

Subject:

FW: What's New WITHU? The AFHU/Hebrew U Alumni Newsletter



American Friends of the Hebrew University/Hebrew University Alumni



**A letter from your National  
Alumni Chair:  
Clive Kabatznik**



Welcome to our brand new alumni newsletter. As a proud Hebrew U alumnus and member of the National AFHU Board of Directors, it has been a long term goal of ours and of the university to create a world-class alumni program for our world-class university – at last we are well on the road to accomplishing that goal!

**Featured Alumna:  
Talia Carner**

Talia Carner's (B.A., '74) fourth novel, [Hotel Moscow](#), hit stores on June 2, 2015.

New York based Talia Carner was the publisher of Savvy Woman magazine. A

former adjunct professor at Long Island University School of Management and a marketing consultant to Fortune 500 companies, she was also a volunteer counselor and lecturer for the Small



Our new alumni outreach program is hosting events in cities around the U.S., creating online resources and working tirelessly to reach out and reconnect with our alumni community. However, we cannot accomplish our goal without your help. Let me or our Director of Alumni Relations, [Alana Cooper](#), know what would interest you! Feel free to email Alana or me at any time - we want to hear from you!

I hope that you will make use of our new alumni resources including our online social network platform [afhuconnect.com](#), [alumni.afhu.org](#) and our brand new [perks program](#) (use code AFHU15). We look forward to you reconnecting with other alumni and reaffirming your commitment to The Hebrew University.

Welcome back!

[Clive Kabatznik '80](#)

National AFHU Alumni Chair

Business Administration and a member of United States Information Agency (USIA) missions to Russia. She participated at the 1995 International Women's Conference in Beijing, where she sat on economic panels and helped develop political campaigns for Indian and African women.

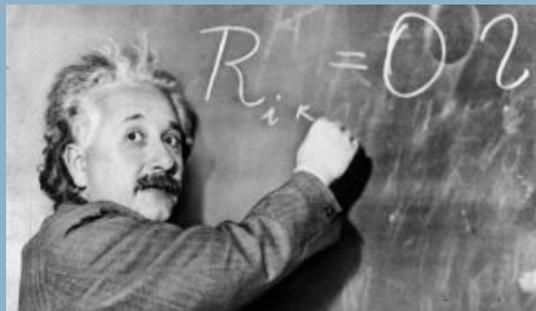
Hotel Moscow tells the story of the American daughter of Holocaust survivors who travels to Russia shortly after the fall of communism. Check out our conversation with Talia [here](#).

Talia's previous novels include [Puppet Child](#), [China Doll](#) and [Jerusalem Maiden](#).

## WHAT'S NEW AT HU?

### 100th Anniversary of Einstein's General Theory of Relativity

**Albert Einstein**, a founder of The Hebrew University, is being remembered around the world this year for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **General Theory of Relativity**. Einstein's contributions in the fields of mathematics and physics are widely known, but his contributions to The Hebrew University – one of his true passions – are a lesser-known part of his life. Einstein was a key player in the University's formation and development. For more about Einstein's enduring legacy, visit AFHU's article and video [here](#).



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## WHAT'S NEW WITH HU?



Leonard Davidman (RIS '67-'68) is [celebrating](#) his 38th year at HHC's Metropolitan Hospital.



Asya Pereltsvaig (B.A. '92-'96) recently [published](#) a textbook, *Languages of the World: An Introduction*.



Rabbi Charles Arian (RIS '79-'80) was presented with an [honorary doctorate](#) from the Jewish Theological Seminary at convocation on April 29th.



Bryan Bender (RIS '93) left his position at The Boston Globe in March to become [Defense Editor](#) at POLITICO Pro.



Rabbi Eric Grossman ('92-'94) was [recently hired](#) as the new Head of School for Ramaz, a prestigious Modern Orthodox Jewish day school in Manhattan.



David Stevens (RIS '14) was [awarded](#) the Chemistry Department Senior Service Award at the University of Richmond.



Seth L. Sanders ('94-'95, '97, '04), Associate Professor of Religion at Trinity College, was [awarded](#) a Guggenheim Fellowship in early 2015.



Chava Weissler (RIS '65-'66) [retired](#) this spring from the faculty of Lehigh University, where she had taught for twenty-seven years.



Itai Sneh (B.A., '87) [published](#) a book review in May in H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online.

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ANYTHING NEW AND EXCITING HAPPENING IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER?

LET US KNOW AT [ALUMNI@AFHU.ORG](mailto:ALUMNI@AFHU.ORG)

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## LET US CELEBRATE WITHU!



**Sydney Maisel (RIS '08)** married Andrew Straitman on September 6, 2014 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The couple met while Ms. Maisel was on her semester abroad at The Hebrew University. The wedding was attended by many Hebrew U

alumni – all the people in the photos here (except for Mr. Straitman) are RIS 2008 alumni! Sydney is proud to be a member of the Northeast AFHU Alumni Steering Committee.



Left to right: Lauren Kastan, Dana Isenstein, Josh Varon, Chelsie Warshafsky, Sam Levine, Sydney Maisel, Andrew Straitman, Rebecca Eisenberg, Jeremy Botwinick, Amy Mendelson, Dan Gorman, Erinn Alcabes



Left to right: Lauren Kastan, Dana Isenstein, Sydney Maisel, Rebecca Eisenberg, Amy Mendelson, Erinn Alcabes



Left to right: Jeremy Botwinick, Chelsie Warshafsky



**Erik Levis (M.A., '08)** and **Dafna DeBasc Levis** welcomed a

beautiful baby girl, Elodie Romi Levis, into their family on February 17, 2015. Mr. Levis is the Assistant Director of Press Relations and Editorial Content at American Friends of Magen David Adom. Mrs. DeBasc Levis is the Principal at OneTen Talent, a talent integration consultancy. The family lives in New York City.



**Rabbi Shira Wallach (RIS '07)** and **Rabbi Adam Roffman** welcomed a

daughter into their lives on May 3, 2015. Rabbi Wallach serves as the Director of Family Development and Outreach at Congregation Shearith Israel in Dallas, Texas. Her husband, Rabbi Roffman, is also a member of the clergy at Congregation Shearith Israel.

SHARE YOUR CELEBRATIONS WITH OTHER HU ALUMNI - EMAIL US AT [ALUMNI@AFHU.ORG](mailto:ALUMNI@AFHU.ORG)

## SPENDING TIME WITH **HU**

Join AFHU and HU alumni at one of our upcoming alumni events. If you would like to register or assist in planning an alumni event - let us know at [alumni@afhu.org](mailto:alumni@afhu.org)

### Western Region



On Sunday July 12, AFHU's Western Region will host an Alumni Summer Soiree, from 5-7:30pm, atop one of Beverly Hills' newest and most unique architectural icons, the Gores Group Building. Friends and alumni can reminisce and reconnect over Mediterranean-inspired fare and enjoy an evening of lively musical entertainment. Individual tickets and sponsorships are available. For more information visit our [event site](#) or contact [Esther M. Cohen](#) at 310-843-3100.

### Midwest Region



On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, AFHU's Midwest office will host a Leaders of Distinction Dinner at the Ritz-Carlton in downtown Chicago to honor Hebrew University alumni Steven "Coby" Derringer (RIS '89-'90) and I. Steven Edelson (RIS '77). Mr. Derringer is a partner at Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP, where he has a national trial practice representing companies in high-stakes litigation. Mr. Edelson is a leading member of the U.S. financial services industry and a dedicated Jewish communal and civic leader with many philanthropic interests.

For additional information contact Rebecca Gruenspan at 312-361-3342 or

[rgruenspan@afhu.org](mailto:rgruenspan@afhu.org)



## LEADING WITH **HU**

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP NEWS

**Mitchell L. Shadowitz (RIS '76)** was elected President of AFHU's Southeast Region. Mr. Shadowitz is a Partner at Shadowitz Associates, P.A., a firm which focuses primarily on insurance, transportation and cargo law. He is also a member of the National Board of Regents at AFHU. Mr. Shadowitz and his wife, Beth, have two adult children. Their son Corey is studying law in Chicago, and their daughter Jenna is a sustainability supervisor working for Stericycle in Dallas.

**Mark Lewis (RIS '79-'80)** is the new Mid-Atlantic region Alumni Chair. Mr. Lewis has been a teacher in the Washington, DC Public School system for 23 years. A graduate of Tulane University, Mark earned Master's degrees from Georgetown University and Johns Hopkins University, and attended The Hebrew University one year program in 1979. Mark and his wife Rachel, an attorney, have two children.

**Marc Rosenbach (RIS '84-'85)** and **Mindy Rothstein Mann (RIS '75-'76)** are the new Western Region Alumni Co-Chairs.

**Mindy Rothstein Mann** was formerly the Founder and Owner of MINDY'S, INC., a unique high end gift basket company that catered to the "who's who" of the entertainment industry.

**Marc Rosenbach** is the Managing Director and PIM Portfolio Manager at the Rosenbach Financial Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. He has over 27 years of experience in the financial industry. Marc and his wife Michelle met during their time at Hebrew U.

**Avner Mendelson ('00)** is the new Alumni Chair of the Northeast region. Mr. Mendelson serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Bank Leumi USA. He received his B.A. in Economics and International Relations from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and his MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Reconnecting WITHU

Be sure to check out our new and updated alumni website: [alumni.afhu.org](http://alumni.afhu.org)! If you have not already, [register](#) to take advantage of all of its benefits! Use the site to search for and reconnect with fellow alumni through the member search, peruse photo galleries from past alumni events, get information on upcoming alumni gatherings – and don't forget our special Hebrew U savings to top stores and restaurants! And remember to take advantage of [afhuconnect.com](http://afhuconnect.com) – part of the [hujiconnect](#) network – which you can use to increase your professional network, find career opportunities and interact with HU alumni around the world! If you have any suggestions or questions about the website, our alumni programs or [American Friends of The Hebrew University](#), please contact Justin Finkelstein at [JFinkelstein@afhu.org](mailto:JFinkelstein@afhu.org) or (212) 607-8562.

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