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
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