



Liliane Apotheker

I was born in Antwerp, Belgium, in 1955 and raised in a traditional Jewish home. Both my parents were Holocaust survivors. My parents emigrated to Israel in 1971. I completed my high school education in Jerusalem and then graduated from Hebrew University in languages and literature. I speak five languages fluently, among others Hebrew, though I am a native speaker of French.

I have been an active board member of «Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France» for many years and even though I have recently moved to Northern California I continue to contribute to the work of the French organisation and take part in their website and monthly publication: «Sens».

Through my exposure to many languages and different cultures, I have forged the belief that reflecting diversity is essential to the work of ICCJ. We live in a world where perception matters more than all, and I cherish words for how they convey culture and thought. Choosing the right word is key to furthering the understanding between Christians and Jews or any partner to inter-faith dialogue. It brings both clarity and density at the same time.

ICCJ faces major challenges in the years to come. Here are but a few:

- European countries are the cradle of this diversity. They are the countries where history has taken its heaviest toll and where it is now necessary to integrate new migrant populations. Therefore the dialogue of memories lays ahead of us and demands that we start this process by facing history in new ways, without raising feelings of guilt or competition.
- We need to be adventurous in dialogue and broaden its theological base. Supersession belongs to the past, but what do Christians replace it with?
- How do we ensure the trickle down effect of dialogue in societies that are increasingly secular and places of worship often empty?
- In some countries dialogue is non-existent, how do we bring the Orthodox Churches, with all their complexities to this new found path?
- How do we bring more Jews to this? Thus ensuring that we, Jews, do not shut the Christians out, just like we have been shut in? How do we voice the questions that many Jewish people ask themselves about our singularity?
- In our world of rampant religious radicalism, secularism is possibly an antidote. Should we not try to include secular people in our work? Dialogue is about continuity of shared values in a rapidly changing world. Transmission is our main goal, but in a sharing, caring and possibly inclusive way.

These are a few of my favorite subjects. I am looking forward to the 2011 conference in Cracow and to what I will, as always, learn by meeting all the attending members and debating with them about our shared concerns.



Rabbi Hillel Athias-Robles

Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue
Oaklands Gate, Northwood, HA6 3AA, England
E-mail: rabbihillel@npls.org.uk

Thirty-one year old **Rabbi Hillel Athias-Robles** works as the Associate Rabbi at Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue in London. Originally from Costa Rica, Hillel has gone through many journeys. He has lived in the US, Israel, the Netherlands, and the UK. He also transitioned from being an Orthodox rabbi to a Liberal one.

Hillel has over ten years of rabbinic studies, and is finishing a Master's degree focusing on the anthropology of religion. Hillel is passionate about interfaith encounters and human rights. He has volunteered with the Three Faiths Forum, working on dialogue with teenagers in schools. He also serves in the Global Planning Committee of the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, an initiative sponsored by UNICEF, UNESCO, and Religions for Peace aimed at increasing awareness of children's rights within faith communities.

Furthermore, Hillel sits in the committee of CCJ Hillingdon, one of the most active local CCJ branches in the UK, and is a regular speaker on interfaith topics. In the human rights area, Hillel sits in the Education Committee of Rene Cassin, a Jewish human rights NGO, for whom he produces educational materials. He is a firm believer in the power of using ancient sacred texts to increase understanding and address the issues that affect our world today.



Rabbi Ehud Bandel

Home Address:
4/4 Primo Levi St.
Jerusalem, 93783 Israel
Tel.(H) +972 (0)77 5352264
E-mail: ehudbandel@gmail.com

Rabbi Ehud Bandel is the first native-born Israeli to be ordained as a Masorti (Conservative) Rabbi in Israel.

A native of Jerusalem, he served in the Nahal paratroopers unit in the IDF before completing his studies in Jewish History and Jewish Philosophy at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

In 1988 he graduated the first class of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary and received his MA in Judaic studies from The Jewish Theological Seminary. A year later, he became the Founding Director of Rabbis for Human Rights - the rabbinic voice of conscience in Israel, protecting human rights and advocating justice, peace and equality for Palestinians and Israelis alike.

For eight years between 1997 and 2005 Rabbi Bandel served as President and CEO of the Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel, leading the struggle for religious pluralism and freedom of religion in Israel.

In 2006 he moved with his family to Melbourne Australia to serve as Rabbi of Kehilat Nitzan Melbourne's first Conservative (Masorti) congregation, a position he held for five years. Recently, he returned to his hometown Jerusalem and rejoined the Executive Board of Rabbis for Human Rights.

Rabbi Bandel is very active in interfaith issues. He was the chairperson of the Young Leadership Council of the International Council of Christians and Jews, and currently he serves as the 1st Vice President of the organization and the chair of the ICCJ International Abrahamic Forum.

Rabbi Bandel is a recipient of the 2011 Gandhi Peace Award for nonviolent direct action to bring peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Rabbi Bandel is married to Avital, and father of three children, Naama, Hadas and Ro'i.



Dr. Philip A. Cunningham

Saint Joseph's University,
5600 City Avenue,
Philadelphia, PA 19131-1395, USA
E-mail: pcunning@sju.edu

Dr. Philip A. Cunningham is Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA, USA. As secretary of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations, he manages its resource website at www.dialogika.us. He has served as a member of the Advisory Committee on Catholic-Jewish Relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and as a delegate for the Vatican at three international conferences on Catholic-Jewish relations.

Interested in biblical studies, religious education, and theologies of Christian-Jewish relations, he is the author of numerous books and articles on these subjects. He was the North American coordinator and co-editor of the newly published *Christ Jesus and the Jewish People Today: New Explorations of Theological Interrelationships* (Eerdmans and Gregorian & Biblical Press). Some other of his books are *A Story of Shalom: The Calling of Christians and Jews by a Covenanting God* and *Sharing the Scriptures* (Paulist Press). He has also edited *Pondering the Passion: What's at Stake for Christians and Jews?* (Sheed & Ward), and co-edited *The Catholic Church and the Jewish People: Recent Reflections from Rome* (Fordham University Press). A member of the Christian Scholars Group on Christian-Jewish Relations, Prof. Cunningham contributed to their 2002 statement "A Sacred Obligation: Rethinking Christian Faith in Relation to Judaism and the Jewish People," and their 2005 book *Seeing Judaism Anew: Christianity's Sacred Obligation* (Sheed & Ward).

As second vice-president of the ICCJ for the past three years, he oversaw the preparation of its 2009 Berlin statement: "A Time for Recommitment: Building the New Relationship between Jews and Christians," and is co-editing the forthcoming online resource guide for it. He also spearheaded the ICCJ Executive Board statements: "Reflections on the August 2008 'Berlin Declaration on the Uniqueness of Christ and Jewish Evangelism in Europe Today' of the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance" (2010) and "Let Us Have Mercy Upon Words: A Plea from the ICCJ to All Who Seek Interreligious Understanding" (2010). He hopes to make similar contributions to ICCJ if elected to another three-year term.



David Gifford

The Council of Christians and Jews
21 Godliman Street
London EC4V 5BD, England
E-mail: ceo@ccj.org.uk

David Gifford is the Chief Executive of the CCJ in the UK. He has a first degree from the University of London in Geography and Masters degree in Management. He studied for ordination at the Church of England Theological College in Oxford and completed a BA in theology there. David has followed a varied international career on all continents. After several years in education he went to the South Pacific Islands and taught at a local high school whilst tutoring in Philosophy of Science for the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji.

Returning to the UK, David worked for an international Christian charity specializing in leprosy. He was their first Director of Development and saw a 300% increase in income over several years mostly through innovative strategies and improved donor relations. After a two-year part time spell as a consultant to the Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix Rouge in Geneva (International Red Cross), Switzerland and working again in the South Pacific, David was invited to head the European work of an International housing charity in the USA. Whilst there he opened new work in Central Europe and Kyrgyzstan and expanded work in Poland, Portugal and Hungary. Internal promotion led to a new post as Director of International Development assisting national head offices in Latin America, Africa and Asia develop their capacity and funding.

A necessitated return to the UK saw a directorship in marketing and communications with a privatized UN agency which culminated in an MD post for diagnostic services. The shift to working for interfaith understanding and dialogue in CCJ could not have been more stark!

David's passion is music – especially Baroque. He has sung with choirs in the USA, London and Oxford, England. He is a keen gardener and rugby football supporter. He is 58, married to a French national and they have one son at University reading English.

View on the future of ICCJ

“The global scene is changing at a pace both frightening and challenging: from climate change to the communications revolution and the treat of global terrorism.

I believe ICCJ faces special challenges in the 21st century and they are (1) to address the rapidly growing (and vibrant) emerging church in Africa, and Asia and the consequences that has for Jewish – Christian relationships, understanding and dialogue, and (2) address growing intolerance of difference and faith.

But also the established churches of Europe and North America need constantly to be challenged to revisit and address any latent antisemitism and its implied propagation/re-emergence in its liturgies.

My visions is that in all this, ICCJ will be relevant, cutting edge and authoritative. ICCJ must be careful not to lose focus as there is so much more to be done in Jewish-Christian dialogue and relationship.

My contribution so far has been to bring a grassroots but visionary perspective to ICCJ and I would wish to advise and direct more with income generation.”



Pastor Juan Armin Ihle

Congregación Evangélica Alemana
Juan Manuel Blanes 1116
11200 Montevideo, Uruguay
T.: +598 2418 3066
E-mail: pastorihle@yahoo.com

Pastor Juan Armin Ihle, minister and former member of the board of the Iglesia Evangélica del Río de la Plata (Lutheran and Reform), is the spiritual leader of the Congregación Evangélica Alemana (German Evangelic Congregation) in Montevideo, Uruguay, since 1995.

He was born in Lüdenscheid, Westfalen, Germany, on July 16, 1944. He started his theological studies in Stuttgart, Germany, at the Missionsseminar der Bahnauer Bruderschaft. In 1966 he emigrated to South America. He first became Assistant Pastor in Paraguay and in the South of Argentina (1966-70), then Pastor of the Congregation in Buenos Aires (1970-77) and Asunción (1977-95). While in Buenos Aires, he completed his studies at the Facultad Luterana de Teología and the Facultad Ecuménica ISEDET.

In 1995 the Iglesia Evangélica del Río de la Plata transferred Pastor Ihle to Montevideo. Already shortly after his arrival he joined the Confraternidad Judeo-Cristiana del Uruguay (CJCU), sharing the chair of the board for several periods until last year. He is now responsible for international affairs.

As a member of the board of the CJCU, he headed the organizing committees of the Annual General Assembly of the ICCJ in 2001 (first one that took place in South America) and the First Latin American Encounter of organizations linked to the ICCJ in 2009, both held in Montevideo. He also attended several assemblies of the ICCJ representing the CJCU and signed the document containing The Twelve Points of Berlin on its behalf.

Other activities in Uruguay

Among other activities since living in Uruguay also the following could be mentioned:

- **1996-2004** - President of the Centro Emmanuel in Colonia Valdense, an ecumenical academy for theological studies and dialogue between church and society, which also provides ecological education.
- **1996-2006** - President of the Fundación Pablo de Tarso (Pablo de Tarso Foundation) which dedicates itself to organize and implement the social work of the Evangelic Churches in Uruguay. He is still a member.
- **1998-2009** - Vice-President of the Federación de Iglesias Evangélicas en el Uruguay (FIEU – Federation of Evangelical Churches in Uruguay).
- **Up to this day** member of the Consejo de Iglesias Cristianas del Uruguay (CICU- Uruguayan Council of Christian Churches), Vice-President of the Fundación Ecuménica de Desarrollo del Uruguay (FEDU-Uruguayan Ecumenical Foundation for Development), member of the board of OCSA (elders home) and trustee of the Hogar Amanecer (orphanage for children in social risk).

Duties at the Church

To his local duties as minister of the Iglesia Evangélica del Río de la Plata, Pastor Ihle has been adding the following:

- **1986-1999** - Member and coordinator of the Consejo Luterano Rioplatense (Lutheran Council of the River Plate).
- **1994-2004** - Member of the Comité Luterano para Promoción Humana (Lutheran Committee for Human Development), dealing with projects in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.
- **Since 2007**, member of the Committee for Self-Financing of the Iglesia Evangélica del Río de la Plata.

Commitment with human rights

Pastor Ihle's work has always been related to his commitment with education, social affairs and human rights. In this connection, the following can be pointed out:

- Both in Argentina (CAREF-Argentine Committee for Refugees) and Paraguay (Committee of Churches) he helped defend political prisoners and persecuted during the respective dictatorial governments.
- While in Paraguay, he was member and chairman of the Misión de Amistad (Mission for Friendship) through which Protestant Churches and the Catholic Church joined efforts to assist Guarani indians in the defense of their land and cultural values.
- In 1992 he was appointed permanent adviser of the Asamblea Constituyente del Paraguay, legislative corps in charge of approving a new Constitution after the dictatorship.
- Between that year and 1994 he was member and speaker of the Consejo Nacional Paraguayo para el Desarrollo (Paraguayan National Council for Development).
- He was the first foreigner to be granted Honorary Citizenship of Paraguay according to a law passed in 1994.
- That same year he was awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz (Cross of Merit) for the defense of human rights by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany.
- Also in 1994, he received a distinction both from the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference and the Supreme Court of Paraguay.
- In 2005 he received the Gran Premio Oscar Trinidad for his support to culture and ecology.
- In the same year 2005 he was appointed honorary adviser of the Comisión de Verdad y Justicia (Committee for Truth and Justice) installed by the Government of Paraguay.

Pastor Juan Armin Ihle is married to Argentine school teacher Sonia Kimmich. They have four children: Tania (lawyer, living in Frankfurt, Germany), Boris (lawyer, living in Asunción, Paraguay), Alexia Anahi (Lic. in Latin American Regional Sciences, living in Köln, Germany) and Tamara Yerutí (Lic. in Graphic Design, living in Montevideo, Uruguay).



Prof. Dr. Abi Pitum

Treasurer ICCJ
Innstrasse 2a
81679 Munich, Germany
E-mail: pitum@pitum.de

Born: 30.06.1948 in Munich, Germany
German citizen
Married with Dr. Maria Pitum, née Tannenbaum, Dentist
6 children

1948	Born in Munich, Germany
1954-1967	School in Munich and Boston (USA)
1967-1974	University of Munich and of Linz (Austria) Economics and History M.A. (economics) Ph.D. (history)

Offices held:

Since 1972	Member of the Board – Jewish Community Munich (12 times re-elected, Vice President)
Since 1972	Chairman of the Commission for Finance – Central Council of the Jews in Germany
Since 1990	President of the Parliament – Central Council of the Jews in Germany
Since 1995	Member of the Executive Board – Deutscher Koordinierungsrat
Since 2000	Honorary Consul General – Mongolia
Since 2002	ICCJ Finance and Public Relation Committee International Council of Christians and Jews
Since 2005	ICCJ Treasurer – International Council of Christians and Jews



Katie Sturm

E-mail: javagirl58@gmail.com

Katie Sturm has been actively involved in interfaith dialogue for most of her life. She is passionate about reconciliation and the use of interfaith dialogue in healing and building communities. Katie has also served on the board of the Young Leadership Council since her first conference participation in 2008. She served as communications director her first year and was elected to Chair in 2009 in Berlin.

Since her election, she has worked tirelessly to rebuild relationships and establish the YLC as an organization with longevity and deep ties to the ICCJ. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary in the United States, a Master of Philosophy degree in Ecumenics from Trinity College Dublin, and has been a research associate at both Trinity College Dublin and Liverpool Hope University. She is currently working on numerous projects, including an online network for interfaith practitioners across the globe, iPhone applications for spiritual life and reflection, and guest writing for a number of associates. She has published on the subject of Jewish-Christian dialogue and the apocalypse, and is considered a colleague in the field of millennialism and ecumenics.

Her goals for the future include: developing useful technological tools for interfaith; maintaining and deepening ICCJ relations with the YLC; developing networks for interfaith in developing and under-represented communities; and using the web and network resources of the ICCJ to encourage participation of the younger generation in both local and international member organizations. She currently lives in Dublin, Ireland, with her husband Aaron.



Dr. Michael Trainor

E-mail: michael.trainor@flinders.edu.au

Rev Dr Michael Trainor is senior lecturer in the Department of Theology at Flinders University. He teaches and researches in the area of early Christian literature, especially the gospels and the letters of Paul. Michael is a Catholic priest and in 2007 the recipient of the Order of Australia for his contribution to inter-disciplinary and inter-faith dialogue, bringing students regularly to Israel, Turkey, Syria and Jordan. Michael is a founding member of the South Australian Council of Christians and Jews. He comes to the Cracow ICCJ conference having taught a month's course in Jerusalem.

As a participant in the International Council of Christians and Jews, Michael would hope to contribute towards strengthening the bonds of understanding and openness between Christians and Jews, exploring and articulating our respective faith understandings, and identify ways that biblical interpretation and appreciation can assist in this.



Dr. Deborah Weissman

P.O.B. 10668

91104 Jerusalem, Israel

E-Mail: debbiew@netvision.net.il

Dr. Deborah Weissman, born in New York, settled in Jerusalem in 1972. She holds a BA from Barnard College and an MA from New York University, both in sociology, and a Ph.D. in Jewish education from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Her main field of academic research is the social history of Jewish women's education. A prize-winning Jewish educator, Debbie had extensive experience in both formal and informal Jewish education, both with Israelis and with Diaspora youth and adults. As a pensioner, Debbie devotes most of her time to inter-religious dialogue and education. Currently the Deputy Co-Chair of the Inter-Religious Coordinating Council in Israel, she has served, since 2008, as President of the ICCJ.

"I have decided to run for a second term as President of the ICCJ. This is mainly because there are a number of processes we have begun that I would like to continue, perhaps most immediately the dialogue with the authors of the Kairos document. In addition, I am concerned with the dissemination and implementation of the Berlin Document and with bringing the fruits of the Jewish-Christian dialogue to other parts of the world.

I consider the most significant contribution of my first term the completion and adoption of the Berlin Document, although I must share the honor for that with many others, perhaps most of all, Rev. Dick Pruiksma and Professor Philip A. Cunningham. I did almost single-handedly plan and run a seminar in Israel, on "From Two Narratives to Building a Culture of Peace." That was held in November 2009. I have tried to be in close contact with member organizations in different parts of the world and would very much like to strengthen those ties in the next three years. The new Web site is an excellent vehicle for communication and education, and we must develop it further.

Two of our present Board members are retiring from their positions. I would like to thank Ms. Gunnel Borgegard and Rabbi Andrew Goldstein for the work they have done over the past few years. I hope that the results of these elections will enable the new board to work together efficiently and well."



Dr. Willy Weisz

E-mail: willy.weisz@univie.ac.at

Born on February 25th, 1949 to Ludwig and Ella Weisz in Vienna, Austria

Education

Compulsory and high school: Lycée français de Vienna, graduation 1967: Baccalauréat de Mathématiques Élémentaires and Austrian Matura.

Studies: Physics and Mathematics at the University of Vienna, graduation 1975: Dr. phil.

Family

Married since 1971 to Eva, née Kaufmann, from Bratislava.

One daughter and one son, each living in Israel with their own family, 7 grand-children.

Professional activities

1971 – 1972 Student assistant at the Institut für Radiumforschung, University of Vienna

1972 – 1974 Programmer at OSRAM in Vienna

1974 – 1986 Programmer, then systems analyst at the Interfakultäres Computer-Zentrum of the University of Vienna

1987 – 1990 Head of Software Department at the Interuniversity Computer Centre in Vienna

1991 – 1998 Head of the High-Performance Computing Department of the Computer Centre of the University of Technology in Vienna

1998 – 2009 Head of the European Center of Excellence for Parallel Computing at Vienna (VCPC), Institute of Scientific Computing, University of Vienna

Since 2010 Computer Scientist at the Research Platform Computational Science Center, University of Vienna

Activities with Jewish link

Since the times at school interest for religions, especially comparing them to own one.

Personal discovery that anti-Semitism often more due to ignorance and false information than strong conviction.

- Since 2003 talks, seminars as well as radio and TV broadcastings on Jewish matters
- Since 2004 seminar on Judaism and special Jewish themes for the continuing education of school teachers
- Since 2009 intensive preoccupation with Jewish ethics, especially Jewish medical ethics, including teaching at Universities and Universities of Education in Austria, as well talks and articles and
- Since 2003 partnering with my wife Eva in caring for religious needs of Jewish patients and participating in the interreligious dialog at the General Hospital in Vienna
- Since 2007 (Jewish) vice-president of the Coordinating Committee for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Vienna, the Austrian member of ICCJ

Expected contributions to the work of ICCJ

Fostering Christian-Jewish dialog with and within the Jewish Orthodoxy

Fostering the interest of young people for the dialog by presenting interesting subjects

Providing personal experience in the dialog, especially in hospital environments and with the media, including caveats

Expectations for the next 3 years

Improving the mutual understanding for the differing views on challenging topics of today's life.

Improving the interest in learning about the "others" and their views on different aspects of life.