

ANNUAL REPORT

1 August 2014 – 31 July 2015



RESEARCH

EDUCATE

ENGAGE

PEARS INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM

ANNUAL REPORT

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Professor David Feldman, Director

20 November 2015

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Overview of the Year

2014/15 brought to fruition work begun in previous years and set the course for major initiatives in the future. The amplification and endorsement of the Institute's role both in informing public policy discussion on antisemitism and as a source of respected independent analysis and comment for the media is particularly notable. This is a significant milestone which was set as an objective in the Institute's five year plan. The publication of the *Sub-Report for the Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism* signals the Institute's significant contribution in scrutinizing antisemitism in the domains of public discourse and public policy.

The Institute's research capacity has been significantly strengthened this year, with two new Research Fellows joining the team and the recruitment of a third who will start in September 2015. The appointment of a lecturer to promote the teaching of racialization and antisemitism lays strong foundations for the Institute's new teaching remit from 2015/16. The Institute has also been successful in attracting additional income to support postgraduate research students and post-doctoral research over the next five years.

The year has been coloured in many respects, by the events in Gaza in summer 2014 and their aftermath. In November, the Director was asked by the All Party Parliamentary Group Against Antisemitism to give evidence to MPs and prepare a sub-report to inform the All Party Inquiry into Antisemitism. In December, the Institute held a public discussion on the issue, *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain: Now and in the Future*, which was attended by 250 people. The Director has given two public lectures on the subject, written an opinion piece for the *Jewish Quarterly* and responded to press and broadcast enquiries from the UK, Europe and international media. He appeared on the half hour religious affairs programme, *All Things Considered*, on BBC Radio Wales and gave an interview for the Canadian Broadcast Corporation which was broadcast on CBC News.

The Institute has also delivered a full programme of interdisciplinary academic and public events through the year encompassing history, law, sociology and the arts – literature and film. The 17 events have explored a diverse range of topics including medieval blood libel, the First World War and European Jewry, the Third Reich, the Armenian Genocide and Race, Equality and the Law. Over 1,300 people have participated in events through the year.

This annual report sets out the Institute's key achievements in 2014/15.

Research

Research Fellows

This year two new research fellows joined the Institute and another was appointed to start in September 2015.

Dr Brendon McGeever joined the Institute as a Pears Institute Early Career Fellow in April 2015 funded by Pears Foundation. His work focusses on racism, antisemitism and anti-racism both historically and in the present day. As a sociologist, Brendan brings a new disciplinary perspective to the Institute and in addition to work on his own research projects he is making an important contribution by promoting dialogue between sociologists and historians engaged in research on antisemitism, race and racialization.

Dr Diana Popescu joined the Institute in June 2015 on a four year research fellowship funded by the Swedish Research Council. Diana is a cultural historian specializing in Holocaust and museum studies. Her research project, conducted jointly with a scholar at the University of Stockholm, explores audience reception and engagement with artistic and educational projects commemorating the Holocaust. During her time at the Institute Diana will work across the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy and School of Arts. The prestigious grant from the Swedish Research Council brings additional research funding to the Institute over four years.

Dr Nathan Kurz joins the Institute as a Pears Institute Early Career Fellow in September 2015 from Yale University where he recently completed his PhD on the intersection of international human rights with longstanding forms of Jewish defence politics.

Dr Becky Taylor, Wellcome Trust Research Fellow, who joined the Institute in September 2012 on a three year fellowship exploring the relationship between minority groups and British state and society in the twentieth century, has continued to make an important contribution to the Institute this year, both with respect to research outputs and in developing a major research funding bid. Becky was appointed Reader in Modern History at the University of East Anglia from September 2015. She remains an Associate of the Pears Institute.

Publications

The year has seen a continuing flow of publications by the Director and Research Fellows. The Director has had five papers published this year. He explored the topical issue of immigration in 'Talking the Talk – Immigration Policy Since 1962', *Political Quarterly*, (November 2014), which was reproduced as, 'Why immigration policy since 1962 has such a poor record of achievement' on the respected and popular LSE *British Politics and Policy* blog, (24 November 2014). Other essays have related specifically to antisemitism, past and present. 'The Damascus Affair and the Debate on Ritual Murder in Early Victorian Britain' appeared in Sander Gilman (ed.) *Judaism, Christianity and Islam: Conflict and Collaboration in the Age of the Diaspora* (November 2014). Contemporary antisemitism in Britain was addressed in two essays: an academic paper, 'Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism in Britain' published on-line in English and German by Jewish Museum Berlin (November 2014) and in print in German by Technical University Berlin (December

2014), and in an article, 'Antisemitism in Dangerous Times', intended for a more general readership, published in the *Jewish Quarterly* (Winter 2014). The article considers rising antisemitism in the UK as a result of the conflict in Gaza, and the growing concern among Jews at this phenomenon.

The Research Fellows have made an important contribution to research outputs this year, both published and in press. Diana Popescu's co-edited volume of essays, *Revisiting Holocaust Representation in the Post-Witness Era*, which explores the relevance of imagination in Holocaust commemoration, was published in July 2015. Diana wrote the introductory essay for the volume and has another two papers in press. Becky Taylor has published four papers this year concerning minority groups and refugees and has another two in press. They include: a co-authored chapter exploring, 'Is nomadism the 'problem'? The social construction of Gypsies and Travellers as perpetrators of 'anti-social' behaviour in Britain', in S. Pickard (ed.). *Anti-Social Behaviour in Britain* (October 2014); and an article reflecting current concerns around international migrants, 'Ghost Ships and Fortress Europe: Vietnamese Boatpeople and Today's Refugee Crisis in the Mediterranean', *History Workshop Online* (26 January 2015). Brendan McGeever has been preparing his PhD thesis for book publication; this provides a historical sociology of the Bolshevik response to antisemitism and pogromist violence during the Russian Revolution (1917-1919). He has co-edited a special issue of *Patterns of Prejudice*, entitled, 'Antisemitism and Socialist Strategy in Europe, 1881-1917', writing both the introduction to the issue and an essay, 'Antisemitism and the October Revolution of 1917' (in press). A book chapter is also forthcoming.

Pears Institute books and papers: published and in press 2014/15

Director: Professor David Feldman

- 'Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism in Britain' *Antisemitism in Europe Today: The Phenomena, the Conflicts*, conference paper published in English online by Jewish Museum Berlin, November 2014 and in German by Technical University Berlin in its *Center for Research on Antisemitism Yearbook 2014*, December 2014
- 'Talking the Talk – Immigration Policy Since 1962' *Political Quarterly*, November 2014
- 'Why Immigration Policy Since 1962 Has Had Such a Poor Record of Achievement' published online in LSE British Politics and Policy Blog, November 2014
- 'Antisemitism in Dangerous Times' *After Gaza Special Section, Jewish Quarterly*, Winter 2014/15
- 'The Damascus Affair and the Debate on Ritual Murder in Early Victorian Britain' in S Gilman (ed.) *Judaism, Christianity and Islam: Conflict and Collaboration in the Age of the Diaspora*, Hong-Kong University Press, November 2014
- *Sub report on Antisemitism for the Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism* - commissioned to assist the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism, January 2015
- (with Jane Caplan) 'Laughing Out Loud: 'Official' Humour in Three Dictatorships: Introduction' *History Workshop Journal*, Spring 2015
- *Boycotts: Past and Present*, Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming 2016

Research Fellow: Brendan McGeever

- 'The Spatial, Temporal and Agential Underpinnings of Bolshevik Propaganda Against Antisemitism, 1918-1919' in Lindenmeyr, A. Read, C. and Waldron, P. (eds.) *Russia's Great War and Revolution: Russia's Home Front, 1914-1922, the Experience of War and Revolution*, volume 2, forthcoming, 2015
- Introduction and essay, 'Antisemitism and the October Revolution of 1917', *Patterns of Prejudice* special issue, 'Antisemitism and Socialist Strategy in Europe, 1881-1917' (co-edited with S. Virdee), in press

Research Fellow: Diana Popescu

- *Revisiting Holocaust Representation in the Post-Witness Era*, Palgrave Macmillan, July 2015 (co-edited with T. Schult)
- 'Memory and Imagination in the Post-Witness Era' in D. Popescu and T. Schult (eds.) *Revisiting Holocaust representation in the Post-Witness era*, Palgrave Macmillan, July 2015
- 'The Eruv and the Wall in Jewish Contemporary Artistic Imagination' in A. Gromova, F. Heinert and S. Voigt, eds., *Jewish and Non-Jewish Spaces in the Urban Context*, Neofelis Verlag, forthcoming, 2015
- 'Remembrance at a Distance? The Israeli Third Generation in Yael Ronen's Third Generation Play (2009)' in E. Jilovsky, J. Silverstein and D. Slucki, eds., *In the Shadows of Memory: The Holocaust and the Third Generation*, Valentine Mitchell, forthcoming, 2015

Research Fellow: Becky Taylor

- (with Colin Clark) 'Is Nomadism a Problem? The Social Construction of Gypsies and Travellers as Perpetrators of 'anti-social' Behaviour in Britain' in S. Pickard (ed.) *Anti-Social Behaviour in Britain: Victorian and Contemporary Perspectives*, Palgrave Macmillan, October 2014
- 'A Powerful Message from the Powerless: The E15 Mothers and Squatting in Post-War Britain' *History Workshop Online*, October 2014
- 'A Change of Heart? British Policies Towards Tubercular Refugees During 1959 World Refugee Year', *Twentieth Century British History*, 2015
- 'Ghost Ships and Fortress Europe: Vietnamese Boatpeople and Today's Refugee Crisis in the Mediterranean' *History Workshop Online*, January 2015
- (with Ben Rogaly) 'For the Likes of Us? Retelling the Classed Production of a British University Campus' in *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, forthcoming, 2015
- 'Construction and Constraints: The 1920 Aliens' Order, Medical Examinations and the Limitations of the British State' *Social History of Medicine*, forthcoming, 2016

The Institute's reputation for promoting innovative research and new ways of thinking has been further consolidated with the publication of papers arising from two previous workshops. The prestigious *History Workshop Journal* published papers presented at the workshop, 'Sanctioned Laughter: Humour, War and Dictatorship in Twentieth Century Europe' which explored the relationship between power and humour in the fascist and communist dictatorships of the twentieth century. *European Judaism* devoted a special issue to papers arising from the workshop, 'Writing Jews in Contemporary Britain' which

provided a forum for presenting and analysing the most recent critical and theoretical approaches to British-Jewish fiction, film, television drama and documentary.

- *History Workshop Journal*, Volume 79, Spring 2015
'Sanctioned Laughter: Humour, War and Dictatorship in Twentieth Century Europe'
 - Jane Caplan and David Feldman, 'Laughing Out Loud: 'Official' Humour in Three Dictatorships: Introduction'
 - Stephen Gundle, 'Laughter Under Fascism: Humour and Ridicule in Italy, 1922-43'
 - Patrick Merziger, 'Totalitarian Humour'? National Socialist Propaganda and Active Audiences in Entertainment'
 - Nathan Abrams, 'A Hidden Heart of Jewishness and Englishness: Stanley Kubrick'
- *European Judaism*, Volume 47, No. 2, Autumn 2014
'Writing Jews in Contemporary Britain'
 - Sue Vice and Axel Stähler, 'Writing Jews in Contemporary Britain: Introduction'
 - David Brauner, 'Fetishizing the Holocaust: Comedy and Transatlantic Connections in Howard Jacobson's *Kalooki Nights*'
 - Ruth Gilbert, 'Genes, Shmenes': Jew-ish Identities in Contemporary British Jewish Writing'
 - James Jordan, 'A Wandering View: Writing Jews and Jewishness on British Television'
 - Axel Stähler, 'Of Shadow-Play and Promised Lands: Between America and Israel: Interview with Clive Sinclair'

A significant publishing opportunity has also been secured this year. Palgrave has agreed to publish a new series, *Rethinking Antisemitism*, in collaboration with the Director, who is series editor, and the International Consortium for the Study of Antisemitism and Racism of which the Director is founding member and co-convenor. The goal of the series reflects the Institute's and the Consortium's aim: to reshape and revitalise the study of antisemitism through rigorous, independent inquiry. The *Rethinking Antisemitism* series will address topical, historical, and theoretical questions and issues. It has a chronological scope, ranging from the ancient world to the contemporary, and a geographical ambition to encompass all continents. In this way historical, comparative and multidisciplinary perspectives will further understanding of current concerns and phenomena. The series will include conventional monographs, as well as collections of essays and shorter studies on antisemitism. A volume of essays, *Boycotts, Past and Present*, arising out of the conference organized by the Pears Institute in June 2013, will be one of the first in the series.

Lectures

The Director has had a demanding schedule of public lectures and speaking commitments through the year in the UK and Europe. These have focused primarily on antisemitism, Islamophobia and race, reflecting contemporary academic and public discourse around these issues. The Director spoke on the histories of Jews and antisemitism in modern Britain at Humboldt University, Berlin. At a conference on Modern British Studies, University of Birmingham he considered the 'future histories of race'. In addition to academic conferences the Director delivered three lectures open to the public. Lectures given at the Humanities Society, University of Cambridge and at the University of Glasgow focused on 'Israel and Antisemitism', addressing the question, 'when, if ever, does criticism of Israel become a form of racism?'. At the Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race, held at Birkbeck, he reflected on the Jewish experience in Britain and Europe.

Potential synergies between the study of antisemitism and Islamophobia are increasingly attracting the attention of scholars. A paper by the Director, exploring this aspect, given at a workshop on *Antisemitism and Islamophobia* held by the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, University of Oxford is to be used as the basis for further research in this area.

Director: David Feldman

- *How I Stopped Being a Jew*, Centre for Jewish Studies, SOAS, and the London Middle East Institute (discussant for Shlomo Sand)
- *Zionism and the British Labour Party*, Birkbeck, University of London
- *Hellenism and Judaism in Modernity*, University College London (discussant for Simon Goldhill)
- *History of Immigration and Border Controls*, History and Policy Seminar Series, Home Office, London
- *Antisemitism*, Seminar on Racisms, Reconfiguring the British: Nation, Empire, World 1600-2000, Institute of Historical Research
- *Zionism and the British Labour Party*, University of York
- *Israel and Antisemitism*, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge
- *God's Chosen People: Love, Power and Popery in 19th Century Britain*, Jewish Historical Society of England
- *Exhibiting Belief: Materiality and Religious Display in the Nineteenth Century*, CRASSH, University of Cambridge (discussant)
- *Israel and Antisemitism*, University of Glasgow
- *If Studying Islamophobia and Antisemitism Together is the Answer - What, Then, is the Question?* University of Oxford
- *From the History of Antisemitism to the History of Difference: Jews and 'Jews' in Modern British History*, Humboldt University, Berlin
- *Future Histories of Race*, University of Birmingham (panel discussant)
- *Israel and Antisemitism*, Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race, Birkbeck, University of London

Research Fellow: Brendan McGeever

- *The Bolshevik Confrontation with Antisemitism in the Russian Revolution, 1917-1919*, Center for Jewish History, New York
- *Racism and Resistance in the Russian Revolution: the political mobilisation of ethnicity in socialist campaigns against antisemitism in revolutionary Russia, 1917-1922*, University of East London

Research Fellow: Diana Popescu

- *Is there a "performative" turn in Holocaust commemoration?*, British Association of Holocaust Studies, University of Birmingham

International conferences and workshops

To mark the centenary of the Armenian Genocide, and to provide the opportunity to place the Holocaust in the context of other genocides, the Institute organised an academic workshop, *The Armenian Genocide - Reflections and Comparisons*, with leading European scholars in London (May 2015) and co-convened an international three-day conference, *Gender, Memory and Genocide* in Berlin (June, 2015), under the auspices of the International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism. Both events brought together experts on the Armenian genocide with scholars of other genocides and the Holocaust. The conference may give rise to a publication. In a similar vein, the Institute collaborated with the Comparative Histories of Asia Seminar to explore the connections between the narratives and histories of the victims and survivors of Hiroshima and the Holocaust (November 2014).

To further the Institute's aim of providing a forum for presenting new research and thinking, a one day workshop, *Paupers and Bankers: Modern Representation of Jews and Money* was held in collaboration with the Centre for Jewish Studies, SOAS (June 2015). The workshop's emphasis was on modern writing about Jews, money and economy and sought to analyse the most recent critical and theoretical approaches for understanding self-representations of Jewish economic activity in the modern Diaspora, in Mandate Palestine and in Israel. At the Association of Jewish Studies National Conference, Baltimore (November, 2014), the Director co-convened with Scott Ury, University of Tel Aviv, three interdisciplinary workshops exploring new thinking on 'Theory', 'Holocaust Studies' and 'Postcolonialism'.

International Conferences

- *Gender, Memory and Genocide: An International Conference Marking 100 Years Since the Armenian Genocide* – co-convened with Centre for Research on Antisemitism, Berlin. Third conference of the International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism

Workshops and seminars

- *Hiroshima, the Holocaust and the Rise of Global Memory Culture* – seminar with Comparative Histories of Asia Seminar, Institute of Historical Research
- *The Armenian Genocide – Reflections and Comparisons*
- *Paupers and Bankers: Modern Representation of Jews and Money* – with Centre for Jewish Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies
- 'Theory', 'Holocaust Studies' and 'Postcolonialism' – a series of workshops co-convened with Tel-Avi University on behalf of the International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism, Association of Jewish Studies National Conference, Baltimore

More than 150 scholars and postgraduate students participated in events organised by the Institute in 2014/15.

Teaching

A range of modules covering antisemitism, religious and racial intolerance and multiculturalism were offered to students studying at Birkbeck in 2014/15. Popular modules included *Nationalism, Ethnicity and Religious Conflict* attended by 75 BA students and another BA module, *War and Modern Society* taken by 52 students. The interdisciplinary programme on *Culture, Diaspora and Ethnicity* which covers social sciences, law, arts and humanities and is offered at MA, Postgraduate Diploma and Certificate levels attracted 38 students. The Director taught the compulsory summer reading project, *Victorians and the Jews*, on the MA Victorian Studies programme, School of Arts which was taken by 18 students.

A Summer School for PhD students in European-Jewish history and culture was held in July 2015 in collaboration with the Centre for Jewish Studies, Sussex University and Goethe University. The School brought together 20 young researchers, working on a range of topics across Jewish history, religion, ideology, literature, culture, inter-religious and inter-cultural relations, with leading scholars in the field. The Summer School was made possible with a grant from the Rothschild Foundation.

Dave Rich, a research student supervised by the Director, has been awarded his doctorate. His thesis explored: 'Zionists and anti-Zionists: Political Protest and Student Activism in Britain, 1968-86'. Dave has become an Associate of the Pears Institute. The Institute has a strong cohort of eight post-graduate students, including two visiting PhD students from the Technical University, Berlin.

The Pears Institute's programme of public events augments the formal teaching at Birkbeck. An estimated 180 students attended the Institute's lectures and discussions through the year.

"The breadth of subject areas both ideologically and geographically have made me far more aware that both antisemitism and prejudice are deep rooted in all societies."
Undergraduate student

“The events challenge me to go beyond the text and my own reading...they provide a powerful means of adapting your own thinking through being with others.”
Postgraduate student

“[The Pears Institute] broadens the mind for those who wish to listen, learn and participate. A brave mission.” Undergraduate student

Discussions have concluded successfully with the Bonnart Trust to fund a postgraduate scholarship scheme, managed through the Pears Institute. The first scholarship will be advertised in late autumn 2015 and will commence in October 2016. At least one new scholarship will be awarded each year. The scholarships will support research in the areas of ‘diversity and belonging’ and ‘minorities and social justice’, with a view to shaping social relations and public policy as well as academic debate. The three-year, fully-funded scholarships will be offered via the Institute, across the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy in the first instance.

Realizing the new lectureship post in racialization and antisemitism has been a priority for the Institute this year. The post attracted a strong field of applicants. Dr Brendan McGeever, currently the Institute’s Early Career Research Fellow was appointed and will take up the post next April. Brendan will play a leading role in integrating the study of antisemitism within the teaching of racialization at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as well as contributing to the work of the Institute.

Policy engagement

The Institute’s contribution to public policy thinking has been acknowledged and endorsed in new and significant ways this year.

In November 2014 the All Party Parliamentary Group Against Antisemitism invited the Director to give evidence to the All Party Inquiry into Antisemitism examining rising antisemitism in Britain during the summer of 2014, emanating from the Gaza conflict. He was also commissioned to prepare a report on key aspects of antisemitism at this time to inform their deliberations and report to government. The director’s *Sub-Report for the Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism* was published in January 2015. The *All Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism*, also published in January 2015, adopts the Director’s definitions of antisemitism, which he proposed could be used to analyse public discussion of the Middle East conflict, together with large parts of his sub-report. The inclusion of these more precise definitions of antisemitism continues the Institute’s efforts to encourage politicians and the public more broadly to understand antisemitism in ways that are both nuanced and clear.

The Institute’s earlier policy report, *Integration, Disadvantage and Extremism* (June 2014) was used by the Economic and Social Research Council as an ‘Evidence Briefing’ paper, *Integration and the Drivers of Racism*, published in September 2014, which focused on the report’s key findings and recommendations. ESRC briefing papers are a valuable tool for disseminating research findings and their relevance in key policy areas to a wide audience.

The Director was invited to contribute to a round-table discussion considering 'What is integration?' hosted by the Integration and Faith Division of the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), University of Oxford. The round-table, attended by participants from across government, delivery agencies, think-tanks and universities, explored key concepts relating to the processes of integration and how government integration policy has developed over time. The Director also gave a seminar to civil servants in the Home Office on immigration and border controls. The success of the seminar has led to a request for him to give another.

The Director was one of a small group of leading academics invited to give evidence to David Cameron's Holocaust Commission. The Director made the presentation on the group's behalf.

Public Engagement

A strong and topical programme of events has been held this year, attended by over 1,200 people. A panel discussion on *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain: Now and in the Future*, at which Baroness Warsi spoke, attracted a capacity audience of 250 people. The event highlighted the value of the academic and independent status of the Institute, enabling it to secure speakers from very different viewpoints and confront difficult issues with impartiality. A number of highly respected scholars have also given talks for the Institute this year, including David Rechter, University of Oxford, exploring *Trauma on the Eastern Front: European Jews and the First World War*; Atina Grosmann, Cooper Union, New York who delivered the Holocaust Memorial Lecture, *Remapping Survival: Jewish Refugees and Rescue in Soviet Central Asia, Iran and India* – an area where little research has been undertaken; and Sir Richard Evans, Cambridge University and Sir Ian Kershaw, Emeritus Professor of Modern History, University of Sheffield, who considered *Why are we Obsessed with the Nazis?*, in conversation with Nik Wachsmann, Birkbeck, University of London. This high-profile event attracted a capacity audience of 450 people in the Beveridge Hall, Senate House, University of London. The year's programme concluded with a panel discussion *Race, Equality and the Law*, marking the 50th anniversary of the Race Relations Act.

A new venture, Sunday film screenings followed by a round-table discussion, proved very popular, with over 250 people attending the three events: an all-day (11 hours) screening of Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah*; a film-documentary of Holocaust survivor and pianist, Edith Kraus, *Enjoy the Music*, which is interesting for its psychoanalytical approach; and *Hannah Arendt* an award winning film exploring the life of the influential German-Jewish philosopher and political theorist

In addition to the Institute's public events, the Director participated in a conference on hate crime, organised jointly by Birkbeck and the London Borough of Camden and in the Bradford Literary Festival as a speaker in a panel discussion on 'Religious Intolerance in Contemporary Britain: How do Rising Islamophobia and Antisemitism Reflect on British Values?'

Pears Institute public events

- *A Life, a Death, a Legacy: Writing the History of Ritual Murder*, Miri Rubin
- *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain: Now and in the Future*, The Rt. Hon. Baroness Warsi PC; Eve Garrard, Ed Kessler, Brian Klug, Daniella Peled
- *After Liberation – Legacies of the Nazi Concentration Camps*, Nikolaus Wachsmann
- *Remapping Survival: Jewish Refugees and Rescue in Soviet Central Asia, Iran and India*, Atina Grossmann
- *Shoah: A Landmark of Twentieth Century Cinema*, Ludivine Broch, Jane Caplan, Michael Chanan
- *Enjoy the Music – The Pianist Edith Kraus*, Marita Barthel-Rösing, Stephen Frosh, Sasha Roseneil
- *Hannah Arendt – Film Screening and Discussion*, Robert Fine, Lyndsey Stonebridge
- *Why are We Obsessed with the Nazis?* Richard Evans and Ian Kershaw in Conversation with Nikolaus Wachsmann
- *Trauma on the Eastern Front: European Jews and the First World War*, David Rechter
- *Race, Equality and the Law: An Event to Mark the 50th Anniversary of the UK's Race Relations Act*, Omar Khan, Camilla Schofield, Anastasia Vakulenko

Director's public engagement

- Hate Crime Conference, London Borough of Camden (panel member)
- *Religious Intolerance in Contemporary Britain: How do Rising Islamophobia and Antisemitism Reflect on British Values?* Bradford Literary Festival (panel discussant)

The public events continue to attract a broad audience, with members of the public accounting for 60% of attendees and alumni a further 6%. The remaining third of the audience is split between academics (19%) and students (15%). Events are well attended and feedback is very positive.

"The 'Israel & anti-Semitism [etc.]' event on 10/12/14 (with its excellent + diverse panel membership) was particularly interesting." *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain*, Member of the public

"Still thinking about @SayeedaWarsi panel participation at @PearsInstitute tonight & stand as a "friend of #Israel". Very moved." *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain*, journalist

"An eloquent, sensible, and liberal discussion of #israel and #antisemitism at #Birkbeck with @SayeedaWarsi, @DaniellaPeled and others." *Israel and Antisemitism in Britain*, academic

"That was an excellent and engaging talk by Atina Grossman tonight, as have the last talks been that I have attended, it has widened out my knowledge of the Holocaust to show the pre-history as well as what happened and what came after." *Remapping Survival*, member of the public

"Long but very enriching day watching (and then discussing) SHOAH - thanks @PearsInstitute pic.twitter.com/L7FHffco1B" *Shoah*, academic

"Just to say thank you for such an emotional and instructive event yesterday afternoon." *Enjoy the Music*, member of the public

"@PearsInstitute @BirkbeckNews Really insightful event and fantastic speakers"
Why are we obsessed with the Nazis?, Member of the public

The *Blood* exhibition, which the Institute has jointly planned with the Jewish Museum, will open on 5 November 2015 and run until mid-February 2016. The Institute's Director and Anthony Bale, Professor of Medieval Studies at Birkbeck, and an Associate of the Institute, have acted as academic advisors for the exhibition and as editors for an accompanying publication. The exhibition will explore how blood, in its regulation and its representation, has been interpreted and exchanged as a symbol between Jews and non-Jews through the centuries, with a particular focus on the real and symbolic links between Christians and Jews.

A grant was awarded by the Birkbeck/Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund to part-fund a publication in support of the exhibition. The School of Arts and School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy underwrote the additional costs. *Blood – reflections on what unites and divides us*, features seven commissioned essays on the religious, historical, and medical dimensions of blood accompanied by high-quality images, some from the exhibition. Each short essay is written by an academic expert for a general audience. Contributors to the booklet are: Gil Anidjar (Religious Studies), Anthony Bale (English Literature), Marc Epstein (Religious Studies), David Feldman (History), Sander Gilman (Medical Humanities), Robin Judd (History) and Dorothy Porter (History of Medicine). The themes covered encompass: blood in Christian and Jewish culture, medieval antisemitism, Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, Jewish ritual, blood and 'race', Jews and genes. The volume is introduced by a short essay about the exhibition and its curating. The book went to press in late July.

The *Blood* exhibition will form a major plank of public engagement activity in 2015/16.

APPENDIX: SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF ASSOCIATES

Ludivine Broch

Essays

- 'Professionalism in the Final Solution: French Railway Workers and the Jewish Deportations' 1942-1944,' *Contemporary European History* 23.3, 2014

Stephen Frosh

Essays

- 'Psychoanalysis as Political Psychology', in P. Nesbitt-Larkin, C. Kinvall and T. Capelos (eds) *Palgrave Handbook of Global Political Psychology*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014

Christian Goeschel

Essays

- 'The Cultivation of Mussolini's Image in Weimar and Nazi Germany', in Jan Rüger and Nikolaus Wachsmann (eds.), *Rewriting German History: New Perspectives on Modern German History*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2015

Conferences

- Keynote speaker at International Conference, *An Honourable Death*, Birkbeck, University of London, May 2015
- Speaker at International Conference, *Leadership, Power and Masculinity*, Université de Paris I (Sorbonne)/University of London Institute, Paris, September 2015

Media

- Interview for Holocaust Memorial Day, BBC Radio Manchester, January 2015
- Interview for 'Reclaiming the Swastika', BBC Radio 4, October 2014

Public lectures

- 'The Protestant Churches in Nazi Germany', Imperial War Museum North, Manchester, October 2014

Eric Kaufmann

Essays

- "'White Flight' or Positive Contact?: Local Diversity and Attitudes to Immigration in Britain', *Comparative Political Studies*, 48.12, 2015
- "It's the Demography, Stupid': Ethnic Change and Opposition to Immigration', *Political Quarterly*, 85.3, 2014
- 'Land, History or Modernization?: Explaining Ethnic Fractionalization', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 28.2, 2014
- 'The Politics of Immigration: UKIP and Beyond', *Political Quarterly*, 85.3, 2014
- 'White Exit and How to Stop it', in D. Goodhart and E. Kaufmann (eds) *Mapping Integration*, September 2014
- (with Gareth Harris) 'Changing Places: The White British Response to Ethnic Change', *Demos Report*, September 2014

Conferences

- Keynote speaker at *Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism Conference*, London School of Economics, April 2015
- Speaker at *IAPSS World Congress*, London, April 2015
- Speaker at *City Forum: Creating Police Leaders for the 21st Century*, Reform Club, London, November 2014

Media

- Interview for ITV documentary *Things We Don't Say About Race that are True*, March 2015

Daniel Pick

Essays

- *Psychoanalysis in the Age of Totalitarianism* (co-edited with Matt ffytche), Routledge, forthcoming

Media

- Interview about *Mein Kampf*, Radio 4, January 2015.

Dave Rich

Essays

- 'The Activist Challenge: Women, Students, and the Board of Deputies of British Jews in the British Campaign for Soviet Jewry', *Jewish History*. 29.2, 2015

Jan Rüger

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