



The Jewish **Law** **Institute**

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2016

Louis D. **BRANDEIS:** **AN INTERDISCIPLINARY RETROSPECTIVE**

National Conference on Louis Brandeis

On March 31-April 1, 2016, Touro Law Center and the Jewish Law Institute hosted a national conference: *Louis D. Brandeis: An Interdisciplinary Retrospective*. More than thirty judges, lawyers, and scholars, representing a broad range of disciplines and hailing from around the United States, explored topics that included, among others: Brandeis's groundbreaking

work as a lawyer and a scholar; his commitment to his Jewish heritage; his historic appointment to the Supreme Court one hundred years ago; and his jurisprudence on the Court.

The conference opened with words of welcome from Dean Patricia Salkin and Professor Samuel J. Levine, the conference organizer and Director of the Jewish Law Institute, followed by several panels dedicated to discussions of various aspects of Brandeis's life and legacy. As one of the many highlights, a

panel on judges was comprised of two members of the inaugural Jewish Law Institute Advisory Board, Judge Kermit V. Lipez, of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and Judge Rick Haselton of the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Following the judges' panel, the focus of the conference turned to the relationship between Brandeis and Judaism. As Professor Levine later noted, "As part of his remarkable legacy, Louis Brandeis was the first



Professor Sam Levine with Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik, Director of the Zahava and Moshael Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought at Yeshiva University and Rabbi at Congregation Shearith Israel in Manhattan



Professor Sam Levine & Professor Russell Pearce

Jewish Supreme Court Justice and a leading Zionist. As such, the Jewish Law Institute was particularly pleased to bring these issues to the attention of the community.”

The first day of the conference closed with a reception in the Law Center’s Judaica Room, which houses the Touro Gould Law Library’s Abraham Goldstein and Lillie Goldstein Judaica Collection. The reception included a presentation by Professor Hasia R. Diner, the Paul S. and Sylvia Steinberg Professor of American Jewish History and Director of the Goldstein-Goren Center of American Jewish History at New York University.

Continuing the theme of Brandeis and Judaism, the second day of the conference opened with the Jewish Law Institute’s Spring 2016 Distinguished Lecture, delivered by Professor Russell G. Pearce, the Edward & Marilyn Bellet Chair in Legal Ethics, Morality, and Religion at Fordham University School of Law.



Prof. Levine & Rick Haselton, Senior Judge of the Oregon Court of Appeals

Professor Pearce’s keynote address was followed by a panel exploring Brandeis and Judaism in greater detail. One of the panelists was Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik, Director of the Zahava and Moshael Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought at Yeshiva University and Rabbi at Congregation Shearith Israel in Manhattan, who had previously delivered the Jewish Law Institute’s Fall 2014 Distinguished Lecture. Rabbi Soloveichik’s remarks focused on “Brandeis, Zionism, and Judaism.”

The conference proceedings will be published in a special issue of the *Touro Law Review*.

Jewish Law Institute Advisory Board

During the past year, Touro Law Center formed the inaugural Jewish Law Institute Advisory Board. The Board is comprised of leading judges and lawyers from New York City and across the United States, who will provide guidance and support for the Jewish Law Institute.

Dr. Alan Kadish, President of Touro College and University System stated, "Touro Law's Jewish Law Institute is a significant institution studying the Jewish legal experience. I am confident that this inaugural Board of prominent individuals will help expand both the scope and reach of the Institute."

The inaugural Jewish Law Institute Advisory Board currently includes:

- Sheldon S. Adler, Esq., *Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*
- Yehudah L. Buchweitz, Esq., *Partner, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP*
- Harris Cogan, Esq., *Partner, Blank Rome LLP*
- Allen I. Fagin, Esq., *Executive Vice President, Orthodox Union; Former Chairman, Proskauer Rose LLP*
- Honorable Karen "Chaya" Friedman, *Associate Judge, Circuit Court for Baltimore County*
- Honorable Richard D. Fybel, *Associate Justice, California Court of Appeal*
- Honorable Mark A. Goldsmith, *Judge, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan*
- Honorable Rick Haselton, *Senior Judge, Oregon Court of Appeals*
- Richard I. Janvey, Esq., *Partner, Diamond McCarthy LLP*
- Lawrence A. Kobrin, Esq., *Senior Counsel, Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP*
- Honorable Louis H. Kornreich, *United States Bankruptcy Judge (Retired); Of Counsel, Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer and Nelson, P.A.*
- Barry E. Lichtenberg, Esq., *Lichtenberg PLLC*
- Honorable Kermit V. Lipez, *United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit*
- David Nimmer, Esq., *Of Counsel, Irell & Manella LLP; Professor from Practice, UCLA School of Law*
- Amanda H. Nussbaum, Esq., *Partner, Proskauer Rose LLP*
- David B. Rosenbaum, Esq. '84, *Senior Partner, Borah, Goldstein, Altschuler, Nahins & Goidel, P.C.*
- Irving L. Rotter, Esq., *Partner, Sidley Austin LLP*
- David M. Zornow, Esq., *Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*

“ We are honored to have the guidance and participation of these distinguished leaders of the legal profession, and I look forward to working with them as we continue to develop and grow our Institute,” stated Professor Samuel J. Levine, Director of the Institute. He continued, “I look forward to the participation and involvement of the Board members and continuing to make a positive impact on the legal community.”



JEWISH LAW INSTITUTE EVENTS CALENDAR

FALL 2016 CLE SERIES: ETHICAL DILEMMAS FOR LAWYERS: COMPARING JEWISH LAW AND AMERICAN LAW:

- September 12, 2016 - Proskauer Rose LLP
- November 17, 2016 - Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP

FALL 2016 JEWISH LAW INSTITUTE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

- September 26, 2016 - Judge Karen "Chaya" Friedman, at Lander College for Women, 227 West 60th Street

SPRING 2016 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

- March 23 & 24, 2016 - "Benjamin Cardozo: Justice, Judge, Lawyer," at Touro Law Center

About the Jewish Law Institute

The Jewish Law Institute at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center offers a scholarly and intellectual framework for the academic study of the Jewish legal experience. Under the direction of Professor Samuel J. Levine, the Institute acts as a center for the study and teaching of Jewish law throughout the United States, bringing together leading scholars, judges, and lawyers, and serving as a clearinghouse for new ideas and independent research. The primary goal of the Jewish Law Institute is to explore the relevance of the Jewish legal tradition to American law, legal practice, and legal scholarship. Toward that goal, the Institute offers courses in Jewish law and conducts special programs dedicated to research, publications, conferences, and lectures. Reaching out to the broader community, the Jewish Law Institute assists other universities and law schools by advising professors and providing sample syllabi for courses in Jewish law. The Institute is also closely involved in developing and expanding Touro Law Center's permanent Judaica Collection, which serves as a vital resource for Rabbis, scholars, and the community at-large, as well as the Law Center's Traveling Judaica Collection, which is loaned to law schools across the country that wish to develop courses or programs in Jewish law.



Professor Samuel J. Levine,
Director of the Jewish Law Institute

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR Professor Levine joined the Touro Law Center faculty in 2010 as Professor of Law and Director of the Jewish Law Institute. He has published more than forty law review articles and has lectured at law schools, universities, and other venues throughout the United States. In the summer of 2016, Professor Levine served as the Beznos Distinguished Professor at Michigan State University College of Law, where he delivered the inaugural Beznos Family Lectures and taught a course in Jewish Law. During the past year, Professor Levine made presentations at conferences at Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, and Fordham Law School, at the National Conference of Jewish Lawyers and Judges in Chicago, and at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools in New York City. He

also delivered lectures at Harvard University, Loyola University Maryland, the North Shore Jewish Center in Long Island, and the Woodward Avenue Shul in Royal Oak, Michigan, and he presented a Faculty Colloquium at Albany Law School. Professor Levine has received several faculty scholarship awards at Touro, including the 2016 Milton Handler Scholarship Award. He recently published articles in the *Notre Dame Law Review*, the *ABA Journal of the Professional Lawyer*, and the *Notre Dame Law Review Online*. His co-authored article with Professor Bruce Green, Director of the Stein Center for Ethics at Fordham Law School, is forthcoming in the *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law*. Professor Levine received a J.D. from Fordham Law School, graduating cum laude and Order of the Coif, an LL.M. from Columbia Law School, graduating with Highest Honors as a James Kent Scholar, and Rabbinical Ordination from Yeshiva University. He served as an appellate prosecutor in the Kings County District Attorney's Office, as a law clerk to United States District Court Judges Loretta A. Preska and David N. Edelstein in the Southern District of New York, and as an adjunct professor at Fordham Law School. He has appeared before a number of courts, including the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the Supreme Court of the State of New York.



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The Jewish Law Institute is always available for programming, events and speakers. If you are interested, please contact Professor Samuel Levine at slevine@tourolaw.edu or call (631) 761-7138. Get involved in our programs and support our work in the law school, the community, and the legal academy. To donate to the Jewish Law Institute, go to www.tourolaw.edu/giftgiving.