



מכון ון ליר בירושלים

THE VAN LEER JERUSALEM INSTITUTE

معهد فان لير في القدس

Sunday-Wednesday, September 13-16, 2009

Workshop for

# THE HISTORY OF CONCEPTS

Coordinator: Sinai Rusinek • Hoc@vanleer.org.il

Sunday - Wednesday, September 13-16, 2009  
THE HISTORY OF CONCEPTS

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

10:00 – 12:00

### Introduction

**Prof. Gabriel Motzkin**, Director, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, **Opening Remarks**

**Prof. Martin J. Burke**, City University of New York, CUNY

### The History of Concepts and Intellectual History

12:00 – 13:30

Lunch Break

13:30 – 14:30

**Sinai Rusinek**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and the Hebrew University,

### Words, Concepts and Ideas as Protagonists of History

**Dr. Gad Prudovsky**, The Hebrew University, **Rational Reconstruction as a Historical Method**

**Prof. Guy Miron**, Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, **Emancipation & Assimilation**

### in the Jewish European Discourse of the 1930s: a Micro-diachronic Case Study

14:30 – 15:30

**Prof. Martin Burke**, City University of New York, CUNY

### Histories of Concepts, Histories of Print and Sociologies of Knowledge

15:30 – 17:00

Reception (Participants of the Workshop introducing themselves)

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

### History of Concepts in the Natural Sciences

Chair: **Avital Davidovich**, Tel Aviv University and Shalom Hartman Institute

10:00 – 11:00

**Eshbal Ratzon**, Tel Aviv University

### Methods of Investigating Ancient Sources and their Influence on Understanding

### Concepts of the Universe as Demonstrated through 1 Enoch 17-19

Commentators: **Dr. Ariel Furstenberg**, The Hebrew University

**Sinai Rusinek**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and the Hebrew University

11:00 – 12:00

**Simcha Rozen**, The Hebrew University, **Maxwell and the Concept of Entropy**

Commentators: **Prof. Ernst Müller**, **Dr. Falko Schmieder**, Zentrum für Literatur- und

Kulturforschung, Berlin, **Dr. Gad Prudovsky**, The Hebrew University

12:00 – 13:30

Lunch Break

Chair: **Dafnah Strauss**, Tel Aviv University

13:30 – 14:30

**Alexander Schwieren**, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung and the Technische Universität Berlin,

### The Emergence of a 'New' Concept: 'Old Age' in Aesthetic and Medical Discourse around 1900

Commentators: **Prof. Amir Cohen-Shalev**, Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee

and the Dept. of Gerontology, University of Haifa

14:30 – 15:30

**Amir Teicher**, Tel Aviv University, **Coming to Terms with Nazi Science:**

### Racial Flexibility in the Writings of the German Anthropologist Eugen Fischer

Commentators: **Prof. Ute Deichmann**, Jacques Loeb Centre at Ben Gurion University,

**Dr. Doron Avraham**, Tel Aviv University and Bar-Ilan University

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:30

**Prof. Ernst Müller**, **Dr. Falko Schmieder**, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin

### An Approach to the History of Concepts with regards to the Natural Sciences:

### Methodical Concerns

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

### History of Concepts in Medicine

Chair: **Mical Raz**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and The Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov)

**10:00 – 11:00** **Hagit Bachar**, The Hebrew University, **Transformations in the Concept of Determinism in Theories of Generation (Embryology) in the 17th Century**

Commentators: **Prof. Ohad Parnes**, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin and the Central European University

**Emer. Prof. Raphael Falk**, The Hebrew University

**11:00 – 11:45** **Orly Lewis**, Tel Aviv University, **The Concept of Epidemic Contagion and its Social Consequences in Medieval and Ancient Times**

Commentators: **Prof. Ohad Parnes**, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin and the Central European University

**11:45 – 12:30** Chair: **Emer. Prof. Raphael Falk**, The Hebrew University, **Discussion: the Concept of Gene**

**12:30 – 14:00** Lunch Break

### Concepts in Military and Medical Discourses

Chair: **Michal (Michele) Rapoport**, M. Arch, Tel Aviv University

**14:00 – 14:45** **Nitzan Rotem**, The Hebrew University, **Suicide as a Signifier: A Discussion on the Relations among Discourses that Represent Suicides in the IDF**

Commentator: **Mical Raz**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and The Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov)

**14:45 – 15:30** **Dr. Zohar Rubinstein**, The Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, **From Shell Shock to Combat Stress Reaction: a History of Transformations of the Concept of Combat Trauma over More than a Hundred Years**

Commentator: **Mical Raz**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and The Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov)

**15:30 – 16:00** Coffee Break

**16:00 – 17:30** **Prof. Ohad Parnes**, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin and the Central European University, **Disease(d) Concepts: Biomedicine as a Field for Conceptual History**

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

### History of Concepts of War and Peace

Chair: **Dr. Merav Mack**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute

**10:00 – 11:00** **Mor Mitrani**, The Hebrew University, **Telling Societal Beliefs: Changing Narratives in Israel's Political Discourse Regarding Transition to Peace**

Commentators: **Dr. Piki Ish-Shalom**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Prof. Jörn Leonhard**, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

**11:00 – 12:00** **Yossi Zelnik**, Bar-Ilan University, **The Concept of the "Code of Chevalerie"**

Commentators: **Uri Shachar**, University of Chicago

**Prof. Jörn Leonhard**, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

**12:00 – 13:30** Lunch Break

Chair: **Dr. Naomi Sussmann**, The Shalom Hartman Institute

**13:30 – 14:15** **Wael Abu Uksa**, The Hebrew University and The Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, **The Arab Political Liberalism in the Last Two Decades; The Case of Hazem Saghieh**

Commentator: **Prof. Jörn Leonhard**, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

**14:15 – 15:30** **Prof. Jörn Leonhard**, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

### Concepts of War and Nation in European and Transatlantic Comparison

**Sinai Rusinek**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Concluding Remarks**