



Purpose of this report

- + In the survey conducted in 2010-2011 it was apparent that **Jewish students felt the greatest amount of discomfort on Carleton's campus**
- + A **sub-group was formed** to understand the antecedents and consequences
- + First tried to get a grasp of the meaning and consequences of anti-Semitism
- + Survey conducted by Equity Services

Defining anti-Semitism

- + Importance of **understanding anti-Semitism**
 - The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC)
 - The Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Anti-Semitism

Understanding Traditional anti-Semitism

- + Traditional **myths** and depictions of Jewish people



*From the Yad Vashem Film and Photo Archives.

Contemporary Manifestations of anti-Semitism

- + Continuity and **recycling of old or "unchanged" ideas**
- + Anti-Semitism as a deeply rooted cultural tradition
- + Anti-Semitism post 1945:
 - secondary anti-Semitism
 - anti-Zionism



Al-Watan, March 4, 2008

The Telegraph, December 16, 2010

Contemporary anti-Semitism in Canada

- + The **"new anti-Semitism"**: not just a problem of the extreme right.
- + Anti-Semitism in Canadian universities

 smehgol

Comment on the National Post,
February 6, 2012

Israel, not United States, is Iran's enemy. An Iran with nuclear weapons will disrupt Israel's cruel and outrageously exercised Mideast hegemony. All our Mideast wars have been against our interests, yet successfully advocated by the Jewish state. Again against our interests, Israel has involved us in increasingly overt operations against Iran. Spies and American military drones in Iranian airspace are the most recent revelations. Since before 9/11, American soldiers have been dying for the Jewish state. We are at war. Who did this to us? Israel, AIPAC, the One Percent and other organized and monied Israel Firsters have corrupted our politicians and entire electoral system. Justice and the future of America demand that they be prosecuted and jailed.

hide 1 reply



EU & The Canadian Parliamentary Coalition: Working Definition of anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism is a **certain perception of Jews**, which may be **expressed as hatred** toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. In addition, such manifestations could also **target the state of Israel**, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. Anti-Semitism frequently charges Jews with **conspiring to harm humanity**, and it is often used to blame Jews for why things go wrong. It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and **employs sinister stereotypes** and negative character traits.

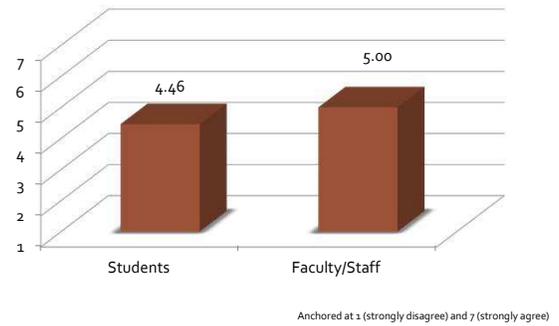
Survey of Jewish Students and Faculty/Staff

December 2011 – January 2012

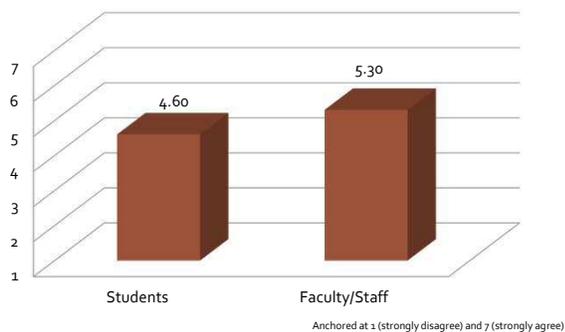
In-depth Survey: The Jewish Experience at Carleton

- + **Survey** was created with the assistance of faculty and student representation. Over 60 yrs. of research experience was present.
- + **Qualitative and quantitative** items were included to get a full picture of the situation at hand
- + Distributed online: **Jewish students** (N = 103; 60 Males 43 Females) and **Faculty/Staff** (N = 32; 15 Males 17 females) respondents.

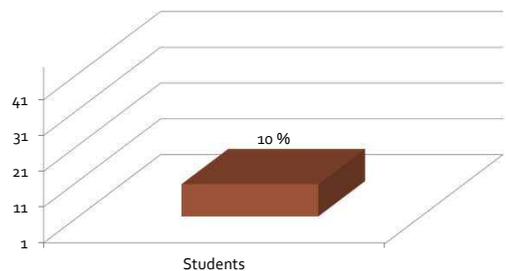
I Feel Disrespected as a Jew on Campus



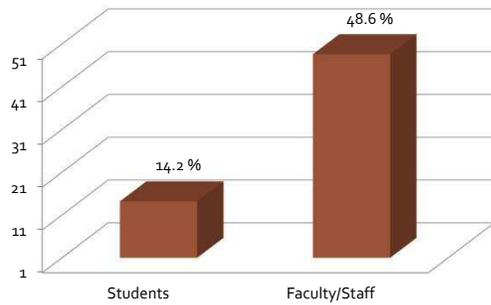
I Feel Disrespected as a Jew in Communal Spaces



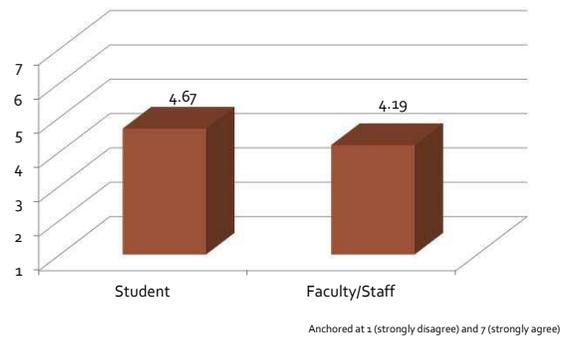
I Dropped a Course Because the Professor was disrespectful to Jews (in %)



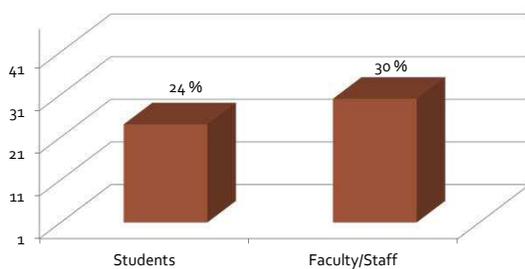
I have noticed a change on campus (in %)?



As a Jew, I feel intimidated on campus



I Would Warn Jewish People about Coming to Carleton (in %)



Qualitative Responses

- + Four members of the sub-committee **read the narratives independently**
- + Methodology = **Phenomenological approach**
- + Each member was tasked **to look for themes and prototypical examples** of those themes
- + Meetings were held to **discuss uncovered themes** that emanated from the narratives
 - + inter-rater reliability is very high

Student Themes

- + **Positive commentaries related to:**
 - + Accommodations for Jewish observance
 - + Comfort level while participating in events run by: Jewish student groups, the university administration.
- + **Issues appeared with relation to public spaces:**
 - + Safety – especially if the student was easily identified as Jewish
 - + Disrespect
 - + Physical / Verbal Harassment
 - + Lack of support by admin/CUSA/GSA to address ongoing issues

Student Themes

- + **Space:** Lack of Jewish space on campus
- + **Food:** Possibility of increased Kosher options.
- + **Classroom:**
 - + Fear
 - + Absence of balanced debate on issues related to the Middle East.
 - + Inability to take classes on account of professor involvement in anti-Israel activities.

Faculty/ Staff Themes

- + Reiterated *all* sentiments expressed by students
- + Additional concerns shared by the Faculty/ Staff:
 - + Removal of Jewish program posters
 - + Lack of accommodation for Jewish observance (dept. meetings).

Faculty/ Staff Themes

- + **Issues pertaining to Israel and the conflation of Israel and Judaism**
 - + SAIA (e.g., placement of SAIA posters beneath office doors)
 - + Discomfort while attending department meetings wherein support for political matters are discussed.
 - + Concern about tenure and advancement on account of political views on Israel, and/or Jewish identity.

Recommendations

How do we move forward without forgetting the past and missing the present?

Establish Jewish Issues Committee

- + The establishment of a committee **similar to the existing Muslim Students Issues Committee**, with the purpose of addressing the ongoing concerns of Jewish members of the Carleton community.
- + Should include student leaders, and be established by **Equity Services**.
- + Act as a **venue for conversation**, problem-solving and education in the form of presentations, speakers and workshops.

Academic responsibility

- + All course outlines, the Student Affairs website and other pertinent information for students, include information from **Article 15.2** of the CUASA collective agreement regarding the rights and responsibilities of faculty employees in their role as teachers.

Academic Integrity

- + The university's administration should develop and publicize a clear mechanism for students who wish to raise concerns about academic integrity. These should be ready for implementation in Fall 2012.

Intercultural Competency Training

- + The development and delivery of **mandatory** intercultural competency training for faculty, staff and student leaders.
- + This training will provide the skills required to promote an inclusive environment, by facilitating communication and understanding among increasingly diverse Carleton community members.

Interfaith Office

- + Equity Services should evaluate a framework and best practices for an Interfaith Office with representatives who can address the spiritual needs of faculty, staff and students - regardless of their affiliation.

Jewish Experience at Carleton

A survey conducted for the Commission on Inter-Cultural, Inter-Religious and Inter-Racial Relations on Campus