

## Speaker Bios for 2022 Conference

**Stacey Ravel Abarbanel** is the writer, filmmaker and granddaughter of Sam Ravel, the subject of her award-winning documentary, *UnRaveling*. The film delves into memory, history and contemporary life in the border town of Columbus, New Mexico, raided in 1916 by Pancho Villa's army. *UnRaveling* reveals an unusual personal history while examining broader sagas about the border region then and now.

**Rabbi Paul J. Citrin** received his Bachelor degree with honors in History from UCLA. He was ordained and awarded a Master of Hebrew Letters degree from Hebrew Union College in 1973. The focus of his rabbinate has been serving congregations. He has been active in areas of Jewish education, Social Justice and Interfaith Relations.

**Schelly Talalay Dardashti** is an award-winning independent researcher, journalist and genealogist and the U.S. Genealogy Advisor for MyHeritage.com. She created Tracing the Tribe-Jewish Genealogy on Facebook and is an early (2000) DNA adaptor who has tracked her Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Mizrahi families.

**Sarah Rachel Egelman** is an Instructor of Religious Studies and Humanities coursework at Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) and School Director for the Academy of Jewish Learning at Congregation B'nai Israel in Albuquerque.

**Doris Francis, Ph.D.** is an Anthropologist, retired Professor Research Associate and accomplished author whose book, *The Secret Cemetery*, has recently been re-issued. Dr. Francis has been the initiator behind the Santa Fe Jewish cemetery project which she has written about for *Anthropology and Aging*, 2022.

**Dianne Layden, Ph.D.**, American Studies came to New Mexico in 1969, left the state twice for faculty posts at the University of Houston and University of Redlands in California, and returned in 2001 as an administrator at Santa Fe Community College. She taught at CNM from 2003-2014 and is an award-winning author of numerous articles. Dr. Layden performs as Ruth Bader Ginsburg for the New Mexico Humanities Council.

**Noel Pugach, Ph.D.** is Professor Emeritus of History at the University of New Mexico, past president of NMJHS and a recipient of the prestigious NMJHS Hurst Award. Dr. Pugach has published essays and book reviews on New Mexico Jewish history and is an editor of *Pioneer Jewish Families in New Mexico*. He has also written studies on nine Jewish families, the most recent being a study of four Alsatian Jewish families who settled in Albuquerque.

**Rabbi Jack Shlachter, Ph.D.** has served as itinerant rabbi in Vienna, Austria, Beijing, China, Center Moriches, and New York. His simultaneous work as a research physicist and technical leader includes positions at Los Alamos National Library and Brookhaven National Library. He currently serves as Rabbi of HaMakom in Santa Fe.