“Reinventing Israel: Transformations of Israeli Society in the 21st Century”
American University, Washington, DC
October 28-29, 2015
RSVP LINK: http://www.american.edu/cas/israelstudies/rsvp/rsvp1.cfm

Conference Chairs:
Michael Brenner, Seymour and Lillian Abensohn Chair in Israel Studies, American University and Chair of Jewish History and Culture, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich
Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women’s and Gender Studies, American University

Wednesday, October 28
Location: Abramson Family Founders Room, School of International Service

7:30-8:45 p.m. Opening Remarks: Dean Peter Starr, College of Arts and Sciences
Michael Brenner: Zionist Dreams and Israeli Realities
Keynote: “From BG to Bibi: The End of an Era in Israel-Diaspora Relations?” David Ellenson (Brandeis University)

8:45 p.m. Reception

Thursday, October 29
Location: Butler Board Room, Floor 6 of Butler Pavilion

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration, Networking, and Coffee/Continental Breakfast

9:00-11:15 a.m. History and Memory
Noam Zadoff (Indiana University): The Six-Day War as a Turning Point in Israeli History
Ian Lustick (University of Pennsylvania): Four Constructions of the Holocaust in Israeli Society and Their Unintended Consequences
Smadar Sheffi (Academic College of Tel Aviv – Yafo): A Quest for New Memory: Contemporary Israeli Artists Representing the Holocaust and its Commemoration
Vered Shemtov (Stanford University): The Changing Concept of Time in Hebrew Literature
Chair: Lisa Leff, American University (AU)

11:15 a.m. Coffee Break

11:30-12:45 p.m. Economy and High-Tech
Calvin Goldscheider (Brown University / American University): The Revolutionary Growth in Economic Inequality in Israel
Erran Carmel (American University): Reflections on Israel's Hi-tech Sector: How it Transformed Israeli Society in the Last Generation
Chair: Richard Linowes (AU)

12:45 p.m. Boxed Lunch Pickup
1:30-3:30 p.m.  
**Politics and Law**
- **Yoram Peri** (University of Maryland): The Second Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin: The Transformation of Israeli Politics Between the 1990s and Today
- **Guy Ziv** (American University): The Growing Divergence Between the Israeli Security Community and the Politicians
- **Eli Salzberger** (University of Haifa): The Law of Politics and the Politics of Law

Chair: Dan Arbell (AU)

3:30 p.m.  
**Coffee Break**

3:45-5:30 p.m.  
**Religion and Ethnicity**
- **Elie Rekhess** (Northwestern University): The Arabs in Israel: Shifting National and Civic Identities
- **David N. Myers** (UCLA): A Tale of Two Sovereigns: Haredi Culture in Israel and the United States
- **Tudor Parfitt** (Florida International University): Beyond Sambatyon: What Will the World-wide Explosion of New Israelite Communities and Judaizing Movements Mean for the Jewish State?

Chair: Pamela Nadell (AU)

5:30 p.m.  
**Dinner Break**

7:30-9:00 p.m.  
Concluding Panel: *Imagining Israel in 2035 – Different Visions*
- **Fania Oz-Salzberger** (University of Haifa)
- **Mohammed Wattad** (Zefat College, UC, Irvine)
- **James Loeffler** (University of Virginia)

Moderator: Michael Brenner (AU)

**Location:** The conference will take place at American University. The address of the university is 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The closest subway (the Metro) station to AU is the Tenleytown-AU stop on the Red line. Link to campus map and parking info: [http://www.american.edu/aumaps/upload/Parking_Map.pdf](http://www.american.edu/aumaps/upload/Parking_Map.pdf)

This conference is generously supported by the Knapp Family Foundation.