The presentation will focus on the reconstruction of household organization in Judah during the Iron II (ca. 8th century BCE). It centers in particular on one "4-room type house" excavated at Tell Halif in southern Israel by the Lahav Research Project during the summers of 1992, 1993, and 1999. This house was preserved well in a destruction stratum that eclipsed the site at the end of the eighth century BCE. The excellently preserved materials and their meticulous collection, including micro-artifacts, provide an excellent opportunity to examine post-depositional processes, activity area identification and organization, and what these mean for understanding the organization of broader household and its relationship to other spheres in Judahite society. When these data are compared with ethnographic data and historical data (both biblical and extra-biblical) they can be very telling regarding life in the southwest border region of Judah during the years of Assyrian activity in the region.

The lecture is sponsored by the Program in Mediterranean Archaeology, the Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, and the Michael C. Carlos Museum. The event is free and open to the public.