Dear Friends of the Alliance:

Can there be a just world in which genocide becomes an historical artifact? How can we make that a reality? In the past year the Alliance board and those connected with the program at Sonoma State were challenged to speak out on a national level in support of House Resolution 106 for the recognition of the Armenian Genocide. Letters were written to the head of the Anti-Defamation League and to our congressional representatives, asking them to support passage of this bill. Dean Elaine Leeder, Professor Myrna Goodman and I wrote, “As members of the American Jewish community and as descendents of those who have endured the Holocaust, we embrace the statement, and the full meaning of ‘Never Again.’ We cannot help but ask ourselves, had the world community used its full energy and resources to speak out against the Armenian Genocide, might the world have become more aware and more forcibly interceded against the destruction of European Jewry during the time of the Nazis?” Although the bill did pass in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it did not come to the floor of the House for a vote. As Alliance Board Vice President Christyne Davidian noted, “this support from SSU, the Center, and the Alliance was greatly appreciated by the Armenian community, especially their efforts to increase awareness and support education about the Armenian Genocide and efforts to deny it.” We hope that in our lifetimes there will be an acknowledgement by the Turkish government of its role in this genocide and that none of us will again succumb to silence in the face of suffering — be it in Armenia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia, Darfur or . . . .

The attached report provides more details about the Lecture Series, the Alliance, and the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide. One of the Board’s goals is to follow up the Alliance’s September 2006 event, which honored Sonoma County Holocaust survivors, with another one which would include survivors and those of the second and third generations. If you know anyone in our community who is a survivor (including all who escaped Nazi tyranny) or their children or grandchildren, please let us know how to reach them. Through the efforts of our Education Sub-Committee, we are hoping to provide more support to teachers in our local middle and high schools. We now have an expanded list of potential speakers (compiled by an intern with the Alliance, Cassie Mangun). We also hope that many of you had a chance to see Ilka Hartmann’s exhibit A Second Gift of Life: recent photographic portraits of local residents who survived the Holocaust or escaped from it which was on display in the Gallery of the Center for Culture, Gender and Sexuality in the Sonoma State Student Union.

We especially hope that you will be able to help us make the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove Project a reality. We were particularly heartened by the opportunity afforded to Dean Elaine Leeder, Professor Myrna Goodman and David Salm to speak about it and SSU’s program at the FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association’s conference in Sacramento last month that focused on Post-Genocide Rwanda: Achievements and Challenges. Video footage taken at that conference will be included in a short DVD that is being produced about the Memorial Grove, due out early in 2008.

On behalf of the Alliance, I want to express my gratitude to all who helped us in the past year and my hope that you will continue to generously support our efforts. We hope that you will be able to join for a reception on April 8th following the Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture on “Holocaust Denial” by Professor Michael Berenbaum of American Jewish University. We are also pleased to be co-sponsoring the gallery talk by Professor Paula Birnbaum of the University of San Francisco on February 6th in conjunction with an exhibit of the drawings of Charlotte Salomon in the Schulz Information Center (from January 23rd-March 26th).

If you are unable to attend a lecture, you can watch it either at the time it occurs — or afterward — via streaming video at: http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center. Plan to attend one (or more) of the lectures next semester and join the faculty and Alliance members afterwards for dinner with our guest speaker.

My personal wish is that 2008 will begin on a positive note for all with the promise of a world at peace.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Ph.D.
President, Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Professor, Hutchins School of Liberal Studies
707-664-2273 / alliance@sonoma.edu

Study the nature of hate and prevent the escalation of prejudice into genocide
Current board members include: Larry Carlin (Publicity), Christyne Davidian (Vice President), Flora Lee Ganzler, Myrna Goodman (Director of the Center), Tina Kelly (Education Sub-Committee Co-Chair), Barbara Lesch McCaffry (President), Mac McCaffry (Education Sub-Committee Co-Chair), David Salm (Recording Secretary/Treasurer), and Barbara Tobin (Corresponding Secretary). We are thrilled that B. J. Stolbov (who works with the Absolute Music Festival) and Mathilde Mukantabana (of FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association) recently joined the board. Virgil Miller, Joel Neuberg and Sylvia Sucher serve as senior advisors. After many of years of service, Ilka Hartmann and Evelyn “Evey” Sackler have become emeritus board members. We are also indebted to the service of outgoing board member Daniel Y. Harris and former student board members Cassie Mangum and Courtney Morales. Their presence and active participation will be greatly missed.

The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust was formed in 1982 on behalf of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and the need to tell their stories and to learn from their experiences. Those who began this collaborative effort between the community and members of the Sonoma State University faculty promised to let the world know of the atrocities that had occurred. The initial intention was primarily to learn the facts, to act on them, and to never forget.

As a result, a highly successful Lecture Series on the Holocaust and Genocide was created at SSU. As a University-community partnership, the Board includes members of the community, University faculty and administrators, and students who have participated in the Lecture Series.

Its current mission is to co-sponsor the Lecture Series, to support SSU’s Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide in providing programming to the larger community (including K-12 teachers), and to collaborate with other community groups working with issues related to the Holocaust and genocide.

THE LECTURE SERIES ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE AT SONOMA STATE

The 24th Annual Sonoma State University Holocaust Lecture Series (held during Spring semester, 2007), was entitled Reverberrations of Genocide: Family, Community, Politics. It once again enrolled 100 SSU juniors and seniors. Our speakers had much to share that opened new perspectives, and our dinners afterward – with them and members of the community – were another source of learning and inspiration. It was another powerful series and, as has been our tradition, the students shared its impact with us on the final day: What Have We Learned.

The strength of the program continues to be reflected in the interest and involvement of the students, community members, the dedication of Dr. Myrna Goodman (who directs the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide), and the continuing support of Dean Elaine Leeder of the School of Social Sciences. We look forward to Alliance board member, and former high school social studies teacher, Flora Lee Ganzler joining the instructional team this coming year. Dean Leeder, along with David Salm, Kate McClintock and Jann Nunn, has been working on establishing the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove.

The 25th Annual Lecture Series, which begins at the end of January 2008, is entitled Lost and Found: Living in a Post-Holocaust World (see the final page for the preliminary schedule and check the Center’s web page in late January for the final version: http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center). We are excited about several events that will be included in the 25th annual series, as Dr. Goodman notes in her report from the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide (below).

This year we will again be dedicating the Survivor Panel to the late Walter Kuttner, a survivor who was a long-term member of the Alliance Board and on the planning committee for the Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration. Additionally, we note with great sadness the passing this year of Holocaust survivors Hella Margolin and Sofia Kats.

We look forward to seeing many of you at one of the lectures or events connected with our Spring 2008 25th Annual Lecture Series.
REPORT FROM THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE
by Myrna Goodman, Ph.D., Director, Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide and Chair, Department of Sociology

2007 was an active year for the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide. The 24th annual lecture series: Re-erations of Genocide: Family, Community, Politics featured several notable lectures. In addition to a Kindertransport panel with Al Batzdorff, Hilde Catz and Hans Cohn, we presented a powerful lecture by Anna Rosmus, who is known as the "Nasty Girl" because of her role in exposing complicity with the Nazi regime in her hometown. The students were deeply impressed by her inspired activism. Diane Wolf, Ph.D. presented the Robert L. Harris Lecture. Her book and lecture, Beyond Anne Frank, analyzed the post-war attitudes of children who were hidden in wartime Holland.

The Center received several generous donations including one from Henry and Lucille Libicki through the Jewish Community Federation Endowment. Additionally, Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Daniel Harris and I wrote a successful grant proposal that will fund several special programs for the 25th Anniversary Series this coming Spring.

The Center was a sponsor of the summer workshop, Exploring Our Common Humanity: Incorporating the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Into the Curriculum, a successful two-day partnership with Listening for a Change that trained middle and high school teachers. The workshop included presentations by Center Director, Myrna Goodman, Dean Elaine Leeder and Jennifer Norton, a master teacher from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) Teacher Corps.

The 2008 Series: Lost and Found: Living in a Post-Holocaust World promises to be the most ambitious we have presented. In addition to a concert by the Catskill Klezmorim on February 12th (a six-member group of professional musicians blending traditional and contemporary styles of Jewish music), there will be returning lectures by James Waller (author of Becoming Evil), Jerry Fowler (the Director of the Committee on Conscience at the USHMM), and a presentation by Mitch Braff, the founder of the Jewish Partisan Educational Foundation. Our Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture will feature Michael Berenbaum, Ph.D. (Director of the Sigi Ziering Institute at American Jewish University). On May 6th one of the most prominent scholars of the Armenian Genocide, Professor Richard Hovanissian of UCLA, will present the annual Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture.

We are especially proud of our former student assistant in the Lecture Series and Alliance Board member, Courtney Morales. She is currently an intern with the Committee on Conscience at the USHMM in Washington, D.C., and is actively working on their Genocide Prevention Task Force Initiative. Courtney will join us in April to share her insights on the work of the Committee.

OUTREACH TO MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Alliance continues its outreach to middle and high school teachers through our Education Sub-Committee, co-chaired by Tina Kelly and Mac McCaffry. Information will be sent to local public high school teachers letting them know about lectures available on streaming video from the 2004-2007 lecture series at http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center, and inviting them and their students to join us for the lectures this coming Spring. We also have an expanded list of survivors and their children who can speak to local students who are studying the Holocaust. If any teacher in grades 7-12 would like to arrange for a speaker in their classroom, please contact us at alliance@sonoma.edu or call 707-664-2273.

THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE MEMORIAL GROVE

The Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide & The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust are pleased to report that, under the leadership of Dr. Elaine Leeder, Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Sonoma State University is moving forward with a Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove on the campus that will honor and memorialize those who have suffered and have been victimized as a result of genocide, as well as rescuers. The installation is currently being created under the direction of SSU Art Professor Jann Nunn. Those of us who have had a chance to see the work-in-progress have been truly impressed and inspired.

In addition to a 10-foot high glass tower that will be internally illuminated from dusk to dawn, the installation will have space for up to 410 laser engraved memorial bricks in two sizes that can be dedicated to the memory of those whose lives have been affected by genocide. The inscribed bricks will be placed in the position of railroad ties crossing tracks imbedded into the pathway and will be an integral component of the sculpture.

The dedication date of this beautiful memorial will likely be in the Fall of 2008. Proceeds from the sale of the memorial bricks will used to continue funding the SSU Lecture Series on the Holocaust and Genocide (which can either be directed to the Paul V. Benko Endowment Fund or the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund). All gifts to the construction of the Memorial Grove are tax deductible.

While we are encouraged by the fact that we have received pledges for up to sixty-five percent of our goal, we continue to need your support for this project. We also encourage you to place an order for an inscribed brick soon to ensure that it will be included when the Memorial Grove is dedicated.

If you have any questions or wish to help underwrite this important project, please contact Kate McClintock at 707-664-2693 or kate.mcclintock@sonoma.edu. Please see the order form for the purchase of inscribed memorial bricks with a more detailed description of the project later in this report. More information and photos of the work-in-progress are available at: http://www.ssu-lummi.org/holo.htm

2008 SONOMA COUNTY YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATIONS (both Yom Hashoah events are free and open to the public)

The annual Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration will be on Sunday, May 4, 2008 at 2 p.m. at the Friedman Events Center at 4676 Mayette Avenue in Santa Rosa. The theme of the 2008 commemoration is the transmission of meaningful Holocaust memory to coming generations. The featured guest speaker is Dr. Debbie Findling, a noted Holocaust educator whose topic will be building the connection between memory and action. Dr. Findling led March of the Living groups for ten years and is the co-author of the recently published Teaching the Holocaust. Speaking for the survivor community will be Miriam Dregey, a hidden child who survived through the actions of her family. For more information, contact the Jewish Community Center at 528-4222.

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Dr. Samuel P. Oliner, a Holocaust survivor and Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Humboldt State University, will be speaking at Congregation Shomrei Torah’s Yom Hashoah Day of Remembrance on Thursday, May 1, 2008 from 7 to 9 p.m.,
2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa. Dr. Oliner has written on the Holocaust and is the Founder/Director of the Altruistic Personality and Prosocial Behavior Institute. As in previous years, candle lighters will feature representatives from other genocides including those perpetrated against Armenians, Cambodians, Tutsis in Rwanda, and Native Americans, as well as Jewish Holocaust survivors, children of survivors, righteous Gentiles, and non-Jews targeted in the Holocaust. For more information, call 707-578-5519.

**OTHER GENOCIDE COMMEMORATIONS AND EVENTS OF INTEREST**

Every year on or around April 24th, the Bay Area Armenian National Committee coordinates an event commemorating the Armenian Genocide. For information, see http://www.ancsf.org/

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There is also an event being planned in late April, 2008, in Berkeley commemorating the Tutsi Genocide in Rwanda. For more information, see the web page of FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association at: http://www.friends-of-rwanda.org/

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For those of you unable to attend the Catskills Klezmorim performance as part of the Holocaust Lecture Series on February 12, 2008, they will also be giving a concert as part of the Absolute Music Festival at the Friedman Events Center, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, on Sunday, February 10th from 2-4 p.m. Tickets are $18 each (or $75 for the five concert series). For more information, call 538-1899.

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**Charlotte Salomon - Life? Or Theatre?** an exhibition of the Goethe-Institut, in cooperation with The Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam, will take place in the Art Gallery on the second floor of the Schulz Information Center at Sonoma State from January 23–March 26, 2008. Salomon, who fled from Berlin to France in 1939 and died in Auschwitz, painted 1,325 gouaches between 1940 and 1942, 62 of which will be on display. On February 6th at 11 a.m. Dr. Paula Birnbaum of the University of San Francisco will be speaking in the gallery on Life? or Theater?: Introducing Charlotte Salomon. Professor Birnbaum will also be speaking in the Holocaust lecture series on March 11th on Visualizing Cultural Memory: The Legacy of Charlotte Salomon. Both of her talks and the exhibit are free and open to the public. For more information about the exhibit or Professor Birnbaum’s talk on February 6th, please contact SSU Professor Modern Languages & Literature, Michaela Grobbel, at 707-664-2637 or grobbel@sonoma.edu.

**IN APPRECIATION**

Your continuing commitment has made this a productive year! Your intentions, actions, and kindness have helped us bring exceptional speakers for the series, sponsored an event in 2006 honoring Holocaust Survivors (which, in turn, significantly increased the Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund), enhanced our outreach to local middle and high school teachers, and supported the annual Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration.

*We would like to express our gratitude to the following donors who made it possible for us to continue the work of those who founded the Alliance*

**Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund**
(An endowment whose interest supports the lecture series)

- Ellen and Herbert Broshe (in memory of Elizabeth Carlson) / Congregation Shomrei Torah Social Action Committee
- Ruth Gundelfinger (in memory of Marlen Rabinoff and Richard Gundelfinger)
- Evelyn Gurevitch (in memory of Paul Benko) / Iris and Howard Harris / Lil Krulevitch (in honor of Ann Weinstock)
- Peggy Hamnett and Rudy Lacoe / Beverly Lesch and David Osburn (in honor of Barbara Lesch and Mac McCaffry)
- Ellen and Michael Mundell / Susy and Robert Rafal / Mrs. Joyce Remak / Evelyn Sackler (in memory of Walter Kuttner) / David Salm / Barbara and Jacques Schlumberger / Sylvia Sucher / Isak Zaidlin
- Susan Foran and David Ziblatt (in memory of Claire and Robert Harris) / Roberta and Murray Zucker

**Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Lecture Series Fund**
(Supports the lecture series and the annual Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture)

- Herbert Angress / Michael Berkes / Lynn and Morrie Camhi / Judith and Larry Carlin / Hilde and Tovi Catz
- Hans M. Cohn / Lucille Eichengreen (in honor of the Alders’ 50th Anniversary and the Rothblatts’ 50th Anniversary)
- Ariana Elster / Susan and David Garfin / Flora Lee Ganzler / Rabbi George Gittelman of Congregation Shomrei Torah
- Myrna Goodman / Barbara Lesch and Mac McCaffry (in memory of Sofia Kats, Walter Kuttner, Hella Margolin, Rose Sharpe and Benjamin Thornton and in honor of Sylvia Sucher’s 95th birthday) / Phyllis and Everett Shapiro
- Louise Levenson-Snitz and Frank Snitz / Hildy Williams (in honor of Barbara Lesch McCaffry)

**Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund**
(Supports the annual Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture)

- Anonymous (in memory of all Armenian ancestors who perished) / Christyne Davidian / David Davidian / Bea Fountain / Dikran Hadidian / Janice Karahadian / Barbara Lesch and Mac McCaffry (in honor of Christyne Davidian’s son Matthew’s graduation) / Lorna and Neil Myers (in memory of Rachel and Daniel Gordon) / Motorola Matching Funds

- Guest Lecturer Hospitality Fund: Christyne Davidian
  (Provides funding to cover the cost of dinners for our guest speakers)

**SSU Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide**
(Supports the work of the Center)

- Anonymous / Myrna Goodman / Jewish Community Foundation Endowment / Lucille and Henry Libicki

**All donations to the Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund and the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund generated from the sale of inscribed memorial bricks for the SSU Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove will be separately acknowledged**

Your continued support is needed and appreciated as we plan for the 25th Annual Lecture Series and the dedication of the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove in the Fall of 2008.
The Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove Project on the Sonoma State University campus

The Center has recently unveiled plans for a Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove by the Lake on the east side of campus to honor those who were lost in atrocities committed throughout the world. The Grove will be transformed by an original sculpture that will provide a compelling context in which others can participate.

Created by Associate Professor of Sculpture Jann Nunn, the sculpture’s design consists of two 40-foot-long railroad tracks embedded into the lawn. The converging steel lines emerge from a gentle slope of ground and intersect a pedestrian footpath. The steel lines come within six inches of each other, ending with light from an internally illuminated glass column that stands ten feet tall and is inscribed at its base. Rows of ivory colored memorial bricks will be placed in the position of railroad ties relative to the steel tracks. Each brick will be laser-inscribed with names and memorial expressions.

Members of the community are encouraged to participate in this lasting memorial by purchasing a brick for installation in the sculpture. Two brick sizes are offered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brick Size</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4x8-inch</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8x8-inch</td>
<td>$250</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3 lines / 20 characters per line

6 lines / 20 characters per line
The Center reserves the right to approve all copy to be engraved on bricks.

- If you purchase multiple bricks the Center does not guarantee that they will be placed together.
- All inscriptions will be verified before engraving.
- Matching gifts are not eligible toward the purchase of bricks.
- Specific location requests will be considered, but not guaranteed.
- Bricks will be placed in the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove as part of the memorial sculpture created by artist Jann Nunn. Installation will take place in 2008.

For more information call 707.664.2693, or e-mail: kate.mcclintock@sonoma.edu

Please make sure your engraving information is spelled correctly and clearly written.

Please include following logo/symbol on my brick:

- Holocaust
- Armenian Genocide
- Tutsi Genocide in Rwanda
- Other __________________

4 x 8 Brick (3 lines/20 characters per line - including spaces)

__________________________
__________________________
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8 x 8 Brick (6 lines/20 characters per line – including spaces)

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NOTE: All 8x8 bricks will include the Center logo or other symbol at no additional cost.

Brick purchase donations are tax deductible.
Lost and Found: Living in a Post-Holocaust World

January 29: INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES / Course Faculty

February 5: “LIFE IS WITH PEOPLE:” PERSPECTIVES ON EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE / Zachary Baker, Stanford University

February 12: KLEZMER CONCERT / Catskill Klezmorim

February 19: SURVIVOR PANEL / Hilde Katz, Lillian Judd, and Hans Cohn

February 26: HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT
               Stephen Bittner, Ph.D., Sonoma State University

March 4: BECOMING EVIL / James Waller, Ph.D., Whitworth College

March 11: VISUALIZING CULTURAL MEMORY: THE LEGACY OF CHARLOTTE SALOMON
             Paula Birnbaum, Ph.D., University of San Francisco

March 18: JEWISH WOMEN PARTISANS / Mitch Braff, Jewish Partisan Educational Fdn.

March 25: Spring Break

April 1: AN UNCOMMON FRIENDSHIP (Tentative)
               Fredric Tubach, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, and Bernat Rosner, J.D.

April 8: HOLOCAUST DENIAL / Michael Berenbaum, Ph.D., Director, Sigi Ziering Institute, American Jewish University / Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture

April 15: GENOCIDE OF THE TUTSIS IN RWANDA / Mathilde Mukatabana, M.A., M.S.W., Cosumnes Community College and President, FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association

April 22: CURRENT GENOCIDES AND GENOCIDE PREVENTION / Jerry Fowler, Director, Committee on Conscience, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and Courtney Morales, Intern, Committee on Conscience, USHMM

April 29: TBA

May 6: ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL LECTURE
               Richard Hovannisian, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles

May 13: VOICES FROM THE GENERATIONS: 2nd and 3rd GENERATION SURVIVORS
               Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Ph.D., moderator

May 20: What Have We Learned? / Student/Faculty Panel

Please check: http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center in late January for the final schedule
Dancing to the music of the Jubilee Klezmer Ensemble at the Holocaust Survivor Event on 9/17/06. Photograph by Owen Scott Shirwo