com.