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

**community partners**

- Gesher Disability Resources
- Jewish Genetic Diseases Center of Greater Phoenix
- Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center

jewishstudies.asu.edu/science
**SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 17**
Scottsdale Plaza Resort | Scottsdale, Arizona

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

1:15–3:45 p.m. **Genetics, Genomics and Genetic Diseases**
*chair: Hava Tirosh-Samuelson | Arizona State University*

*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*

3:45–4:15 p.m. **break**

4:15–6:15 p.m. **The Jewish Tradition and Disability Studies**
*chair: Joel Gereboff | Arizona State University*

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

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

*Pikuakh Nefesh: A Jewish approach to valuing disabled lives*
Ruti Regan | *Matan*

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

6:15–7:15 p.m. **dinner break**

7:15–8:45 p.m. **The Dr. Michael Anbar Memorial Keynote Lecture in Judaism, Science and Medicine**
*chair: Elliot Dorff | American Jewish University*

**welcome**
Jeffrey Cohen, Dean of Humanities
*Arizona State University*

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

---

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

8:30–10:30 a.m. **Social, Cultural, and Psychological Aspects of Disabilities**
*chair: Amy DL Hummell | Executive Director, Gesher Disability Resources (formerly Council for Jews with Special Needs)*

*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.–1 p.m. **Empowerment and Inclusion: New Approaches**
*chair: Joel Ziff | EdD Psychologist*

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

*‘Why Should We Be Excluded?’ Numbers 9:7—Religious Mandate, Personal Struggle and Communal Realities*
Devorah Zlochower | *Yeshivat Maharat*

*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*

1–2 p.m. **lunch break**

2 p.m. **departure**