



The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise

2810 Blaine Dr.  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
Tel: (301) 565-3918  
Fax: (301) 587-9056  
[mgbard@aol.com](mailto:mgbard@aol.com)  
[www.JewishVirtualLibrary.org](http://www.JewishVirtualLibrary.org)

## **AICE Postdoctoral Fellows 2008-2009**



**Uriel Abulof**  
**Princeton University**  
**Rosenbloom Postdoctoral Fellow**

Dr. Uriel Abulof is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and a teacher at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He received his Ph.D. in International Relations from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2007), and was subsequently a Fulbright Scholar at NYU and Princeton University. Uriel currently works on the role of political ethics in inter-communal conflicts, specializing in ethnicity and nationalism, with a focus on the Middle East, Canada, the Balkans and South Africa. His recent article ("Small People: The Existential Uncertainty of Ethno-National Communities") will appear in the *International Studies Quarterly*.



**Sharon Asiskovitch**  
**University of Wisconsin**  
**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Dr. Sharon Asiskovitch received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2007. His dissertation was on the policies and politics of the welfare state in Israel since the 1980s, focusing on the roles of bureaucratic agencies and their relations with politicians. Dr. Asiskovitch was a postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto (2007-08). His publications focus on institutional theory and social politics, bureaucratic politics and the Israeli welfare state, law and social politics in Israel, and labor migration policies and politics in Israel. His current research concerns citizenship and relations between citizens and non-citizens and national political communities in the realm of health-care. Dr. Asiskovitch received the Ben Halpern Award for best dissertation in Israel Studies for 2006 from the Association for Israel Studies and the prize for best M.A. thesis from the Israeli Association for Political Science in 2002.

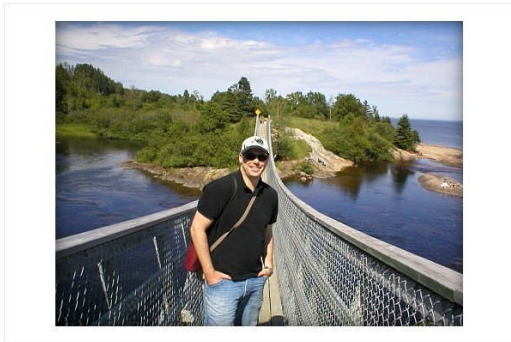


## **Yarden Fanta-Vagenshtein**

**Harvard University**

**David Nathan Meyerson Postdoctoral Fellow**

Yarden Fanta-Vagenshtein is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Human Development and Psychology at Harvard University. When making Aliya to Israel from Ethiopia, at the age of 13, she didn't know how to read nor write. In 2005 Yarden completed her Ph.D. in education at the Tel Aviv University, becoming the first Ethiopian woman to earn a doctorate in Israel. Just recently Yarden finished the manuscript to a book (in Hebrew), which is now going through a review by Prof. David Chen of Tel Aviv University. In addition, her article, "How Illiterate People learn: Case Study of Ethiopian Adults in Israel", is being viewed by The Journal of Literacy & Technology. This coming year, Yarden will be working on translating her book to English and publishing it in the US; and also working on a new research project which she leads, titled "Literacy and Life Skills of Immigrants' in the U.S, in the Areas of: Human Capital, Cognition, and Literacy".



## **Nahshon Perez**

**University of California at Los Angeles**

**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Dr. Nahshon Perez is currently an AICE postdoctoral fellow at UCLA, political science, until July 2009. His Ph.D. was granted from the Hebrew University (political science) in April 2007. His research is focused on issues of liberalism and multiculturalism, especially, but not exclusively, in the context of contemporary Israel. Most recently, "Cultural Requests and Cost Internalization, a Left Liberal Proposal", forthcoming (April 2009) in *Social Theory and Practice*, and "Days of Rest in Multicultural Societies, Private, Public, Separate?" (co-authored with Prof. R. Gavison) forthcoming in *Law and Religion in Theoretical and Historical Context*, Cambridge U.P. 2008. He held previous fellowships at the U. of Toronto (with J. Carens), U. of Montreal (with D. Weinstock), and Hoover fellowship in Louvain la Neuve (with P. Van Parijs).



## **Adi Portughies**

**NYU**

**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Adi Portughies is a Schusterman postdoctoral fellow at the Taub Center for Israel Studies at New York University for the academic year of 2008-2009. He is interested in the political history of Israel, as well as the collective memory of Israeli society. He completed his Ph.D. dissertation in 2008 at the Department for Jewish History at Bar Ilan University under the supervision of Prof. Judith Baumel Schwartz. His research deals with trends in politics and public opinion in Israel during the years 1967-1982, focusing on the ideological and radical left movements. Through his research, Dr. Portughies argued that Israeli history is not necessarily a product of wars but rather a part of the contemporary history as a whole. Dr. Portughies is a recipient of the Israeli Planning and Budgeting Committee Rotenstreich Fellowship for outstanding students for Ph.D. degrees. Since 2006, Adi Portughies has lived in the Negev with his family. He promotes Jewish-Bedouin tourism in the desert, taking part in public committees and tags Griffin Vultures from time to time.



## **Michael Rony**

**University of Wisconsin**

**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Michael Rony received his Ph.D. from the Department of Jewish Thought at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in 2007. His major field of research is medieval Jewish social and political philosophy. He has lately been involved in composing study-units for The Gandel Institute at the Melton Centre for Jewish Education in Hebrew University, Jerusalem. His recent field of research is child-parent relationships in medieval Jewish philosophy. As a practical and complementary aspect of this research, Dr. Rony has been working since 2007 at the Tel-Aviv shelter for abused children of the Israeli Organization for the Protection of the Child.



## **Doron Shultziner**

**Emory University**

**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Doron Shultziner received his B.A. in Political Science and Middle Eastern Studies and his M.A. (Summa Cum Laude) in Political Science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His thesis, entitled 'Human Dignity in Israel - Functions and Meanings,' received the Israeli Political Science Association Best M.A. Thesis Award in 2005. Doron also won the Mark and Ruth Luckens International Prize in Jewish Thought (by the University of Kentucky) for his paper entitled "A Jewish Conception of Human Dignity." This paper and a few others on the subject of human dignity have been published in recent years. Doron recently submitted his Ph.D. thesis at the Politics & IR Department at the University of Oxford. His doctoral thesis, entitled 'Struggles of Recognition: The Psychological Causes of Democratization,' is a theory development project and a comparative study of the psychological causes of democratization in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, Spain, South Africa, and Kuwait. Currently, Doron is a post-doctoral fellow and a visiting lecturer at the Institute for the Study of Modern Israel at Emory University.



## **Eran Zaidise**

**University of Texas at Austin**

**Schusterman Postdoctoral Fellow**

Eran Zaidise holds a doctoral degree in political science from the University of Haifa, Israel. His research interests include civil society, group politics, and health politics. He has also published in the field of political violence, and reserve service motivation. He is currently a Schusterman Postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.