

C.V. AND LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

DR. PNINA GERALDINE ABIR-AM

Websites: people.brandeis.edu/~pninaga,
www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrc/scholars/profiles/Abir-Am.html

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Visiting Scholar - WSRC / Brandeis University;
Principal Investigator – NLM/ NIH;
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DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH AREAS:

1. **History of Women and Gender in Science;** the under-representation of women in science; wo/men scientists as public intellectuals; science policy and social policy for women in science; women and gender in the Phage Group (history of US molecular biology) history of wo/men scientists in UK and Israel; collaborative couples and cross-gender collaborations.
2. **History of Science in the 20th Century, esp. Molecular Biology & Biotechnology;** comparative studies of research schools in US, UK, France; transnational organizations. History and Public Memory of DNA structure, a 20th Century icon.
3. **History and the Politics of Collective Memory;** commemorative practices in science and society; comparative studies of American and French scientific anniversaries; anniversaries of discoveries, discoverers, and scientific institutions; the public memory of the discovery of DNA structure.

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

- **HBI/ WSRC/ Brandeis University, Project Director**, 2007-present: 2/a) “A First Nobel to an Israeli Woman Scientist? Ada E. Yonath and the Ribosome”.
- **NIH-NLM, Project Director**, 2007-present, “How Scientists Remember: The public memory of DNA at 50, 40, 21”, (This is a multi-year book-writing award).
- **NSF-SES-STG**, Principal Investigator, 2005-07, “The discovery of DNA Structure: History, Memory, and Moral Genealogy”. (500pp book under review) Individual Award
- **NSF-SGER-3 Programs**: “Lessons from the Debate on the Under-representation of Women in Science in the spring of 2005”, **PI**, 2005-06. Individual Award
- **Northeastern University, Program in Women’s Studies**, “Gender and Cultural Memory: Dorothy Hodgkin in UK, India, & China”, as Visiting Scholar, 2003-04.
- **Rockefeller University**, Scholar-in-Residence at Rockefeller Archive Center, 2001- 03; “The Rockefeller Foundation’s funding of science in US & Europe”; “Molecular biology at the Rockefeller University”.
- **CNRS-CSI-CRHST**, Paris, Directeur-de-recherche, 2000, 1993. (Comparative Studies of French and American research schools of molecular biology)
- **University of California at Berkeley**, NSF Visiting Associate Professor, Departments of History and Women's Studies, 1997-1999; (Wo/men scientists as public intellectuals in the NAFTA countries)
- **M.I.T./ The Dibner Institute** for the History of Science and Technology, Resident Fellow, 1995-96. (History of Protein Structure in US and UK)
- **Johns Hopkins University**, NSF Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History of Science and Program in Women’s Studies, 1991-93; (Suffragette and suffragist women scientists in inter-war UK: The contrasting trajectories of Dorothy Wrinch (1894-1976) and Dorothy Hodgkin. (1910-1994)
- **Harvard University**, Department of the History of Science, Post-doctoral Fellow, 1985-89; (Research schools of molecular biology in the US, UK, & France: National traditions or transnational strategies of innovation; research under NSF-HPS individual awards; Uneasy Careers and Intimate Lives; Women in Science, 1789-1979; research on award winning book published in 1987 and 1989 by Rutgers University Press)

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE: (selected; not including junior lecturer and T/A positions)

(courses on the history of women and gender in science; history of molecular biology & biotech;
introduction to history, philosophy and sociology of science;

- **University of California at Berkeley**, NSF Visiting Associate Professor, Departments of History and Women's Studies, 1997-1999.
- **University of Ottawa, Joint Chair of Women's Studies**, (a bilingual, rotating position shared with Carleton University) 1997.
- **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, Visiting Professor, Programs in History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science & Women's Studies, 1996.
- **The Johns Hopkins University**, NSF Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History of Science, Technology, and Medicine; Program in Women's Studies, 1991-1993.

EDUCATION:

- **Universite de Montreal**, Institut d'Histoire et de Sociopolitique des Sciences, Ph.D. 1984. (Adviser: Camille Limoges)
- **University of London** - The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, Wellcome Research Fellow, 1983-84. (Sponsor: William Bynum)
- **University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia**, Department of History & Sociology of Science, Exchange Graduate Student, 1975-1977.
- **The Hebrew University in Jerusalem:** (Ghiv'at Ram campus)
 - M.Sc. in History & Philosophy of Science. (1976, suma cum laude)
 - B.Sc. In Chemistry & Biology, 1972.
 - Diplome in Science Teaching, 1973.

Awards and prizes:

- History of Science Society Award for "outstanding research".

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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Referee for books: Harvard, Oxford, Yale, Rutgers. (University Presses)
- Referee for journals: (selected)
 - OSIRIS; (Member of the Editorial Board, 1995-2000),
 - ISIS; (official journal of the History of Science Society)
 - History and Philosophy of Life Sciences;
 - Science, Technology & Human Values;
 - Studies in History and Philosophy of Science.
- Referee for research grants:
 - National Science Foundation (HPS, STS, EVIST, Sociology; Anthropology).
 - National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington D.C.
- Organizer of sessions at congresses, conferences: (most recent only)
 - History of Science Society, Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Az. Nov. 2009;
 - American Association for the Advancement of Science, Denver, CO, 2003;
 - History of Science Society: MNPLS./2005; Cambridge, MA. 2003;
 - International Union for History of Science: Mexico City/2001; Liege, 1997.
- Recent invited lectures in the US: (selected)
 - Duke University, 02/09/05;
 - Notre Dame University, 09/09/04;
 - University of California at Berkeley, 04/09/04;
 - Georgia Tech, Atlanta, 01/23/04;
 - University of Minnesota, MNPLS, 09/12/03
 - Indiana University, Bloomington, 09/05/03;
 - University of Indiana, Indianapolis, 09/02/03.
 - Rockefeller University, New York City, 05/14/03.

Guest lecturer - international experience:

- Canada, France, Holland, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Switzerland, UK. (at departmental colloquia in universities);
- Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Mexico, Romania, Spain, Sweden, UK. (at international conferences)

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PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS:

- I) '*DNA at 50: From Memory to History; A New Account of the Discovery of DNA Structure* (2010, under review)

Collections of Essays, Edited or Co-edited:

II) - *Commemorative Practices in Science: Historical Perspectives on the Politics of Collective Memory* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2000), as vol. 14 of OSIRIS, an official publication of the History of Science Society; edited with C.A. Elliott.
Reviewed in: *British Journal for the History of Science*, 12/2001; - *ISIS*, 09/2001.

III) - *La Mise en Memoire de la Science: Pour une Ethnographie Historique des Rites Commemoratifs*, sous la direction de Pnina G. Abir-Am, (Paris: Editions des Archives Contemporaines/ Gordon & Breach Publishers, 1998).

IV) - *Creative Couples in the Sciences* (New Brunswick/NJ and London: Rutgers University Press, edited with H.M. Pycior and N.G. Slack; reviewed in, among others: *American Historical Review*, 02/1998; *Science*; *Medical Technology*, *Nuncius* (Florence)

V) - *Uneasy Careers and Intimate Lives, Women in Science, 1789-1979*, (New Brunswick/ NJ & London: Rutgers University Press, 1989 & 1987); edited with D. Outram; reviewed in *History of Science*, *Science*, *Science and Society*; *Contemporary Sociology*; *In the Times*; *Nuncius*.

Work in Progress:

VI) – *How Scientists Remember: The Public Memory of DNA at 50, 40, 21*. (NLM book award)

VII) *Ada Yonath, the Ribosome Structure and the Four Other Contenders for its Solution*.

VIII) *Gender and Cultural Memory: Remembering Dorothy Hodgkin in England, China, and India*. (2008)

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PUBLICATIONS: (Continuation)

ARTICLES: (selected; for a full list see above website; for a list of papers on “Gender & Women in Science” only, click on button “Publications by research area”.

- 1) “Double Identity: Did the Weizman Institute Scientists Understand the Revolutionary Implications of the Discovery of DNA Structure by 1956?” (when IUPAC held its first meeting on macromolecules in then 8 year old State of Israel) *Galileo, A Magazine for Science and Thought*, April 2009, 20-30. (in Hebrew)
- 2) “Life and Physical Sciences”, *Palgrave Dictionary of Transnational History*, edited by Akira Iriye and Pierre-Yves Saunier. (London: Palgrave, 2008)
- 3) “Erwin Chargaff, 1905-2002”, *New Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, edited by Noretta Koertge. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007)
- 4) “Dorothy Moyle Needham, 1896-1989”; *ibid.*
- 5) “Joseph Needham, 1900-1995”; *ibid.*
- 6) “The Recent Historiography of Molecular Biology: A Transnational quest for the “big picture” , *History of Science*, 44 (March 2006) , 196-218. (see pdf at above website)
- 7) DNA at 50: Institutional and Biographical Perspectives”, *Minerva*, 42 (2004) 191-213. (See pdf at above website)
- 8) “The Rockefeller Foundation and the Rise of Molecular Biology”, *Nature Reviews – Molecular Cell Biology*, 3 (January 2002), 65-70. (See pdf at above website)
- 9) “Molecular biology in the context of British, French , and American cultures” in *Sciences and Cultures*, special issue, no. 168, of International Social Science Journal edited by H. Vessuri, June 2001, 187-199. (Also in French, Spanish, Chinese)(See pdf at above website)
- 10) “The strategy of large versus small scale investments: The Rockefeller Foundation’s international network of protein research, 1930-1960” in *American Foundations and Large Scale Research*, ed.: G. Gemelli (Bologna: Clueb, 2001), 71-90.

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PUBLICATIONS: (Continuation)

ARTICLES: (for full list see above website)

- 11) "The first American and French commemorations in molecular biology: From collective memory to comparative history" in Abir-Am & Elliott (eds.), *Commemorative Practices in Science: Historical Perspectives on the Politics of Collective Memory*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999), 324-372; idem, "Introduction", *ibid*, 1-34.
- 12) "The molecular revolution in 20th Century biology" in J. Krige and D. Pestre (eds.) *Science in the 20th Century* (London: Harwood, 1997), 495-520.
- 13) "Collaborative couples who strove to change the world: The social policies and personal tensions of the Russells, the Myrdals, & the Mead-Batesons" in *Collaborative Couples in the Sciences*, 1996, op.cit., 267-281.
- 14) "Women in Modern Scientific Research: A historical Overview" in *World Science Report*, (Paris: UNESCO, 1996); also in French as "La place de femmes dans la science et la technologie" in *Rapport Mondial sur la Science*. (Paris: UNESCO, 1996) other languages.
- 15) "Women in research schools; Approaching an analytical lacuna in the history of chemistry and allied sciences" in S. Mauskopf (ed). *Chemical Sciences in the Modern World* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1993) 375-92.
- 16) "From multi-disciplinary collaboration to transnational objectivity: International space as constitutive of molecular biology, 1930-1970", in E. Crawford, T. Shinn & S. Sorlin (eds.), *Denationalizing Science: The International Context of Scientific Practice*, (Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1993), 153-186; translated into Spanish. (*Arbor*, 1997)
- 17) "A historical ethnography of a scientific anniversary in molecular biology: The first protein X-ray photo (1984, 1934)", *Social Epistemology*, vol. 6, 1992, 323-354; 363-364; 371-372; 380-387 (**Special issue** devoted to my work, including three commentaries by social scientists and my replies to each commentator).
- 18) "Noblesse oblige: Lives of molecular biologists", *ISIS*, 82 (June 1991), 326-343. (essay review of seven auto/biographies by Nobel Laureates)

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19) "The Biotheoretical Gathering, transdisciplinary authority and the incipient legitimation of molecular biology in the 1930s: New perspective on the historical sociology of science", *History of Science*, 25 (March 1987), 1-70. (Miniature of Ph.D. thesis)

20) "Synergy or clash: Disciplinary and marital strategies in the career of the mathematical biologist Dorothy M. Wrinch (1894-1976)' in P.G. Abir-Am & D. Outram (eds.), *Uneasy careers and intimate lives, Women in Science, 1789-1979* (1987 & 1989), op.cit. 338-94. (Award winner)

Work-in-Progress:

1) "Gender and Cultural Memory: Remembering Dorothy Hodgkin in England, India, and China" (read at the History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Nov. 2005; the Weizmann Institute for Science, January 2005; University of Maastricht, November 2002; Harvard University - Joint Study Groups in History of Biology and Medicine, October 2002)

BOOK REVIEWS: (selected list of inviting journals in alphabetical order)

- *Ambix*;
- *American Scientist*;
- *British Journal for the History of Science*;
- *Historical Studies in the Physical and Biological Sciences*;
- *History and Philosophy of Life Sciences*;
- *Journal of the History of Biology*;
- *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*;
- *ISIS*;
- *Medical History*;
- *Metascience*;
- *Technology and Culture*;
- *The International History Review*;
- *Women's Studies International Forum*.

Online version easily accessible: *Jim Watson and the Age of DNA*
(www.americanscientist.org/reviews/32708)

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PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS: (not mentioned above)

I) Special issues in leading refereed journals:

- *Social Epistemology*, 1992. (Historical Ethnography of Scientific Anniversaries)
- *Social Studies of Science*, 1984. (The Rockefeller Foundation and Molecular Biology)

II) Enthusiastic reviews in leading American and British journals; e.g. “**The most original and conceptually bold**” (*American Historical Review*, February 1998); “**masterful**” and “**deliciously nuanced**” (*British Journal for History of Science*, December 2001).

III) Widely cited in books, essays, and reviews by other authors.

IV) Recipient of research grants, from US, UK, and France, as sole principal investigator.

V) Acknowledgments from almost every author in the history of molecular biology.

VI) A dozen titles in print (if counting both hard and soft covers).

VII) Work translated and/or reviewed in several languages, including French, Spanish, Romanian, Portuguese, Arabic, Russian, and Chinese.

VIII) Keynote speaker: University of Maastricht, 2/8/2007; Israeli Academy of Science, May 1, 2003; Latin-American Association for the Social Study of Science, Caracas, September 10, 1996; Conference on “Vagabondage: The Poetics and Politics of Movement”, UC-Berkeley, CA. March 1996.

Media coverage: (selected)

- US News & World Review, August 2008;
- *Biomednet, electronic journal*, April 2003;
- *New York Times*, September 1998;
- *University of Ottawa Gazette*, February 1997;
- *Diario di Lisboa*, January 1994;
- *The Atlanta Constitution*, May 1993;
- *The Baltimore Sun*, April 1992;
- *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 1991.

PERSONAL:

- US citizen since 1985; - Married; One child, age 23. (Medical School, entering in 2010)
- Languages: Proficient in English, Hebrew, French, Romanian; some Spanish.
- Hobbies: Swimming, diving, hiking; poetry; (in Hebrew) chess.
- Dynamic, versatile, friendly, resourceful, cosmopolitan, helpful to numerous colleagues.