



The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise

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AICE Announces Winners of Schusterman Israel Scholar Awards

CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND — The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE) announced today the recipients of the Schusterman Israel Scholar Awards. These prestigious awards are meant to encourage students to pursue academic careers in Israel-related fields by supporting their graduate studies.

This year's winners, who will each receive \$15,000 to support their studies, are Yoav Duman (University of Washington), Nava Dushi (Tel Aviv University), Donna Herzog (New York University), Sarah Anne Minkin (University of California, Berkeley), and Shay Rabineau (Brandeis University). In addition, previous award winners - Rachel Berry (New York University), Rachel Fish (Brandeis University), Eric Fleisch (Brandeis University), Randall Geller (Brandeis University), Jonathan Gribetz (Columbia University), Liora Halperin (UCLA), Sara Hirschhorn (University of Chicago), Hannah Pressman (New York University) and Joseph Ringel (Brandeis University) - who have advanced toward their degrees had their awards renewed for 2008.

“Universities throughout the country need more scholars to teach courses about Israel so students can gain an accurate view of Israel’s history and culture,” said AICE President Howard Rosenbloom. “Many students are discouraged from pursuing degrees in Israel studies because few opportunities exist for young scholars to teach

the subject. We believe each of these students has great potential for making important contributions to the field of Israel studies, and we're grateful to the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation for helping us create a cadre of future scholars."

"We are proud to support this important project to help inspire a new generation of leaders to engage in writing, research and teaching about Israel," said Lynn Schusterman, President of the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation. The Foundation has been at the forefront of efforts to foster understanding and support for Israel on college campuses.

AICE's Executive Director, Mitchell Bard, added, "We are concerned that most courses about Israel focus on the conflict with the Arabs, but a full understanding of Israel requires discussion about the many other facets of Israeli society, culture and politics. By supporting aspiring scholars from a range of disciplines, and a variety of perspectives, we hope to encourage a new generation of educators who can expose students to all aspects of Israel."

Yoav Duman is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Political Science at the University of Washington. He completed a B.A. in Politics & Government and Philosophy at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in 2002, and received an M.A. in Political Science from Tel Aviv University in 2007. During his M.A. studies Yoav co-founded and edited the Hebrew language political science journal *The Public Sphere*. Yoav's research primarily focuses on the dynamics of labor migration and the granting of amnesty to undocumented migrants in Israel, Spain, and Italy.

Nava Dushi is a Ph.D. Candidate at Tel Aviv University's Faculty of the Arts Film and Television Department. Her dissertation, *Texts in transition: Israeli Cinema in a Global Context*, examines the rise of contemporary Israeli cinema to international recognition in the past decade. By focusing on the study of Israeli cinema in a global context and by developing a theoretical model by which the correspondence of Israeli films with the

intensifying process of globalization is examined, her research seeks to offer a new set of tools for analysis, and to project some textual dynamics that submit to emerging international trends.

Donna Herzog is a first year Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University. She graduated from the Macaulay Honors College at Brooklyn College in 2007 with a B.A. in Judaic Studies and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in 2006. Donna's research interests include examining the relationship between ideology and policymaking in Israel and socio-economic issues. In particular, she is interested in studying how tensions between Labor ideology and other policymaking considerations were resolved during the first two decades of statehood, how this evolved during the late 1960s through the 1980s, and what implications this change has on the way policy is formed and implemented in a post-Labor ideology era in Israeli society.

Sarah Anne Minkin is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at University of California, Berkeley. She holds a BA in Women's and Gender Studies from Yale University and an MA in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley. Sarah Anne's dissertation research investigates the current significance of Israel to American Jewish people, focusing in particular on the relationship between collective memory and connections to the modern state of Israel. Using ethnographic and other sociological research methods, Sarah Anne studies the ways in which family histories and collective narratives are shared between generations and how different generations relate to Israel. Her work draws from the study of nationalism, commemoration, Diaspora studies, and the sociology of emotions.

Shay Rabineau is entering his second year as a graduate fellow at the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies and as a Ph.D. student in the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University. He received his B.A. in English Writing from the University of Oklahoma, where he studied Modern Standard Arabic and Modern Hebrew before traveling extensively on foot through Israel. Shay plans on studying the development of

Israel's system of hiking and backpacking trails from their roots in European Zionist youth movements to their current functions in support of various ideologies and historical narratives.

The Israel Scholar Development Fund is a project of the American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE), a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization created in 1993.

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