TITLE OF PROJECT: **MBAs as HOS: The Changing Face of Jewish Day School Leadership**
(Undergraduate)

PROJECT INFORMATION

Deborah Skolnick Einhorn, Assistant Professor of Jewish Education at Hebrew College, is beginning a year-long research project to better understand a new trend in day school leadership that indicates an increase in non-educators assuming the top spot in Jewish day schools in the US. She is hoping to better understand this phenomenon, particularly vis-a-vis gender and leadership since many of the new heads are women. Coming from business and legal careers, and often first acting as parent lay leaders in these schools, are they uniquely prepared for this role? Since they are new to education, does their status as outsiders improve their appeal to a search committee? The project will explore what drives them to make the switch and if they face shared challenges.

This qualitative project will use interviews of the stakeholders in those hiring decisions, with more continued and intense interviews of the heads themselves. Through secondary research, Dr. Skolnick Einhorn will establish parallels in the Hillel movement’s shift from a heavily rabbi-led movement and also contextualize her findings in the history and sociology of women’s leadership in and out of the Jewish organizational world.

Dr. Skolnick Einhorn is looking for an intern to assist with transcription (30%), library research (30%), internet research (25%), data analysis (5%), and research logistics to help determine appropriate technology for interview recording and coding (10%).

PROFILE OF APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE

- Interest in the sociology of the Jewish community and Jewish education
- Familiarity with Hebrew/Yiddish terms that may come up in interview transcription
- Excellent typing skills; experience with transcription helpful
- Ability to make connections among ideas
- Great organization skills
- Critical thinker