Re-imagining Jewish Leadership Education

PARTICIPANT BIOS

Ilana Aisen

Ilana Aisen is the Executive Director of JPRO Network, which connects, educates, inspires and empowers professionals working in the Jewish communal sector throughout North America. Ilana served most recently as Director of Experiential Education at UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. She was part of the founding staff team at Repair the World and concluded her tenure there as Executive Vice President. Ilana started her career at American Jewish World Service, where she worked in a variety of program roles during seven years of rapid organizational growth and change. She holds Masters in nonprofit management and Judaic studies from New York University. Through UJA Federation of New York’s Muehlstein Institute for Jewish Professional Leadership (a predecessor to the Ruskay Institute), the Wexner Foundation, Advancing Women Professionals and the Jewish Community, and the Schusterman Foundation, Ilana has been the beneficiary of professional development opportunities that grew her ability to exercise leadership in the Jewish community.

Laura Baum

Rabbi Laura Baum is the Associate Vice President of Learning and Engagement at Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Boston’s Federation. There she leads the largest team in the planning department and works to connect people in Boston to Jewish life, learning, and community. Prior to coming to CJP, she was a congregational rabbi for seven years and also co-founded and led OurJewishCommunity.org an online synagogue that reached hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. She has been featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal, in the New York Times, as a blogger for Huffington Post – and was named one of the 50 most influential female rabbis by the Forward Newspaper. She is currently in the Wexner Field Fellowship and an incoming Vice President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Educated at Yale, ordained at Hebrew Union College, and with an MBA from Xavier University, Laura brings a diverse background and set of experiences to her work.

Benjamin Berger

Rabbi Benjamin Berger is a Program Director at The Wexner Foundation. He oversees the day to day activities of the Wexner Heritage Program including seminars, curriculum, member selection and summer institutes. He most recently worked alongside Rabbi Larry Hoffman in the development, curation and editing of The Wexner Foundation’s new leadership volume, More Than Managing: The Relentless Pursuit of Effective Jewish Leadership. Alongside a colleague, Ben developed and led the Wexner Service Corps, a service-learning initiative for Columbus area Jewish high school students. Prior to joining the Wexner Foundation, Ben was a Senior Jewish Educator at The Ohio State University Hillel Foundation, where he was awarded the first inaugural Larry S. Moses Award for a Young Jewish Professional in Columbus. In recognition of its transformation during his time, OSU Hillel received Hillel’s 2012 Vision and Values Award, Joseph Meyerhoff Award for Meaningful Jewish Experience.

Ben studied for the rabbinate at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School and was ordained in 2009. During his studies, Ben worked closely with Rabbi Irving “Yitz” Greenberg as the coordinator of Limdu Heitev: The Religious Leadership Initiative to support the proliferation of Rabbi
Greenberg’s thought among modern orthodox rabbinic and educational leadership. Ben was a member of Hillel’s Accelerate executive training cohort, the second cohort of CLAL’s Rabbis Without Borders, and the inaugural Shalom Hartman Institute’s Campus Fellowship.

Rachel Bovitz

Rabbi Rachel Rudis Bovitz is the Chief Strategy Officer of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. From 2007-2010, Rachel served as the founding director of the Conejo/West Valley Melton School in Southern California which she and its founder built as a consortium of 12 synagogues, schools and community organizations. In the intervening years, Rachel taught as an adjunct professor of Jewish Studies at American Jewish University, became a passionate student and teacher of the spiritual practice of mussar through The Mussar Leadership Program, and most recently served as the Director of Millennial Engagement at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Rachel began her rabbinic career in 2001 as Associate Rabbi of Temple Aliyah in Woodland Hills, California. Rachel received her B.A. in Jewish Studies from UCLA (Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude) and was ordained from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism (now, American Jewish University) with distinction in Talmud.

Erica Brown

Dr. Erica Brown is an associate professor at the George Washington University’s Graduate School of Education and Human Development and the director of its Mayberg Center for Jewish Education and Leadership. She also consults for non-profits and serves as the community scholar for The Jewish Center in Manhattan. She previously served as the scholar-in-residence for The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, where she directed its Jewish Leadership Institute. She also held that position at the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston. Dr. Brown was a Jerusalem Fellow, is a faculty member of the Wexner Foundation, an Avi Chai Fellow, winner of the Ted Farber Professional Excellence Award, is a recipient of the 2009 Covenant Award for her work in education and the 2012 Bernie Reisman Award (Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program, Brandeis University). She is the author of twelve books on subjects of Jewish interest and leadership.

Gali Cooks

Gali Cooks is the inaugural Executive Director of Leading Edge, an organization formed in 2014 by foundations and federations to influence, inspire and enable dramatic change in attracting, developing and retaining top talent for Jewish organizations. Gali’s professional experience spans the public, private and nonprofit sectors. Her career began as a speechwriter at the Embassy of Israel and a Legislative Assistant at AIPAC. She then joined the Harold Grinspoon Foundation as Founding Director of the PJ Library. From 2007-2013, Gali was Executive Director of the Rita & Stanley Kaplan Family Foundation. In the private sector, Gali was VP of Operations at an education technology startup. Most recently, Gali was Director of Business Operations in the Youth Division of URJ.

Gali serves on the Boards of Keshet and the Joshua Venture Group, and holds a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an M.B.A. from the NYU Stern School of Business. In 2016, she was named one of the Forward 50, an annual list of the top 50 Jews influencing American life, for her efforts to build the next generation of leaders.

Abi Dauber Stern

Abi Dauber Sterne is Vice President for Jewish Education at Hillel International. She is developing the Center for Jewish and Israel Education of Hillel U, to provide training and continuing education to all 1000 Hillel professionals to enhance their Jewish fluency and educational skills. Previous positions include director of the Mandel Jerusalem Fellows, founding director of Limmud NY, and program associate at UJAFederation of NY. Over the past ten years, Abi has been active in various independent minyanim, from NY to Jerusalem to Silver Spring.
Josh Fiegelson

Rabbi Josh Fiegelson, PhD is Founder and Executive Director of Ask Big Questions, which helps colleges and universities to nurture individuals and communities in healthier habits of civic engagement and civil discourse, and which was the recipient of the inaugural Lippman-Kanfer Prize for Applied Jewish Wisdom in 2016. Josh founded Ask Big Questions at Northwestern University Hillel, where he served as Campus Rabbi from 2005-2011. He holds a doctorate in Religious Studies from Northwestern, and rabbinic ordination from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School. A dynamic speaker and sought-after teacher and facilitator, Josh is a leading thinker and writer on issues of faith and higher education, emerging adulthood, and civic education. He lives in Skokie, IL with his wife and three sons.

Michael Feuer

Dr. Michael Feuer is Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development and Professor of Education Policy at The George Washington University, and President of the National Academy of Education. In the fall of 2014, President Obama appointed Dean Feuer as a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences. Prior to his joining GWU, for the previous 17 years, Dean Feuer held positions at the National Research Council of the National Academies, most recently as the executive director of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. He also served as a senior analyst and project director at the US Congress Office of Technology Assessment.

Feuer received his BA (cum laude) in English literature from Queens College New York, an MA in public management from the Wharton School, and a PhD in public policy analysis from the University of Pennsylvania. He has studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Sorbonne, was on the faculty of the business school at Drexel University from 1981-1986, and has taught courses in education policy and research at Penn and Georgetown. Feuer consults regularly to educational institutions and government in the US, Israel, Europe, and the Middle East. He has published in education, economics, and policy journals and has had reviews, essays, and poems in newspapers and magazines in Washington, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and New York.

Feuer is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Educational Research Association.

Ben Jacobs

Dr. Ben Jacobs has spent most of his professional career preparing social studies teachers and Jewish educators for school and non-school settings, and consulting with various Jewish education agencies on curriculum and teaching.

His publications which have appeared in journals such as Teaches College Record, Theory and Research in Social Education, and Journal of Jewish Education, as well as collections such as the International Handbook of Jewish Education, the Encyclopedia of Curriculum Studies, and the Cambridge Dictionary of Judaism and Jewish Culture, include several studies of the history and theory of social education, Jewish education, and teacher education on the American scene. His current projects aim toward the reconceptualization of Jewish education and Jewish history education in the 21st century.

Jacobs earned his Ph.D. from Teachers College, Columbia University, as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. He served on the social studies faculty at the University of Minnesota (2005-2010) and at New York University (2010-2015), where he was co-founder and assistant director of the graduate program in Education and Jewish Studies.
Prior to pursuing his doctorate, Jacobs taught history at a Jewish day high school outside Washington, D.C. A past chair of the Teaching History SIG of the American Educational Research Association, he presently serves as Chair of the Network for Research in Jewish Education.

Susan Kardos

Dr. Susan M. Kardos is Senior Director, Strategy & Education Planning at the AVI CHAI Foundation. After facilitating a process of developing AVI CHAI’s 10-year spend-down strategy for Jewish day schools, she now oversees the implementation of the strategy. Formerly, she was the Director of the Initiative for Day School Excellence at Boston’s Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP), a $45M Jewish day school project focusing on school excellence, access, and affordability. A graduate of Brown University, Kardos received her Doctorate and Master’s degrees from Harvard University and was a post-Doctoral research fellow at Brandeis’s Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education. She is a founding member and research associate at Harvard’s Project on the Next Generation of Teachers, a comprehensive, multi-year research project addressing critical questions about the nation’s public school teaching force. An experienced elementary and middle school teacher, and certified as a middle and high school principal, Kardos studies, publishes, and lectures on school organization, improvement and leadership; new teacher induction and support; education policy; and Jewish education. She has won awards for her teaching, leadership, citizenship, and scholarship and has recently completed a film documentary called Keep and Remember, about the reclamation and recreation of Jewish memory in post-Soviet Ukraine. She currently serves as a Vice President on the board of her children’s Jewish day school, where she and her husband are grateful parents to a 2nd grader and pre-Kindergartner.

Judy Mars Kupchin

Judy Mars Kupchan is CEO of The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. She has served the Melton School for more than two decades as North American Director and in other capacities, and she remains on the faculty of the Chicago Melton school as well. Judy holds an MA in Jewish Education and Contemporary Jewish Studies from Brandeis University. She is an alumna of the Senior Educators Program of The Hebrew University and Mandel Foundation’s Teacher Educator Institute.

Erik Ludwig

Dr. Erik Ludwig is Director of the Zelikow School of Jewish Nonprofit Management. His executive experience spans the Jewish nonprofit field and has focused on developing Jewish startups and spearheading innovation within traditional institutions. As a researcher and practitioner, he brings to the College-Institute a broad range of expertise in the Jewish nonprofit ecosystem, philanthropy and fundraising, professional leadership development, and management and governance of Jewish organizations. Ludwig’s academic studies focus on education, culture, and society, examining how ethnicity and identity operate in K-12 educational settings. His current research project explores how the “ethic of care” is performed in Jewish Schools.

Jon Levisohn

Dr. Jon A. Levisohn holds the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Chair in Jewish Educational Thought at Brandeis University, where he directs the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education. An alumnus of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship program, he is currently co-chair of the WGF Coordinating Committee. His recent publications include “What Have We Learned about Learning to Read Talmud,” in Learning to Read Talmud, Jane Kanarek and Marjorie Lehman, eds. (2016) and “Redeeming Jewish Literacy,” HaYidion (Spring 2016), and he is co-editor of Advancing the Learning Agenda in Jewish Education (forthcoming) and Beyond Jewish Identity (forthcoming).

Hal M. Lewis

"Jewish Education & Leadership"
Dr. Hal M. Lewis is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership in Chicago where he also serves as Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies. Prior to joining Spertus in September of 2002, Dr. Lewis served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Columbus (Ohio) Jewish Federation from 1999-2002. He is a recognized authority on leadership and has published widely on the subject in both the popular press and scholarly journals. His book *Models and Meanings in the History of Jewish Leadership* (The Edwin Mellen Press, 2004) has been called "a must read for both current and future communal leadership." His work, *From Sanctuary to Boardroom: A Jewish Approach to Leadership* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), has been hailed by scholars, communal professionals and clergy alike.

His professional experience includes positions as the Executive Vice President of Adath Israel Congregation (Cincinnati, Ohio), Campaign Director and Assistant Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, National Executive Vice President of the American Sephardi Federation (New York), and Director General of the International Jewish Committee for Sepharad '92 (New York, Jerusalem, and Istanbul). A master educator, he has served on the Teaching Faculty of the University of Cincinnati, University of Illinois, Chicago, Baltimore Hebrew University, the Wexner Heritage Foundation, and the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School, where he participated in a similar capacity as Visiting Faculty at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Professor Lewis holds a Doctorate in Jewish Studies from Spertus Institute, an MA in Counseling from the University of South Florida, and a BA in Political Science from Columbia University.

**Rona Novick**

Dr. Rona Novick is the Dean of the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration at Yeshiva University and holds the Raine and Stanley Silverstein Chair in Professional Ethics and Values. Dr. Novick also serves as Co-Educational Director of the Hidden Sparks program, providing consultation to day schools and Yeshivas. Dr. Novick received tenure and Full Professor rank at Yeshiva University in 2013 and served as the Director of the Fanya Gottesfeld Heller Division of Doctoral Studies from 2008-2014. Dr. Novick received her PhD from Rutgers University and completed her doctoral internship at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York. She developed the Alliance for School Mental Health at North-Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center and served as its director for eight years, authoring the BRAVE bully prevention program for schools. She is recognized for her expertise in behavior management and child behavior therapy and has published scholarly articles on school applications of behavior management, children and trauma and bully prevention in schools. She has delivered numerous presentations at national and international conferences, focusing on her research interests in parenting and parent-school partnerships, child anxiety disorders, social-emotional learning and the behavior and development of young children. She is the author of a book for parents, Helping Your Child Make Friends, and editor of the book series Kids Don’t Come With Instruction Manuals.

**Alex Pomson**

Dr. Alex Pomson serves as Managing Director of Rosov Consulting and leads the team at Rosov Consulting Israel. He is internationally regarded for his research in areas that include the life course of Jewish families, teachers’ lives and work, and Israel education.

Alex was founding Head of Jewish Studies at the King Solomon High School. He was Koschitzky Family Chair in Jewish Teacher Education at York University, Toronto, where he coordinated York’s Jewish Teacher Education Programme. He was also a Senior Researcher at the Melton Centre for Jewish Education at the Hebrew University. He is past chair of the Network for Research in Jewish Education. He is author of numerous peer-reviewed articles, and is co-author of *Back to school: Jewish day school as a source of meaning in the lives of adult Jews* and of the soon-to-published: *Home work – A new approach to Jewish families and Jewish self-formation*. He is co-editor of the *International handbook of Jewish education*. 
Alex trained in History at the University of Cambridge. He received his PhD in Religious Education from the University of London, where he qualified as a teacher. He is an alumnus of the Jerusalem Fellows.

Bill Robinson

Dr. Bill Robinson is the dean of the William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education. He draws on a distinguished and dynamic career in Jewish education, and looks forward to contributing to the continual building of The Davidson School as a vital center for Jewish education.

Dr. Robinson’s experience in cutting-edge strategy for Jewish education also includes past roles as director of education and research at the Steinhardt Foundation for Jewish Life in New York City, where he led the creation of its Jewish Early Childhood Education Initiative and worked toward the development of interdenominational Jewish values and ideas geared toward young adults; director of Jewish education at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple in New Brunswick, New Jersey, where he oversaw a K-12 school with 300 students, family programming, and adult education; managing director of the Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, where he managed the administration of Yale Hillel and Young Israel House Kosher Kitchen; planning associate (pro bono) at the Atlanta Jewish Federation in Atlanta, Georgia, where he ran the planning and allocations committee and staffed the Atlanta Rabbinical Council; and staff researcher at the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education in Atlanta, where he performed research and evaluation for one of the first philanthropically funded national initiatives for change in Jewish education. Dr. Robinson received an interdisciplinary PhD in Social Theory from Rutgers University.

Ari Rockoff

Rabbi Ari Rockoff currently serves as the Director of Leadership Development at the Orthodox Union (OU). In this capacity he is responsible to develop a comprehensive development training platform that enables its professional team to become accomplished and sought-after Jewish leaders both within the OU and in the broader Jewish community.

Prior to joining the Orthodox Union, Rockoff spent more than a dozen years at Yeshiva University, where he was one of the founding director of the Center for the Jewish Future and also served as the Associate Dean of Institutional Advancement at the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies.

Rockoff graduated from Yeshiva University’s Sy Syms School of Business and received his rabbinical ordination from RIETS while earning an MA in education from the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration. He later returned to school to complete an MBA from the Zicklin School of Business at Baruch College with a specialized focus on organizational behavior.

Abby Saloma

Abby Saloma is a Senior Program Office with the Schusterman Family Foundation. Abby’s work at the Schusterman Family Foundation is based on her belief that individual change drives organizational change and that leaders operate at their very best when they are leading “from the inside out.” Abby oversees Schusterman’s leadership initiatives – including its flagship program, the Schusterman Fellowship – designed to develop and support individuals who are leading Jewish organizations. She has worked in the for-profit, non-profit, Jewish and secular sectors.

Abby was the Senior Director of Marketing and Communications for BBYO, the world’s leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement, aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. During Abby’s five-year tenure with BBYO, she led an effort to re-brand
the 85-year-old organization, making it relevant to today’s teens and resulting in a near doubling of teen involvement. Following BBYO, Abby assumed the Executive Director role at Street Sense, a DC-based non-profit organization which works to empower the homeless through a newspaper that educates the public about issues of homelessness and poverty.

Abby holds a bachelor's degree from The Pennsylvania State University and a master's degree in Media and Public Affairs from The George Washington University. Abby received her Leadership Coaching certification from Georgetown University's Institute for Transformational Leadership, and she is a certified yoga instructor.

**Ted Sasson**

Dr. Theodore Sasson is Director of Programs at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation. He is also a professor at Middlebury College (on-leave) and a senior research scientist at the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies (on-leave). Trained as a sociologist, Prof. Sasson has written widely in the fields of diaspora studies, heritage tourism, Israeli politics, American Jewish opinion, American Jewish demography and criminology. He is author, most recently, of The New American Zionism (New York University Press, 2014) and “The Politics of Israel in the American Jewish Community” (in Frederick Greenspahn, editor, Contemporary Israel: New Insights and Scholarship, New York University Press, 2016). He is co-author of Millennial Children of Intermarriage: Touchpoints and Trajectories (Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, 2015).

**Elana Stein Hain**

Dr. Elana Stein Hain is the Director of Leadership Education at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, where she serves as a lead faculty member and oversees the content of the Institute’s lay and professional leadership programs. A widely well-regarded teacher and scholar, Elana earned her doctorate in Religion from Columbia University with a dissertation on the topic of legal loopholes in rabbinic literature sponsored by Professor David Weiss Halivni.

A graduate of the Yeshiva University Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies and the Cardozo Interdisciplinary Fellowship in Jewish Law and Legal Theory, Elana has taught across the country and in Israel, including as a member of Wexner Institute faculty.

Elana previously served as clergy member at Lincoln Square Synagogue and The Jewish Center, both in New York, as well as adjunct faculty at NYU. She is a board member of Sefaria: A Living Library of Jewish Texts, co-founded the Orthodox Leadership Project (OLP) to support female leaders working in the Orthodox Jewish community, and was recognized by The Jewish Week in its inaugural “36 Under 36” as an emerging Jewish leader.

**Julia Storberg-Walker**

Dr. Julia Storberg-Walker is an Associate Professor and a Co-Director of the Executive Leadership Program at George Washington University, and a member of the Faculty Advisory Council of GW’s Global Women's Institute. Julia serves as Editor-in- Chief of the journal Human Resource Development Review, a theory and conceptual journal. She is also an Associate at the Taos Institute, a “a community of scholars and practitioners concerned with the social processes essential for the construction of reason, knowledge, and human value.” In 2015, Julia was recognized for her contributions to women and leadership theory when she received the International Leadership Association's Women and Leadership Affinity Group’s Outstanding Scholar Award. She has published and presented globally on theoretical and conceptual development for applied disciplines and she incorporates a variety of critically informed research strategies in her theorizing projects. She is currently focused on feminist theorizing as a catalyst for leading social change. Holistically, the purpose of her work is to link theory to practice and illuminate alternative knowledge generating processes.
Josh Troderman

Joshua Troderman (CEO of ShalomLearning) is an innovator in Jewish education, musician and a social entrepreneur. Josh co-founded Jewish Causes of Choice, Inc. (JChoice.org) in 2009 (a next generation mitzvah project donor advised fund), and oversaw the merging of JChoice with ShalomLearning in 2015. ShalomLearning is scaling up and training teachers with a new model and platform for pluralistic Jewish values education across the country, in order to help children and families live meaningful Jewish lives. Under Josh’s leadership (since September of 2014) ShalomLearning has maintained an 82% retention rate with congregations and grown its enrollment from 300 to 2500 students, now serving over 50 synagogues in 17 states.

Josh holds an MA from The William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education (2005) and has taught classes and workshops in Jewish Education at dozens of synagogues across the country, as well as held teaching and administrative jobs at The Rashi School, The Rodeph Sholom Day School, The Kesher Community Hebrew School, Congregation Kehillath Israel, The Rebecca and Israel Ivry Prozdor High School, Camp Ramah, Camp Edward Issacs, and Storahtelling.

Jonathan Woocher

Dr. Jonathan Woocher is Senior Fellow at Lippman Kanfer Foundation for Living Torah, which promotes and supports efforts to help Jews and fellow travelers use Jewish wisdom and sensibilities to lead better lives and shape a better world. Dr. Woocher served for three years as the Foundation’s first President before assuming his new role on September 1. Prior to coming to the Foundation, Dr. Woocher worked for 27 years at JESNA (Jewish Education Service of North America) as President and then as Chief Ideas Officer, where he headed the Lippman Kanfer Institute, an action-oriented think tank for innovation in Jewish Learning and Engagement. Dr. Woocher is the author of Sacred Survival: The Civil Religion of American Jews and numerous articles on Jewish education, community, and religious life. Dr. Woocher serves on the boards of the Covenant Foundation and Bikkurim: An Incubator for New Jewish Ideas, and is an active volunteer in his synagogue and community.

Mark Young

Mark S. Young is passionate about advancing effective educational leadership in Jewish life. As managing director of the Leadership Commons, Mark builds relationships with community foundations, federations, and practitioners across the continent to make the Leadership Commons a space where “thinkers, doers, and visionaries” from all corners of Jewish education come together to learn, create, and collaborate for the common good of the Jewish people in North America.

Mark previously served as The Davidson School’s director of Alumni Engagement, launching new initiatives to benefit its 1,000 alumni, including the school’s recent 20th anniversary alumni celebration. Mark also served as program coordinator of the school’s Experiential Learning Initiative, launching the Jewish Experiential Leadership Institute (JELI) for JCC professionals and advancing experiential learning within the school’s MA program.

Prior to joining JTS, Mark served as assistant director of human resources for Episcopal Social Services (ESS), human resources and volunteer programs manager for the 92nd Street Y, and head song-leader and Jewish educator for the Mandel JCC Camp Wise in northeast Ohio.
Mark serves on the board of JPRO Network and regularly publishes on how to best retain and invest in Jewish educators, including his $54,000 Strategy series on eJewishPhilanthropy and his 2016 ELI Talk: Mah Tovu.

Mark holds an MPA in Nonprofit Management and an MA in Hebrew and Judaic Studies from NYU as well as a BS in Psychology and Economics from McGill University.

**Stefanie Zelkind**

Stefanie Zelkind is the Director of The Wexner Graduate Fellowship/Davidson Scholars program. Stefanie graduated from Tufts University with a B.S. in Environmental Studies and Judaic Studies. Upon graduation, she attended the WUJS Institute in Arad, Israel and interned through the New Israel Fund. Stefanie made Aliyah and served as Program Manager at EcoPeace/Friends of the Earth Middle East and later as Director of International Affairs at Adam Teva V’Din: The Israel Union for Environmental Defense. Upon her eventual return to the States, Stefanie joined the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) as National Field Director, bridging her interests in environmental awareness and education with Jewish engagement and activism.

In 2003, Stefanie completed her Master’s Degree in Public Administration (MPA) from the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at NYU and her MA in Hebrew and Judaic Studies through the NYU Wagner/Skirball dual degree program as a Wexner Graduate Fellow.

From 2006 to 2016, Stefanie served as the Founding Director of the Jewish Teen Funders Network (JTFN), a project of the Jewish Funders Network, engaging thousands of Jewish teens in hands-on philanthropic giving.