The Judaism and Disability: New Genetics, Disability Studies, and Practical Interventions conference explores:

- how genetics and genomics help to understand and treat genetic diseases.
- the diverse conceptions of physical and mental disabilities in the sources of Judaism in light of the new discipline of Disability Studies.
- the social, cultural and psychological dimensions of disability.
- the work of Jewish organizations to empower and include people with disabilities.

This is the 11th annual meeting of the Judaism, Science & Medicine Group (JSMG), an international organization of natural and social scientists, philosophers, historians, physicians, rabbis, theologians and educators acting to promote and facilitate a close relationship between Jewish religion, cultures and values and the sciences for the mutual benefit of both. The organization seeks to increase the knowledge and appreciation of the sciences, Judaism and their interrelation and to offer a forum to reflect and deliberate on the implications of scientific advances from Jewish perspectives. Working across denominational lines, the organization will disseminate its mission in academic and non-academic venues using a variety of media.

**sponsors**

- Center for Jewish Studies at Arizona State University
  
  a research unit of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

- Harold and Jean Grossman Chair in Jewish Studies
  
  Arizona State University

- Irving and Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism
  
  Arizona State University

**with support from**

- Dr. Michael Anbar Memorial Lecture in Judaism, Science and Medicine Endowment
  
  Arizona State University

[jewishstudies.asu.edu/science](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/science)
**SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 17**
Scottsdale Plaza Resort | Scottsdale, Arizona

noon - 1 p.m.  lunch

1-1:15 p.m. welcome
Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, Director of Jewish Studies
Arizona State University

1:15-3:30 p.m. **Genetics, Genomics and Genetic Diseases**

*Jewish Genetic Diseases in the New Era of Genomic Medicine*
Wayne Grody | University of California, Los Angeles

*Toward a Framework for Responsible Uses of Genetic Testing*
Rebecca Epstein-Levi | Washington University in St. Louis

*Jews and Genes: Methodological and Ethical Challenges*
Elliot Dorff | American Jewish University

3:30-3:45 p.m. break

4-6:15 p.m. **The Jewish Tradition and Disability Studies**

*Disability in Rabbinic Judaism*
Julia Watts Belser | Georgetown University

*Disability in Hellenistic Judaism*
Rebecca Raphael | Texas State University

*to be announced*
Ruti Regan | Matan

*Disabilities in Jewish Law: Competency to Be Executed*
Michael J. Churgin | University of Texas at Austin

6:15-7 p.m. dinner break

7-8:30 p.m. **The Dr. Michael Anbar Memorial Keynote Lecture in Judaism, Science and Medicine**

welcome
Jeffrey Cohen, Dean of Humanities
Arizona State University

*Disease, Disability and Enhancement: Jewish Perspectives*
Ronald M. Green | Dartmouth College

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**MONDAY | FEBRUARY 18**
Scottsdale Plaza Resort | Scottsdale, Arizona

8:30-10:30 a.m. **Social, Cultural, and Psychological Aspects of Disabilities**

*Jewish Culture: Empowering or Disempowering Jews with Disabilities*
Anne Corn | University of Cincinnati

*Learning Disabilities: A Multi-Systemic Approach*
David Trimble | Boston University

*Disability Wisdom and Jewish Collectivity: Inclusion as a Jewish Imperative*
Arielle Silverman | Disability Wisdom Consulting
Lisa Handelman | Jewish Federation of Greater Washington (D.C.)

10:30-11 a.m. break

11 a.m.-
12:45 p.m. **Empowerment and Inclusion: New Approaches**

*From ‘Perfection’ to Diversity—A Shifting Model of Community*
Dov Linzer | Yeshivat Choveve Torah

*‘Why Should We Be Excluded?’ Numbers 9:7—Religious Mandate, Personal Struggle and Communal Realities*
Devorah Zlochower Lindenbaum | Center for Halakhic Studies

*Great Expectations: Joining Forces to Empower People with Disabilities*
Michael Levy | Yad Hachazakah

*Empowerment and Social Integration: Disabilities and Adventure-Based Processes*
Shmuel Adler | Etgarim, Israel

12:15-1:15 p.m. lunch break

2 p.m. departure