



WORCESTER
COLLEGE
OXFORD

Israel & Ione Massada Fellowships Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE 2022-23 MASSADA ANNUAL REPORT

The full report may be requested from the Programme Director



2023 Massada Annual Lecture

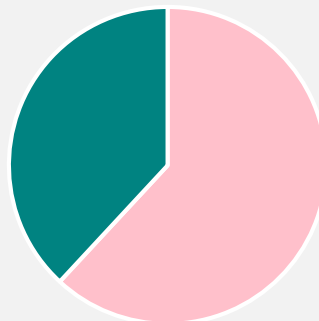
THE AUTHOR DAVID GROSSMAN IN CONVERSATION WITH DR ADRIANA JACOBS

The event was held in collaboration with the Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies (OCHJS) 50th Anniversary celebrations on June 25th, at the Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre in Worcester College, and was attended by over 140 people. The event was followed by drinks and canapes for all attendees, and dinner for pre-invited guests. The event was also recorded and can be viewed on the Massada webpage on the college website.

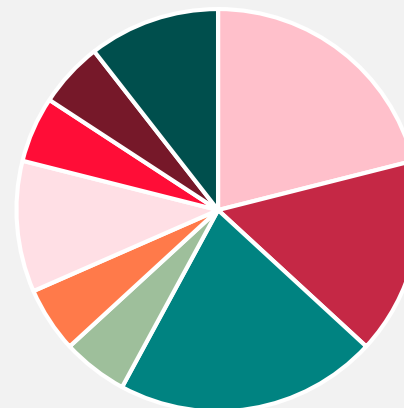


Visiting Fellowships: statistics to date

LEFT: GENDER
RIGHT: AFFILIATION



Male
Female



Tel Aviv U
Hebrew U
Haifa U
Herzog C
Bar Ilan U
Ben Gurion
Open U
Peres AC
Van Leer



Visiting Fellowships

2022-23 VISTING FELLOWSHIPS

All Massada Seminars are recorded and may be viewed on our website.

1. October 2022, **Dr Alma Igra** (F) Polonsky Academy for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. Collaborating Oxford Fellows: Professor Patricia Calvin, History, Worcester, and Dr Michael Drolet, History and Politics, Worcester.
Massada Seminar: 'Can Food Make the World Go Round? Scientific Nutrition, Environmental Thinking and Empire.'
Modern History Seminar (History Faculty): 'De-centering the human in the history of humanitarianism: animals and food aid.'
2. October 2022, **Dr Omer Aloni** (M) Peres Academic Centre. Collaborating Oxford Fellows: Professor Patricia Calvin, History, Worcester and Dr Michael Drolet, History and Politics, Worcester.
Massada Seminar: 'The League of Nations, International Law, and the Current Ecological Crisis.'
Modern History Seminar (History Faculty): 'Raw materials, the timber crisis, and fears of deforestation during the interwar period.'
3. February 2023, **Professor Yemima Ben-Menahem** (F), Philosophy of Science, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Collaborating Oxford Fellow: Dr Patrick Dúrr, Philosophy.
Massada Seminar: 'Cleopatra's Nose: Historical Contingency and Why it Matters.'
Philosophy of Physics Colloquium: 'Lawlessness – examining three kinds of potential deviation from the standard understanding of the regime of natural or physical law.'
4. May 2023, **Dr Mampieri, Martina** (F), Jewish Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Collaborating Oxford Fellow: Professor David Rechter, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies (OCHJS).
Massada Seminar: 'Preserving Book Heritage Under Threat: Trade and Survival.'
OCHJS Seminar title: 'The Spectacularization of Violence: The Giudiate and Theological Anti-Judaism in Early-Modern Rome Garb'



Visiting Fellowships (continued)

5. May 2023, **Dr Yaacov Falkov** returned to Oxford for a second visit to support continuing collaboration with Professor Zoe Waxmann and Professor Andrei Zorin. He delivered two talks: one at the OCHJS about the Soviet secret service (NKVD) and its attitude to the Polish-Jewish refugees from the Nazi-occupied territories of Poland, in 1939-1941; and the second, for the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages at the Taylor Institute, was dedicated to the roots of the self-perception of Russia as a besieged fortress and its influence on the Russian strategic culture. Besides, he continued his research at the National Archives (this time, new materials were found about the Holocaust motive in the inter-cellar conversations of German prisoners of war in British POW prisons). The latter subject is already being presented by him to Israeli and foreign colleagues, and there is a talk about turning it into a documentary

Research trips to Israel

Professor Nir Vulkan travelled to Israel to advise on an MA thesis, which he co-supervises. The subjects of the research are Arkia and Isra-Air airlines, and the topic of investigation is ‘post purchase regret’. They hope the data will be the basis for a number of papers, extending far beyond this student’s thesis. In parallel, Vulkan will undertake with this student and Professor Zvika Neeman, a senior economist at Tel Aviv University, a new theoretical paper, modelling the difference between ‘positive’ and ‘negative’ regret in economics (i.e. regretting over paying for experiences you did, versus regretting missing out on experiences because you were not willing to pay enough at the time).

Fellowships approved for 2023-24

1. & 2. **Dr Ayman Agbaria** (M) Haifa U and **Professor Motti Golani** (M) Tel Aviv U. Collaborating Fellows at Oxford: Professor Liam Francis Gearon, Education, and Professor Avi Shlaim, International Relations.
3. **Professor Hava Dayan** (M), Haifa, Law and Professor Jonathan Herring, Law.
4. **Professor Shimon Adaf** (M), Ben Gurion U, Hebrew Literature, and Esther Yadgar, OCHJS.



Massada Junior Research Fellow in Law (2023-25)

DR NELI FROST

The selection process was undertaken September-April 2022-23, conducted by the Massada Committee comprising David Isaac (the Provost), Professor Tsilly Dagan (Law), and Dr Naomi Rokotnitz (Programme Director), in collaboration with the other three legal scholars at Worcester – Professors Donal Nolan, Leah Trueblood, and James Edwards – and three senior legal scholars from abroad, who provided expert reader reviews of the written work of the three finalists.

Interviews were held in April and the committee unanimously voted to appoint Dr Neli Frost. A full report of the procedure and the recommendation to appoint Dr Frost was compiled by the Director of the programme, submitted to and approved by Worcester Governing Body in May 2023.

All related administration was coordinated by HR and the Programme Director, so she could commence her fellowship in September 2023.

