

BRANDEIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE (BNC)

**National Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday-Wednesday, June 2-3, 2009
Usdan Student Center, International Lounge**

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

President Carol Kern called to order the third meeting of the 2008-2009 National Executive Committee at 8:45 AM.

OPENING REMARKS

Carol Kern

Carol introduced two new members of the NEC: Ron Levy and Dena Robbins, and guests: Ellie Shuman, Carol Rabinovitz, Sue Karp, and Mimi Leavitt.

She asked the NEC to consider how the BNC can best connect leaders and members to the mission and to the University, and how new members can be recruited.

Carol asked everyone to observe a moment of silence in memory of three members who had been dedicated and involved in BNC for many years: Barbara Auerbach (Greater Boston) Arline Alpert (Fall River), and Mickey Morris (Riverdale).

She said that she felt the new BNC structure made it easier to move the organization forward. She found the vice presidents to be devoted to their jobs, working as a team with an excellent and dedicated national staff. She welcomed Janice Fineman in her new role as Executive Director. Carol said that she and Janice had been partners in many fundraising campaigns over the years and worked closely in the day to day implementation of the strategic plan.

Carol said it is the NEC's job not only to be leaders but also to be cheerleaders - when leaders are enthusiastic and encouraging, the general members will be as well. On the national level, there are some remarkable new efforts, such as P & L statements, on-line membership information that can be accessed on a daily basis, continuing education, logos and branding, a handbook for chapter presidents, and the Leadership Council. Also new are a fundraising campaign, membership initiative, goals, a pilot program in learning opportunities, and advance information on the website. None of this could have been done without the collaboration of team members.

Carol asked that information about projects in the making be shared enthusiastically. To ensure communications are appropriate and correct, she also requested that information not be released before plans are ready for implementation.

Carol had appointed Carol Rabinovitz to be Chairman of the Leadership Council and thanked her for a job well done. She also complimented the region presidents for doing outstanding work across the country.

A nominating committee will be appointed as required in the Rules of Association. There will be an announcement of the members once the committee has been established.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Janice Fineman recalled that at this time last year, BNC was poised to implement the Strategic Plan, and that in early July 08 the organization's new name was introduced, the annual dues were raised, and BNC re-organized the way in which the organization and the University would work together more closely. Now, a year later, she attributes BNC's strength to the outstanding leadership provided by Carol Kern, the vice presidents, and their teams. The volunteers and professional staff are working closely together to achieve the organization's goals, to reach out to the members to implement the Strategic Plan, and to answer their questions. New programs have been introduced with new techniques to bring these programs to the members.

BNC has rebranded various materials – *Imprint*, Book Fund, the website, chapter bulletin mastheads, stationery, and signage in the library - and promoted all of this to the chapters.

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A new fundraising campaign has been prepared and will be launched shortly. The chapter goals structure has been changed to reflect an emphasis on working more effectively and efficiently and lowering the chapters' expense/income ratio. Plans have also been developed to help strengthen the chapters and to develop a program for members at large.

The National Center staff of seven is working within a budget reduced by 8.3% this year. Each staff member has undertaken more responsibilities: working closely with chapter treasurers to assist them with their financial reports and to offer suggestions on ways to reduce chapter expenses; doing online reporting, formatting, and sending e-mail marketing messages to volunteer leaders and members; writing columns for *Connections*; and spearheading rebranding efforts, programming, and the BNC Student Ambassador program.

Janice met and corresponded with chapters. She visited nine chapters in the Western Region and some on the east coast. By attending chapter board meetings and working with chapter leaders, Janice said she is able to hear first-hand about their successes and problems and can work with chapter leaders to address some of their concerns.

She is optimistic about BNC's future, citing studies that have shown that adults 60 years and older are seeking new learning opportunities and ways to significantly impact the lives of others. She felt the BNC is in a perfect position to offer them the opportunity to be part of a dynamic community of active learners, to exchange ideas and enjoy friendships, and offer financial support to Brandeis.

Janice said the BNC has gained strength through a new structure that will serve it well in the coming year.

UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Marty Krauss, Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs, gave an overview of some decisions the University had made during the past year. Due to the economic downturn, Brandeis looked at its programs and resources to make plans for both now and the future.

- Change in Student/Faculty Size: the student body will be increased by 400 - 100 per year for the next four years - and the faculty reduced by 10% over the next few years. Brandeis examined ways to provide high quality students with fewer faculty and analyzed how the University functions.
- New Majors: Business, focusing on social justice and the role of business in society; and Film Studies.
- New Justice Brandeis Seminar: an optional experiential and individualized program for students to spend one semester concentrating on a particular area.
- Rose Art Museum – a committee is examining ways to preserve the core assets. The museum will reopen on July 22 with an exhibit of art from its permanent collection. The Rose will remain a vital part of the University and be more integrated into its academic programs.

Sue Wawrzaszek, Chief University Librarian, commented on changes in the way information is obtained and how the changes affect the operations of libraries. The changes are only partly driven by economics; the major disruption to academic libraries is the change in the way information is created and distributed.

To remain relevant, the Brandeis library delivers information online; contributes to the online information world, supports the creation and distribution of information; and partners with faculty to be part of the learning, teaching, and research environment. The vast majority of journals are now online subscriptions. Special Collections are being digitized, and materials are now more accessible to the scholarly community. The library staff today is helping students and faculty to create multimedia information, such as films, music, audio files, websites, and blogs.

Sue said the most important area of change is how the library views its role with the University. It partners with faculty to be part of the learning, teaching, and research environment. The library supports the online teaching environment and teaches information literacy. It is immersed in Brandeis' mission of teaching and learning. This new role has brought with it changes in the way librarians work. Collaboration is a necessity, and the library space is now a service center with classrooms and student-centered services. The emphasis on access to information has moved collections from closed stacks to open browsing.

Nancy Winship, Senior Vice President for Institutional Advancement, said the economic environment has impacted fundraising and financial aid for students. Although bequests continue to be a major contribution, the Annual Fund's phonathon showed a lower participation and average gift size, scheduled pledge payments are in

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jeopardy, and it is more difficult to secure leadership gift pledges. Brandeis raises more of its money from friends than alumni. Although the alumni are still relatively young; their donations have increased.

Nancy reported the University's campaign raised \$840 million as of April 30, 2009, reaching 69% of goal. She said BNC is a major contributor to the University and she appreciated that BNC priorities match those of the University. Through May 31, 2009, BNC contributed \$2.1 million (FY08), and \$2.6 million (FY09), a gain of \$500,000.

Michaele Whelan, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, thanked Carol Kern for her efforts and expressed appreciation that Carol would be continuing as national president for a second year. She presented Carol with a book written by a faculty member.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Steve Reiner

Steve referred to his team report that was included in the packet. He said the challenges facing BNC over the past two years - implementation of the strategic plan, an increase in dues, and the economy - had a big impact on the budget. There was a decline of close to 40% in membership. He noted the '09 Revised Budget cut expenses to reflect the number of fewer annual members. However, it appears to be possible to go under budget substantially, because the raised dues have more than offset the decline in annual membership.

There was a need to build a conservative budget in line with a projected further decline in membership. The Budget Office approved the budget, which had been submitted to the University for approval.

This year lower expenses are projected. In addition, the income from donations/bequests will exceed the projection, and it is expected that our total net income should exceed the revised budget by \$235,000. The team feels the situation will improve next year, because BNC will be investing more money to add support for programs. While it is projecting an increase in National Expenses of about \$80,000 over the anticipated fiscal 2009 result, it is below the revised 2009 budget. The team believes it is important to invest in membership and fundraising to strengthen the BNC. The biggest concern, in addition to membership, is chapter activities. A number of chapters have closed due to a lack of activities and a reduction in attendance. Chapters have been encouraged to strike a balance between keeping their expenses down and going forward with their programs.

The National Center has been doing its part in controlling expenses. There is a reduction in the number of publications, and a freeze on hiring a much-needed fundraiser has been put on hold due to budgetary constraints. The reduction in staff has placed a greater burden in both the National Center and in the field. Nevertheless, Steve feels that the financial situation is more stabilized, and the amount of surplus money being held by chapters has reduced substantially; because chapter treasurers are sending their money to the National Center more quickly.

FUNDRAISING

Beth Wolfson

Beth reported the new fundraising initiative, *Fulfilling the Promise: Libraries and Scholars*, will enter the active phase in the fall. She asked the NEC to think about ways to support the campaign. Her team would like to strengthen the role of chapter major donor chairs and to ask them to identify donors. The new Campaign Kit was distributed.

- Library Benefactors: to date there are 10-23 donors who gave donations to any library funds at the \$1,800 level. The team wants to publicize this aspect of unrestricted giving to the library. Contacts are Beth Wolfson and Janice Fineman.

Planned Giving: the team would like to receive ideas for chapter events.

Book Fund: the team wants to encourage high levels of giving.

The goal is to work smarter, not harder, to increase revenues, and to decrease expenses. A pilot program will be used in the Western Region. Four members experienced in planning events have volunteered to extend advice

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and assistance. There has been a great deal of publicity, so the chapters are aware. The NEC was asked to think about people who would be good resources in the chapters and to contact Phyllis Perkal and Beth Wolfson. Discussion followed.

- Fundraising events should be open to non-members. Reaching out to the community brings in other people and publicizes Brandeis.
- A powerful way to reach out to members is by becoming a Brandeis storyteller. When people share their reasons for supporting BNC, it makes an impact on the fundraising campaign. Every event should have a Brandeis component – an orientation on Who we are, What we do, and Why we are important.

Krupp Scholarship Challenge

Janice Fineman

Mr. and Mrs. Krupp, friends of Brandeis, have offered the University a challenge for raising funds to benefit scholarships in the arts and humanities. The Krupps will give \$1 million if the University raises an additional \$2 million. The donations must be new ones made during the upcoming year, or an increase in giving over the total given the previous year. The goal is to reach a total of \$3 million.

MEMBERSHIP

Joanie Small

A new membership brochure with an application will soon be available to chapters. Sample brochures were distributed to the NEC.

This year the team has focused on renewal and will launch a new membership drive, “Membership Makeover.” All new and current members will be educated about the three W’s of the BNC: Who we are...What we do...and Why we are important. The team will concentrate on providing and updating chapters with information about:

- “Membership Smarts” – bringing new ideas to the table on how to attract new members, especially Boomers and men;
- “The Hard Stuff” - dealing with membership dilemmas; and
- “Over the Fence” – looking beyond the borders and anticipating the future.

The team found it needs to be in personal contact with each chapter’s membership committee to encourage and guide them and provide new information first hand. The team will nurture a bond with chapter membership chairs on a monthly basis. It will work intensely to market the new program and the BNC, and will stress that BNC is a philanthropic organization. With the University’s help, member names were posted on the Internet in a timely manner. Whereas before, each chapter could see who renewed or recently joined, now it is possible to post exact dates of receipt.

Overall, the organized chapter new member/renewal is 84% of goal nationally. The depth of the current economic struggle had not been anticipated. Within the unorganized chapters, there were 2223 annual members nationally with no affiliation; today that number has dipped to 210, a drop of approximately 90%. Joanie reported on the following regions. The closures listed occurred over a two year period.

- Florida
Closures: Deerfield Beach, Gulf Shore, Flagler-Volusia, Jacksonville, Suncoast, and Weston-Venture.
Mergers: St. Petersburg with Tampa; Weston-Venture with Kings Point at Tamarac
Goals: Region: achieved 79%; Chapters: So. Miami Dade achieved its goal.
- Mid-Atlantic
Closure: Atlantic City.
Goals: Region: achieved 87%. Chapters: No. Virginia is 1 member short of goal.
- New England
Goals: Region achieved 82% of goal. Chapters: none.

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- NY/NJ/So. CT
 - Closures: Whittingham, Meadowbrook, Bergen-Passaic, Forest Hills, the Greens. Somerset Run voted to disband - several members regrouped and moved the chapter outside its gated community. Currently there are 73 annual members.
 - Merger: Manhattan with Gotham.
 - Goals: Region: achieved 83%. Chapters: Fairfield County, Gotham, Harmony (119%), Tri-County, and Westlake achieved their goals.
- Western
 - Closings: Greater East Bay, Laguna Hills, Rossmoor, and Saddleback. Seattle has regrouped for the time being.
 - Goals: Region: achieved 91%. Chapters: Tucson and Conejo Valley (123%) achieved their goals.

Joanie invited the NEC to discuss the three W's.

- It is not possible for annual members to feel passionate about Brandeis over a short period of time.
- Create a 10-year membership category to instill philanthropy and connect members to Brandeis for longer periods of time
- Include "support scholarships" or "advance education" under Member Benefits on the membership application. Note: this will be added if there is a reprint of the brochure.
- The Member at Large is a category that might be reintroduced. Another is Life Membership. The interests of Life Members might be reactivated via events that will reinforce their connection.
- Have formal recognition for those who are members for five consecutive years, and recognition for ten-year members.
- Have a Membership Honor Roll.
- Members are not being inculcated with feelings for Brandeis. It is important to convey the mission repeatedly at meetings.
- Ask chapter leaders and members to talk about their passion. At a new member event, show a video that illustrates where we started and where we are now, such as "Look with Pride."
- Show videos of testimonials.
- NEC needs to have a strong and positive attitude when working with the chapters.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Lydia Axelrod

The challenge to the Learning Opportunities team is that chapters are not using Brandeis-authored learning materials. The team therefore developed a program to include Learning Opportunities coordinators in each chapter to be responsible for helping disseminate the materials. In Florida, facilitators traveled to every chapter in a pilot program to motivate and instill passion for Brandeis. They also conducted successful workshops. The team's goal is to distribute information about Brandeis materials to every chapter and to find that they are using them. She asked the NEC: 1) How can the coordinators be helped in bringing this to the fore? 2) How can they convey best practices? 3) How can the relevance of the materials be enhanced? 4) How does one motivate and train speakers? Carol Kern suggested the Encore Series is a wonderful way to bring Brandeis to chapters.

There was a distribution of Junot Diaz' *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, the book selected for incoming freshman to read for the new Student Forum.

CHAPTER ADVISORY

Leslie Pearlstein

The first part of the year was devoted to establishing chapter goals and awards, followed by an analysis of where chapters were in terms of reaching their goals. It emerged that some chapters were strong financially while others had strong membership numbers, and that each needed to be reviewed individually. Three themes guided the committee's work – Increase revenues, Decrease expenses, and Increase membership. A fourth was the need to strengthen the ties between the chapters, the BNC, and the University. The team felt BNC must find a way to

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engender passion for supporting Brandeis. Chapters need to know they have the National Center's support, and BNC needs to bring the Brandeis presence to the chapters.

The Region Presidents want to be actively involved in helping their chapters. They have first-hand working knowledge of the chapters' strengths and weaknesses, are closer geographically than the national teams, and emphasize that their role is to be the means of communication between the national and local level of administration.

The team thought about tapping into the ideas being developed by the other national teams in order to create concrete suggestions of how to help chapters. It will ask the other teams to develop packets over the summer to be passed on to the Region Presidents. Leslie's team will identify chapters needing help in certain

areas and look at each chapter's final financial and membership figures. It will also ask the Region Presidents for anecdotal information that might help to explain some of the numbers and have them work with chapters with the information provided by the national teams.

Leslie said it was also suggested that a liaison from the team be appointed to work with each Region President throughout the year, see how the process is working, and report back to the team.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Leslie Pearlstein/
Gayle Wise

Seventeen trainees will participate in training workshops on June 3 and 4. In addition to intensive workshops, there will be campus and library tours, the dedication of the new Shapiro Science Center, and a seminar on public speaking.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Carol Rabinovitz

The Council communicated often via e-mail and U.S. mail during the year. Almost everyone has made the required donation of at least \$500 per person, and gifts to date totaled \$121,756. Council members were sent letters from the BNC National President and President Reinharz, e-mail links to BrandeisNOW, and received information on timely university topics such as the Rose Art Museum.

The Council is aware it must improve general chapter and region members' awareness of the existence of the Council; address some residual anger over the process and substance of the BUNWC change to BNC; utilize better the members' skills in their own areas as mentors and fundraisers; and find a way to chat among themselves, since some do not have e-mail. A subcommittee was formed and met to discuss these issues. It decided to send a survey to the Council members to determine which activities in support of chapters and regions they would be comfortable with. It will make an effort to invite Council members to events where Carol Kern or Janice Fineman will be present.

If possible, invitations to June 2010 campus events will be sent to the Council. No expenses will be paid, but those who are good mentors could be assigned to work with trainees and afterward stay on for Alumni College. It was felt that togetherness is a good way to stoke the fires of passion for Brandeis. Each year special letters will be sent to bring them up to date on Brandeis information. A core of Council members will telephone the less active ones to greet them, chat, and make them feel more involved.

It was pointed out that the Council is "invisible" and needs to be mentioned in *Imprint*. (Note: the National Center is taking care of this), and Carol hopes the Region Presidents will mention the Council as well.

Carol said new people will be invited to join the Council. Several names were submitted to the Nominating Committee and will then be sent to the University for review and approval. Discussion followed.

- What criteria is the Council looking for in new people?

- The Leadership Council is a combination of philanthropy and involvement. Council members need to take some sort of active role.

- Does the BNC want to think about having different, broader levels of giving for Council members, rather than a specific level? There was discussion about different levels. BNC's annual dues structure was used as an example:

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There are three levels for dues. It does not seem important to members to be given perks. Members give at a higher level because they feel it is the right thing to do. Recognition is important, but not in the form of a material object. It would be interesting to track the percentages of the different levels.

- Every NEC member is an ambassador; there is always an opportunity to make a brief presentation when visiting a chapter. NEC members should make themselves known and indicate they are available to speak.
- Webinars (web seminars) could be used for outreach. These lectures online would support chapters and reduce travel expenses. A Book & Author webinar or membership workshop would be a good starter.
- How can BNC integrate better with the Alumni Association? Whereas there was no relationship five years ago, now there is a seamless partnership and focus on joint programming. To attract alumni to chapter events, the process is for chapters to give event information to Beth Bernstein. She will forward it to the Alumni Association for posting on the alumni website.

If chapters want to send printed invitations to alumni, the process is to connect through Beth Bernstein. She will work with the Alumni Office and through the University's Development office to provide mailing labels. The mailing will be done through the Alumni Office, but the cost for the mailing is the responsibility of the chapter.
- Partner with alumni on book sales. (Note: Carol Kern will discuss this with Karen Engelbourg in Alumni Relations.)
- How does BNC in the national and regional purview identify people who would be good prospects for the Leadership Council? There is a need to be more visible in chapters and regions, so people know about the Council. Leadership trainees from previous years can be prospects.
- Add "identify emerging leaders" to the Leadership Council survey.
- Chapters should identify workers as they start to emerge within the chapters. There should be leadership training for all chapter presidents. Carol Kern said it is incumbent on everyone to mentor potential leaders. However, horizontal growth is also beneficial. Some chapter leaders wish to remain involved on the chapter or region levels, and they can also serve on national teams.
- One of the purposes of the Leadership Council was to create a mentoring program for emerging, as well as experienced, leaders. The vision was to have a large group of donors and people with experience – to mix long-time active members with new ones. The focus should be on both philanthropy and leadership.
- Find out which of the previous trainees are active now.
- It was suggested that an "Emerging Leader Circle" be established as a feeder group. Reply: the National Center is short-staffed, and this must be considered when thinking about adding another component.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Carol Kern welcomed the Leadership Trainees and guests. They and members of the NEC then introduced themselves.

MEMBERS AT LARGE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Ellen Kaplan

Chapter closings have left over 7000 unaffiliated members. Some members live close to operating chapters, but not close enough to have merged, while others live further away. They receive *Imprint* and e-mail, if the National Center has their e-mail addresses on record.

The committee concentrated on three areas:

1) What should the group be called?

It was decided to call the group "members at large."

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2) How can they be kept connected to the University?

Because of the large number of unaffiliated members, it was decided to target a small number of recently closed chapters for several pilot programs. The most promising geographical areas with a reasonable concentration of members are Minneapolis, North Shore, IL, and New Haven. The committee recommended the following:

- Invite members to a program with a speaker;
- Coordinate with alumni groups to include these members in certain programs;
- Encourage participation in University webcasts;
- Send a letter from Carol Kern informing them about particular programs.

3) How can they be involved in fundraising efforts – bequests and planned giving?

The committee felt it should concentrate on the most generous contributors. Reports showed that one hundred members at large have donated at least \$500 over the past five years. The approach could be customized and personalized to be sure to maintain contact.

The committee recommended the following:

- Write a personal thank you letter or make a phone call;
- Coordinate with the Development office;
- Design a questionnaire to solicit advice about programming, determine their interest in courses, and learn their level of interest in maintaining ties with BNC and Brandeis.

There should be collaboration between the existing chapter and alumni groups, the Development office, and with friends made over years of BNC involvement. There should be communication to maintain a relationship despite the dissolution of the chapter. Anecdotal information is useful in development efforts. The NEC can provide information about members whom the Development office can contact. The NEC can direct attention to those with the means to support University programs or research efforts. The key now is implementation – ensuring the action items happen. Ellen asked for ideas on how to engage the at large members.

- Does the committee foresee attempts to re-form chapters, or will they remain members at large? Answer: the charge was to keep them as members at large. If there are members interested in restarting a chapter, that would be looked into.
- Perhaps a Special Interest event such as a Book and Author could be held in the areas. It could feature a Brandeis author or two, and someone from BNC or Brandeis could act as the program's MC.
- Suggestion: create an Internet chapter for interest groups. Reply: That would be attractive to younger members. However, it is difficult to know who has e-mail - the number is small, a total of 5,000 out of 30,000 members. A campaign for e-mails could be mounted, and faculty webinars used as an incentive. CIOs could request e-mail addresses.
- Send a letter from Carol Kern with a message such as "if you want to be connected, send e-mail for free faculty events." This would serve to find out if there is a response.
- Focus on electronic communication; it presents a whole range of opportunities and a new arena for social interaction.
- Since three geographic areas have been selected, perhaps an e-mail could be sent asking for e-mail addresses, and how they wish to stay connected. It was suggested the committee concentrate on the pilot project to give a picture on how to implement a plan.
- It is better to start in new areas where there is new migration, than to restart in areas where there are defunct chapters.
- Reach out on an individual basis in Minneapolis and find ways to reconnect to Brandeis.
- Start an At Large chapter via the Internet

Suggestions for the questionnaire:

- Ask technology-related questions, such as "Would study groups on the Internet be a program of interest?" Brandeis has an electronic survey called "Survey Monkey." It is easy to respond to and tallies the responses.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Carol Kern

The Nominating Committee met and nominated Ron Levy and Dena Robbins to replace two members who retired from the NEC. Ron and Dena accepted the nominations.

Nominations for the Leadership Council continue to arrive.

MAJOR DONOR TRIBUTE BOOK

Janice Fineman

This year's donors of \$5,000 and more are listed in the 2008-09 Major Donor Tribute Book. The list of donations includes outright gifts as well as bequests and planned gifts. Janice thanked those members of the NEC whose names are listed in the book. The donations enrich the libraries, scholarship funds, and other University programs. Their names are inscribed on the BNC's Tribute Wall in the foyer of the Library.

Collectively the NEC has contributed \$143,000 to BNC this fiscal year, an increase of over 100% from last year. As the new fundraising campaign is rolled out, BNC is looking to the NEC to help reach the financial goal and to engage others in supporting the campaign.

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Beth Bernstein

Beth Bernstein, Director of Programming and Publications, said this program, initiated last year to connect students with BNC chapters, is operating well. Students have visited Palm Beach Gardens, Sarasota, Kansas City, Hartford, Boston, and a Florida Region meeting. A new concept, "Adopt a Chapter," will connect chapters with students living in their areas via letters and e-mails. The idea is to talk with members and instill good feelings about those whom they are supporting. Discussion followed.

- It is important that chapters first connect with Beth for a briefing, because arranging for student visits takes some effort.
- It is important to set expectations; chapters should not have student speakers be the central feature of their events.

Amanda Hemmesch, a fourth year Ph.D. candidate, told the NEC she had been attracted to Brandeis because of the caliber of the professors doing research in her field of study. She said research is conducted collaboratively at Brandeis, which fosters creativity. Her research centers on social relationships that result from physical problems, especially as they relate to Parkinson's Disease.

GOALS AND AWARDS

Leslie Pearlstein

Awards will be presented to the chapters after the close of the fiscal year when all of the financial information has been received. Chapters have been encouraged to submit recommendation forms if they think they qualify for awards. There are several other awards in addition to those for Membership and Financial. Leslie suggested chapters invite a region president or NEC member to present the awards at opening chapter meetings.

National awards are the Louis D. Brandeis Honor Roll and Chapter of the Year. Awards on the Region level are Membership, Financial, Bulletin, Planned Giving, Outside Fundraiser, Book Fund, and Learning Opportunities.

SETTING THE DIRECTION FOR FY10

Carol Kern

Carol said that everyone on the NEC has tasks to undertake for the future:

- To make sure that members are engaged and focused on the three W's.
- To help build a membership drive. Provide input and continue to communicate ideas for the drive.
- To help chapters and regions with the campaign. Promote support for the libraries and student scholarships.
- To promote Learning Opportunities in the chapters – materials that are created exclusively for BNC.
- The Chapter Support Team needs input from all the other teams.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Beth Bernstein said information about the University's second Faculty Forum, featuring Professor Gregory Petsko, will be available for viewing on the BNC website.

The next NEC meeting will be on October 25-27. Officers will meet on the 25th, and the full NEC will meet in the morning on October 26 and end at noon on October 27.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.