MONASH University

INTERNATIONAL CAMPUS NETWORK

ACJC NEWSLETTER



A message from ACJC's Advisory Council Chair

As always there's much to do, and ACJC's academic and professional staff continue to work hard in teaching, research and community engagement.

Of immediate interest is the Gen26 survey – the third in a longitudinal series of surveys of Australian Jewish life, building on Gen08 and Gen17. The analysis of this year's data will look quantitatively at evolving concerns, aspirations and perspectives of the Australian Jewish community, and provide essential input into the planning of Jewish organisations, donors, schools and services. Gen26 has been broadly promoted nationwide and we very much appreciate your participation – the survey is still open if you haven't yet completed it. This series is a joint project of ACJC and the NSW Jewish Communal Appeal.

This year, the Monash Initiative for Rapid Research into Antisemitism (MIRRA) received substantial funding from the Australian government to provide antisemitism and cultural awareness training for university leaders across Australia. In early October, I attended a Facilitators Accreditation Program, designed to inform and train a new cohort of experts to extend the reach of this program. I was overwhelmingly impressed by the quality of the instructors, the facilitators in-training and the outstanding course materials, which are fully informed by MIRRA's evidence-based research programs.

There are also a couple of in-house honours that I'm delighted to tell you about. Firstly, the MIRRA program received the 2026 Faculty of Arts Dean's Award for Excellence in Enterprising Research. Please join me in congratulating ACJC Director David Slucki and his team for this significant honour. Secondly, David was promoted to full Professor; a promotion that testifies to his significant contribution to research and teaching over many years. I'm extremely proud of David and all that he's achieved.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support, and we look forward to keeping you informed about our work.

Kind regards,
Dr Alan Finkel AC

MIRRA TRAINING UPDATE



MIRRA's first Facilitator Accreditation Program

In October, the Monash Initiative for Rapid Research into Antisemitism completed a training intensive for 23 current and new facilitators.

We received some fantastic feedback on this vital stage in our nationwide expansion of this training program for higher education institutions:

"I really appreciated the opportunity to meet so many wonderful, wise and talented people, learn alongside everyone and to experience the MIRRA approach more deeply. I'm very much looking forward to continuing the journey with you." – **New MIRRA facilitator**.

"This training was a great opportunity to learn from and share with a caring and diverse group of people. It was also very well organised and impressively adapted to the needs of the audience as we went along." – **New MIRRA facilitator**.

To find out more about becoming a facilitator, submit an expression of interest via the button below. This training initiative is supported by the Australian Government Department of Education.

MIRRA facilitator EOI

GEN26 UPDATE

Gen26, The Australian Jewish Community Survey, is closing on **24 November**. Please make sure to complete it and encourage your friends and family to do the same. This is what one of our participants had to say:

"What a pleasure it is to fill out a survey written by people who know the community so well! I've been looking forward to this for nine years, and am disappointed that I only get to fill it out once. For years, I've been making use of the results of Gen17 in workshops I have run about Melbourne's Jewish communities, and I look forward very much to engaging in a similar manner with the results of Gen26."

Complete the survey

EVENTS



Book launch: The Thirst by Hillel Zeitlin

22 November 2026
5–7pm

Jewish Museum of Australia, Melbourne

Featuring translator and scholar Nathan Wolski, artist Tunni Kraus and music by, The Bashevis Singers.

Book now



When did antisemitism stop being funny?

8 February 2027
7–9pm

Melbourne location to be announced

David Slucki and Anna Shternshis explore how jokes, satire and popular culture have impacted antisemitic ideas.

Get tickets



AAJS Conference: Haunting and Humour

7–8 February 2027

Melbourne location to be announced

Explore the dynamic relationship between haunting and humour across Jewish history, thought and expression.

Find out more

FRIENDS OF ACJC

Kadimah currently has two generous scholarships available to support Yiddish creativity and study. The first is for a professional actor or music theatre performer from a non-Yiddish-speaking background to develop skills in Yiddish-language performance through classes, creative development and performances. The second funds intensive Yiddish study overseas, and is open to Australian applicants committed to contributing to Kadimah's education programs on their return. Applications close on **30 November**.

Apply now

MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

Some of our recent media

- Adina Bankier-Karp and David Graham on Gen26 and its important role in shaping the future of Australia's Jewish community: *The Australian Jewish News*, 27 August 2026.
- Lauren Chalk and Noè Harsel talk to Morry Frenkel about the findings of MIRRA's latest report on Holocaust education: L'Chaim – to Life podcast, *3ZZZ*, 9 September 2026.
- Daniel Heller and Farid Zaid on the importance of learning how to disagree respectfully in an age of polarisation: *ABC News*, by Tamara Oudyn, 24 October 2026.

Academic and other publications

- Rebecca Margolis: Yiddish and Australian Holocaust Representation Yesterday and Today: Chapter in *The Palgrave Handbook of Australia and the Holocaust*, 2 August 2026.
- Rebecca Margolis: Book review of *Here Where we Live is our Country* by Molly Crabapple, *Australian Book Review*, October 2026.
- Mali Rezaei and David Slucki on why the topic of antisemitism is largely missing from decades of scholarship in the field of higher education: *Times Higher Education*, 27 October 2026.

Connect with us

For ACJC's latest updates, like and follow us on socials or contact us at arts-acjc@monash.edu.

Newsletter edited by Rebecca Krispin.

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