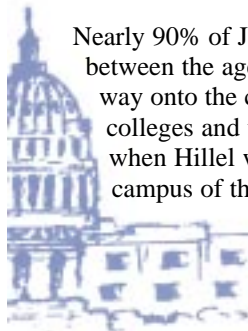


## The Regional Center and the Campus Communities



Nearly 90% of Jewish men and women between the ages of 18 and 24 find their way onto the campuses of American colleges and universities. Since 1923 when Hillel was first organized on the campus of the University of Illinois,

Hillel has worked to meet the needs of Jewish students and the expectations of their parents.

In the Washington metropolitan area and throughout the Jewish world—Hillel—has created a virtual renaissance of Jewish campus life and has emerged as *Hillel: The Foundation For Jewish Campus Life*—an umbrella organization for campus-based, student-centered activities.

As the regional center, HILLEL OF GREATER WASHINGTON (HoGW) sets the standards for excellence, the pace, and the tone for the work of the campuses. HoGW provides financial development assistance, cooperates with and serves as a resource to campuses not formally served, and advocates on behalf of Jewish undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. The Regional Center creates, develops and supports activities that strengthen Jewish life, commitment and identity.

*The Regional Center represents the Jewish community of Greater Washington as an advocate on behalf of the religious, cultural and social needs of Jewish students and faculty on the campuses of local colleges and universities.*

HoGW represents the comprehensive needs of the Greater Washington Jewish population. The campus Hillels serve as the primary vehicles for direct service delivery to undergraduate students. The Governing Council and the staff of HoGW serve as the gateway to the community and as primary linkage to the Jewish Federation.

HoGW reaches 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students on ten campuses in our region.



## Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps (JCSC)

The prestigious *Hillel Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps* is a paid one-year fellowship that enables recent college graduates to work on campuses throughout the Washington area—and across North America—helping students explore and celebrate their Jewishness.

Created in 1944, the JCSC Fellowship is a premier Jewish engagement program and a driving force behind the renaissance of Jewish life on college campuses. Fellows are former student leaders who work for Hillel—but not at Hillel—in locations all over campus. They meet students in dormitories, sorority and fraternity houses, in student unions, in dining halls and in the other settings where

*Campus years are a time when maturing young adults seek intellectual growth and moral purpose in their lives. Judaism and Jewish life offer answers to the questions they are asking.*

*Building a Compelling Jewish Life For Today and Tomorrow (1997)*

students congregate. They use their own experiences as campus leaders and their own understanding of the interests of students to surmount the challenge of bringing Jewish activities and community to students who might otherwise not make their way to Hillel.

## Student Leadership Development

We continue to emphasize Hillel's role in leadership development to prepare committed young people for their fullest participation in the Jewish community.

Hillel takes two approaches to student leadership development: **engagement and empowerment**. The target student population for the **engagement** agenda is campus leaders whose collegiate activities include leadership in the Greek system, student government and other campus activities—e.g., newspapers and service organizations. The goal of this initiative is to connect them with the Jewish community and increase the possibility of their role as Jewish communal leaders in the communities in which they will eventually reside.

The **empowerment** agenda is to strengthen young student leaders by supporting their attendance and participation at conferences and events such as the General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities, Hillel's Schusterman Leaders Assembly, the AIPAC Conference and Spitzer Public Policy Forums, as well as religious movement/national collegiate events. Through these and similar



programs, students meet the leaders of the American Jewish community and experience Jewish public policy in the making. They can develop their own leadership skills and network with students throughout the country.

## Summer in DC

*Summer in DC* reaches students who come to Washington each summer for employment, internship and study opportunities. *Summer in DC* offers social, educational, religious and recreational activities within a Jewish context, during the months of June and July.

## Israel on Campus Coalition

Speak Up!  
Speak Out!



Advocate  
for Israel!

Israel on Campus Coalition  
Student Leadership Training

The Israel on Campus Coalition of Greater Washington is a coalition of groups committed to promoting Israel education and advocacy on HoGW campuses. It serves as a coordinating body and clearinghouse for information. The ICC/GW provides advocacy training for student leaders and offers a unified, strategic proactive approach to Israel activities on our campuses.

## The Janet Ruth Zober Scholarship

The Janet Ruth Zober Scholarship honors the memory of a physically challenged and hearing-impaired young woman. In her memory, her family offers an annual scholarship, administered by HoGW.

## AVI CHAI Fellowship

The AVI CHAI Fellowship is an intensive Jewish education program for a select group of students on the campuses in the Washington metropolitan area.

The curriculum highlights Jewish practices, values and leadership development through small interactive campus classes and mini retreats. In the weekly campus classes, students explore traditional texts and sources and their practical application. The mini retreats focus on experiential exercises designed to enhance students' leadership skills, while providing them with an opportunity to work and learn together as a cohesive *chevreh*. Guest lecturers, professional mentoring, networking, and in-depth conversations are available. A two-week educational mission to Israel strengthens the Fellows' personal connections to the Land and the People of Israel and helps students to understand the complexity of modern Israel.

## Project OTZMA

Project Otzma, is a ten-month leadership development/community service program in Israel open to outstanding college graduates. This national program is supported by the United Jewish Communities, the Jewish Agency and the Israel Forum. Otzma participants connect with heritage, learn to understand and bridge gaps between Israeli and Diaspora youth and volunteer in different locations and venues in Israel. Otzma is administered by HoGW and supported with grants from the United Jewish Endowment Fund.

Many Otzma graduates move on to become leaders in the Jewish communities where they settle, and several local alumni serve on the HoGW Governing Council.

## Campus Synagogue Connection

The Campus-Synagogue Connection provides area synagogues with resources for high school students. Holiday brochures are provided to participating synagogues for inclusion in packets of materials they send to college students affiliated with their congregations.

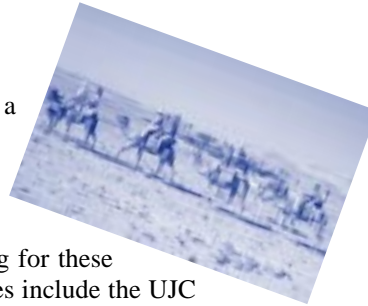
## ISRAEL

Year-round Israel programming includes a seminar each semester at the Embassy of Israel, and annual Israel Week programs. Participants in planning for these Israel-centered activities include the UJC University Programs, and the Embassy of Israel.

Through the *birthright israel* program, thousands of students visited Israel from 2000-2003. Other students participated in UJC Missions and those under the auspices of religious movements and other organizations. We encourage students to make plans to study in Israel either on undergraduate programs or during summers, *and most importantly*, to see Israel as a key element in the development of the Jewish identity. Through special funding from the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, each campus received funding for *birthright israel* follow-up activities and for programs to strengthen Israel advocacy efforts.

The Embassy of Israel and HoGW jointly sponsor the *Embassy Fellows Program* to develop a cadre of well-informed campus activists to serve as *ambassadors* to students and organizations on their respective campuses. The Fellows receive monthly briefings at the Embassy of Israel and return to their campuses more aware and better informed about events in Israel.

*The Hatikvah Fund* was established by Judy Novenstein, Lester R. Frankel and Martin Frankel. The Fund provides opportunities for students to strengthen their connections to Israel through campus programming and scholarships.



## Graduates and Professionals (GAP)

Graduates And (young) Professionals (GAP) programs are designed to fill the GAP in the Jewish lives of 20-somethings—between the somewhat structured social life of the college years and what comes next—adult responsibilities and formal affiliations with centers and synagogues and the activities of the Federation.

GAP recognizes that recent college graduates have limited funds and even less time, but they are looking for social networking and cultural opportunities. GAP offers theater performances, community service activities, Shabbat and holiday celebrations, sports events, Israel advocacy programs, special *birthright israel* trips, and more. GAP's calendar of events and Open Forums can be found around the clock at [www.hillelwash.org/gap](http://www.hillelwash.org/gap).

## Pesach in the Former Soviet Union

College students from HoGW campuses travel annually to celebrate *Pesach* with the Jewish communities in the Former Soviet Union. This year, working in partnership with the enthusiastic students from Kiev Hillel, the students lead *Sedarim*, visit with the elderly in their homes, and develop lasting bonds with their Ukraine peers.

The students are bringing religion back to a people who were not allowed to practice their religious traditions under previous Soviet restrictions.

## Challenges for Tomorrow: The Future

In a rapidly evolving campus and community environment, with limited resources and nearly limitless challenges and opportunities, it is through a deliberate, comprehensive and thoughtful planning process that HoGW identifies and prioritizes its agenda and determines how best to meet the needs of its students.

[04/2003]

## Hillel of Greater Washington



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